

# The Oregon Mist

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## County Official Paper

The greatest set-back that Union Labor ever received was the confession of the McNamaras at Los Angeles. It was a confession that the McNamaras and McManigals had blown up with dynamite the Los Angeles Times Building and the Lewellen Iron Works Buildings and murdered twenty one innocent men. It was a confession that the leaders of organized labor had paid the money obtained from the rank and file of the organizations for the purpose of murder and destruction of property. It was a confession that the heads of organized labor were trying to govern by anarchy. The confession of the McNamaras was the confession of the head of organized labor. There can be no other reasonable construction placed on it. To say that the McNamaras were acting on their own theory and account without the advice and direction of other labor leaders is the merest folly and can only be advocated by those who are so unfair and prejudiced as to be able to see only one way on any question that may arise. That the other leading men in the organization were directing the outrages as confessed by the McNamaras is self evident. The cry from such men as Samuel Gompers and others high in the councils of the organization that they were imposed upon by the McNamaras is utterly foolish and comes only as a method of deceiving the poor laboring men who have been robbed for years by just such agitators. Union labor has received a black eye and it is well that it has. Far be it from any fair minded man to say that labor can not organize for its own protection and guidance, but to be deceived and made fools of by such men as have been directing the affairs of the central organizations of labor was not to be expected. Extremists and agitators have so taken hold of the affairs of labor that the end was inevitable, and until such time as the unions are rid of anarchists and murderers at their heads, their accomplishment in the way of protection and betterment of conditions will be nothing, at least nothing permanent. This has been and is a severe but timely, lesson to labor unions: that is the rank and file; it has been a revelation to them that no other means could have revealed. No amount of talking by mere man could have made one union man out of a thousand to believe that such things were being done by their trusted heads. But the confession of the McNamaras will be the means, or at least it should be, of a general housecleaning in the Unions and a weeding out of such men as have been committing murder in the name of labor. It should result in a divorce of honest labor union men from socialist street orators and agitators. Honest and honorable men should be placed at the head of the different organizations instead of politicians who have no more interest in labor than that of making money and grafting and attaining their desires in politics, even if murder has to be committed. Such men as Moyer, who says that he would never confess even though he were guilty; as Haywood and Pettibone and Gompers and others who will probably be well known before

is over, should receive their summary discharge from any connection with labor; let them go on with their murderous work under its proper name, anarchy, instead of dragging any honorable labor unions into it.

And right here it may be well to call attention of the public to the statements of Moyer, who was charged with the murder of Gov. Steunenberg of Idaho, together with Haywood and Pettibone, and who were acquitted of the charge. When these men were arrested, charged with the crime of murder and Harry Orchard confessed to the entire plot and said he was hired by these big Union Labor men to do the work, what did Union Labor do? It did just the same as it did when the McNamaras were arrested; it howled and raved, that capital was trying to put labor on the plane of slavery; it held street parades; sold buttons, gave shows and everything else it could to raise money and then hired Clarence Darrow, the great criminal lawyer to defend, which he did successfully; the men were acquitted before a jury of 12 men but never by the great jury of fair minded and impartial people of America. It was and still is the belief of many thousands of people that Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone were just as guilty as the McNamaras and the developments in the McNamara case strengthens that belief almost to a certainty. Yet Moyer says that the McNamaras are traitors and should never have confessed; they should have done as he did. Then they would have been heroes, martyrs to the labor cause and have been permitted to go free and commit more murders in the name of labor, which they have outraged.

It is to be hoped that labor will take heed of this lesson and fire every agitator and murderer from its ranks; that it will put men at its head who have some reason and common sense as well as honor and integrity; and when this comes to pass the great trouble between capital and labor will be found to have been very much magnified by the McNamaras, the Gompers, the Moyers, the Haywoods, and some others of their ilk, and peace will reign where before civil war was threatened.

Let the McNamaras pass on; they have performed their mission, though at a terrible sacrifice; let the court impose upon them the sentence as he deems meet for their crimes; let labor unions take to heart this awful lesson of infidelity of its leaders and placed itself upon the plane which

it was intended it should be on; let the investigation and prosecution continue until all are punished who deserve punishment.

Then capital, labor and ordinary citizen will be better off.

There is a Commercial Club in St. Helens, or rather, there was one some time ago. It started out with a goodly membership and considerable enthusiasm, but seemingly has passed away. There are numbers of things which a good live organization can do for a community and our city should have one. Several of the acts done by the late organization were very beneficial and with a little more ginger added much more could be accomplished. Let us get together on a proposition of this kind and revive the commercial organization and place it on a good working basis and see what can be done. One thing that demands the attention of a Club, not only for St. Helens, but for Houlton, as well, is the matter of getting the Railroad Company to place a few lights at the depot over at Houlton; and while this is being done impress upon the officials of the fact that their outbuildings around the depot are a disgrace to any company or officer of any company. Then why not see what can be done toward getting a late train out of Portland? When these things have all been taken up and disposed of others of equal importance will come up to be looked after. Let's organize.

Of all the contemptible, mean, little, dirty tricks a grown man can do is to go around the neighborhood stealing chickens. Every community is infected with a thing, not decent enough to be called human, who, either from a desire to do something which he thinks will win the plaudits and admiration of a few of the fellows who are no better than he is, or else from a desire to get something to eat without paying the price for it, will sneak around during the dark hours of the night and rob a chicken roost. People who have chickens are as much entitled to the protection of their property as are the people who have horses, cattle or money, and the City Council should pass an ordinance making a jail sentence of such severity that the sneaky practice would be stopped. Let there be no fine as a penalty, but a good stiff jail sentence and then let a concerted effort be made to catch some of these so-called human beings and have the law enforced. It would no doubt have a very wholesome effect.

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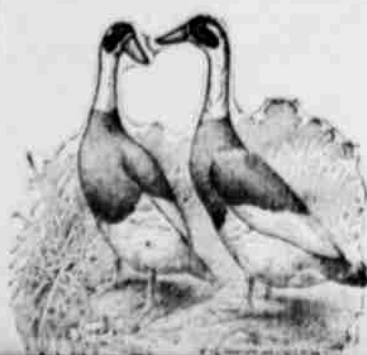
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