in ROCKEFELLER LAND
T HERE is now being enacted in the state of Colorado tha verument.
The eentral figure in this drama is Joln R. Lawson, the head of the United Minnworkers of America, who is on
trial for murder. charged with the killing of a mine guard trial for murder, charged with the killing of a mine guard
during the events surrounding the strike at Ludlow, which during the events surrounding the strike at Ludlow, which
finally culminated in what has been called the Ladlow nus-
 It is not claimed that Lawson fired the shot that killed
was even present whinn the killing oeecrired, hat his con
wetion is asked on the grounds that as the head of the or
 the vicinity of the miies, and to meet any force used for
that purnuse with like fore.

For the purpose of the trial, or rather conviction, of Lawson, a special act was passed by the legislature of Colo-
rado providing for the appointment of a special judge, and the complaisant governor has appointed a former attorney duty for which he was selected. torneys of the coal companies backed the billions of the Rockefellers, who are seeking the conviction of Lawson for the purpose of destroying the organization of the mine-
workers Many of the chiof witnesses against Lawson workers. Many of the chief witnesses against Lawson
admit they are employed by the mine owners to aid in his admit they a
conviction
With the methods used in the trial Lawson may be con-
victed. The stage is set for that poupose. But if the jury
has been fairly chosen a conviction is improbable. The
case is much like that of Giovanitt and Ettor, who were
tried in Lawrence, Mass.,. and acquitted.
 case is much hike that of
tried
Over the arquittals in such cases there has been mueh Over the aequittals in such cases there has been mueh
lamenting as a proof that the jury system is a failure and
impotent to aphold the law. But the verdiet of the juries impotent to uphold the law. But the verdict of the juries
in such cases does not mean a disregard for law, but a in such cases does not mearal rights of man. For years the people of this country have been conbeing oppressed. that while the capitalist has been the being oppressed. that whe the capianist
object of goverment aid in the form of procective duties
bounties, subsidies and land grants, the burden of which finally falls upon the mass of the people, the laborers have been compelled to suffer competition from laborer
brought from every clime, and also that of the inventive genius of the world, which displaces laborers by thousands
This competition has not only kept the laborer from reaching a higher standard of living, but has seriously a feeted his right to live at all.
Employment, because of our ability to produce much
more than our nation consumes, has brought the laborers face to face with a precarious and uncertain existence
When employment has been found as in the coal Colorado the laborer finds himself surrounded withe ditions that correspond with those under which th laborer lived before the age of parliaments.
The laborers in the coal districts can live nowhere ex
cept in a "company"" house, and must buy at " store. Justice is administered by a "company" judge, company" prosecutor and a "company" sheriff. It is the age of Louis XIV and hris "letters de cachet again.
Because of the commercial influence of these great corporations over a mercenary people, and the irresponsive ness of our lawmaking bodies to public opinion, and the
corruption of our political parties by "big business," these abuses have not been dealt win or corrce. The labore as a last resort, his strong arms He Her been comp to use force because the laws of the land afforded no relief. no protection against the heartlessness of employers, whe viewed him only as a piece of productive machinery

The laborer with his wife and children to be kept from starving by his labor and his wages, has demanded a hearing and has found the only means of getting it is to fight for it in a manmer that will arouse the conscience of the
nation. To this end the laborers have shed their blood and given up their lives with as great heroism as has ever been That ther should do this is nat republics.
That they should do this is natural. In the civilization of the world one of the great forces that has made for free-
dom and injustice has been the inherent right of mankind dom and injustice hass been the inherent right of mankind
to batte the right of private war was the greatest check upon lawless outrage., The basis of their society was "the man or
"the churl." He was "the free-necked man," whose hair floated over a neek that had never bent to a lord. He was the weaponed man who alone bore spear and sword for he alone possessed the right of private war.

John R. Lawson on the gallows or in prison would be warning to the laborers of this country. But he should not be convicted. He is not a eriminal-he simply hap men fought openly, manfully, like the free men of old. They made private, war as the only means of checking the "lawless outrages" perpetrated upon the coal workers by Rockefeller.
Children of a republic that should have protected them in their poverty and helplessness against the greed of the mercenary corporations that were devouring them, their entreaties fell on dear eas.
They could have walked out of the country. But they did not. Their stand was not for hec it is the right but fo all their kimd-yes, for aif mankind. It is the right of man
to live. For that they fought; for that they died. Let us to live For that they fought
hope that died not in vain.

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## The waspot onter phates of enerays the Kaffir's Skull



Love Finds a Way
Fatty's Wine Party
Keystone Comedy
SE CAN BUILD IT
John A. Perl
UNDERTAKER
Lady A Rashant
2n 8 . BABTLET
2n 8, babtlett

#  <br> STAR 

Thursday and Friday Paramount Picture

by Clyde Fitch
Gladys Hanson
MOTHERS, DO THIS-

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## As Ye Sow

Hearst Selig Weekly
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## THE PAGE

ms macan muse. The Nautical Knot

Friday, April 30
50 PEOPLE 50
MEDFORD HIGH SCHOOL


