

DIRECTORY OF CENTRAL BODIES

CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL—Meets every Friday, 8 P. M., room 201 Labor Temple. E. H. Crandall, secretary, Labor Temple.

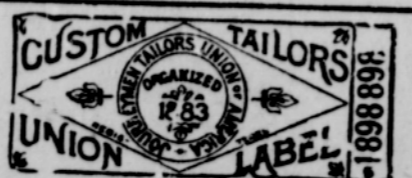
DIRECTORY OF LOCAL UNIONS

AMALGAMATED CARPENTERS No. 821—First and third Wednesday, Labor Temple, Second and Morrison. T. J. Seward, secretary, 394 Harrison street, Marshall 4467.

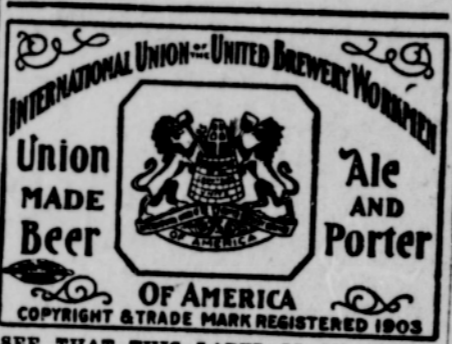
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WEST VIRGINIA MINERS

(Continued from Page Two)

The Supreme Court for writs of habeas corpus. They were again granted, but on the hearing the court refused to discharge the prisoners, holding the astounding doctrine that the will of the Governor was the only law and that he could snatch citizens from their homes in any part of the state and try them by his infamous military court.

Matfield Becomes Governor.

In the meantime and during the trials of Mother Jones and about 50 others, Governor Hatfield succeeded Governor Glasscock. The trials were halted to permit the militia officers and members of the Governor's staff to attend the inaugural ceremonies. After that the trials proceeded and sentences were imposed. By this time the "military commission," an institution forbidden by English law as early as Magna Charta, in the year 1215, was becoming known throughout the entire nation.

Miners Accept Compromise.

The Miners' Union, believing that such an important matter should be passed upon by the miners themselves, called a delegate convention to meet in Charleston. The meeting was held with 107 delegates present. For four days the convention discussed the Governor's proposal, which they finally adopted, repudiating, however, the false construction placed on the same by the wily operators. The operators even went so far as to promise to obey the law—a revolutionary step for them to take.

Scenes at Hearing Described.

Neither tongue or pen can adequately describe the scenes that took place in the committee room. The committee heard from eyewitnesses and victims of the operators, men, women and children, the awful stories of heartlessness and brutality of the reign of industrial barbarism in these mountains. These stories are embodied in the first part of the report of the committee, published by the government, containing more than 1200 pages. These stories moved even the staid Senators to expressions of indignation. Senator Martine especially was horrified at the tales that were told by the women who were beaten by the operators' thugs.

National Socialist Party Gets Busy.

The National Executive Committee of the Socialist party was aroused to action by this assault upon their press. It appointed a committee composed of Eugene V. Debs, Adolph Germer and Victor Berger, ex-Congressman. The committee came at once to

resulted in tying up the entire section and the non-union miners poured into the Paint Creek Collieries Company signed up with the union with full recognition, agreeing to the check-off. Other companies on the same creek quickly followed suit. On July 29 an agreement was entered into with the Cabin Creek and Coal River operators. This agreement, however, does not carry the check-off, though recognizing the right to organize, the companies agreeing to furnish the miners a place to meet on the property of the company.

New River Fields Invaded.

During the winter months plans had been silently laid to invade and organize the famous New River section. Land had been leased and tents shipped in to house the miners when the work of eviction should be commenced. On April 10 a notable convention of New River miners was held at the town of Montgomery, at which time resolutions were adopted calling for a joint convention of the miners and operators of the New River field, to meet at Charleston on May 10, for the purpose of negotiating an agreement for that field.

Two Important Incidents.

Retracing the steps of this story of the mining struggle, we must mention two incidents of the greatest importance. One of these was the investigation by a committee of the United States Senate, and the other the work of the committee appointed by the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party.

As one scans the work of other years, from the pinnacle of the labor world today, he must marvel at the rapidity of labor's advance.

PENNSYLVANIA PENSIONS.

Railroad Has Retired Under Pay 7477 Men in 13 Years. The Pennsylvania Railroad Company, in announcing the names of 45 employees from all departments of the service who were retired on pensions at the end of July, made public a brief history of the pension fund which was established by President A. J. Cassatt when he became head of the road in 1899.

Strike Movement in Chili.

According to statistics prepared by the Labor Department of Chili, 13 strikes took place in the first half year of 1912. Persons to the number of 9790 were involved in these strikes, which lasted altogether 165 days. Most of the strikes were for increases in wages but in two cases were entered upon in order to compel the employers to reinstate fellow workers who had been victimized.

Realistic.

"This, ladies and gentlemen, said the showman, is a moving picture of an old-time steamboat mate in action. "But he doesn't seem to be doing anything," objected a man in the audience, who suspected that the picture was a fake. "Don't you see his lips moving?" sharply retorted the showman. "He's swearing to beat the band."

Charleston and commenced its investigation. Its arrival here created quite a commotion in capitalist circles. At once the strong hand of military power was stayed. The jail doors commenced to open for the imprisoned miners. Governor Hatfield requested an interview with Mr. Debs, and later with the entire committee. The committee received the assurance from the Governor that he was in favor of unionism, and would use the power of his office to protect the miners in this right.

The great West Virginia struggle has been fruitful of lasting benefits. It is doubtful if the annals of labor contain the story of a more inspiring effort to throw off the galling yoke of industrial mastery. For decades the miners of these mountains have borne the oppressions of the operators almost in silence. Without a press or any other effective means of publicity, they had no way of telling their story to the world.

Help Came When Needed.

The victory won by the West Virginia miners was not won alone. It would have been impossible without the assistance of their brothers in the mines of the unionized States. From them came the food, clothing and shelter for the strikers. From them came the means to finance the work of organization. Without the assistance of the United Mine Workers of America and its able officials, the fight would long ago have been lost. The world has never witnessed a greater example of the solidarity of labor. The miners of other States knew that this was their fight. It was an effort to raise the condition of the miners in West Virginia to the condition of the union miners of other States.

Acknowledgment must also be made to the Socialists of the country for their help. They, too, sent their funds to the miners and lent them all possible assistance. As one scans the work of other years, from the pinnacle of the labor world today, he must marvel at the rapidity of labor's advance. This advance has been made not alone in numbers and financial power, but most of all in intelligence and education. The lessons that have been learned are of lasting importance. The lesson that the cause of labor is the cause of the working class in all lands will bear wonderful fruitage in the years to come. The growing solidarity of the workers will cement them into an invincible army that will conquer the world. It comes as a belated answer to the call of the Carpenter for a world-wide federation of the working class. Modern machinery, with its fairy-like productive power, gorging the capitalist class with limitless wealth wrung from the workers, has forced the world-wide solidarity of capital.