

The month of August and part of September have found our brothers on strike with the same determination to win that has characterized them during this long struggle against the railroad barons and their henchmen. Every despicable trick known to corporations and corporation hirelings has been used in this struggle to browbeat and intimidate the men on strike. Many things have transpired in Los Angeles besides the struggle for a living wage. First or foremost was the trial of Clarence Darrow, who was tried on an alleged charge of jury bribing by District Attorney Fredericks and Deputy Ford. How bitterly they fought to secure a conviction of this eminent lawyer is beyond the comprehension of any one who did not attend the trial. Decoys, stool pigeons and detectives were placed on the witness stand by the prosecution to testify for the State or the National Erectors' Association. It was hard to determine who was the prosecutor, as the Steel Trust appeared to be the most interested. What a contrast between the witnesses for the State and those of the defense! It was enough for any jury that had the least spark of human intelligence. It had all the ear-marks of persecution instead of prosecution, at least the jury so decided when, after being out about 27 minutes, it brought in a verdict of acquittal. Many times has the present district attorney and his several deputies tried to fasten crimes upon the members of organized labor; in fact, almost the whole of his time is taken up prosecuting or persecuting organized labor. But the people of this city and county, if the expressions heard amount to anything, will attend to him and all his associates on the next election and put in office men who will serve the people of this community with credit. After the verdict was pronounced every one in the court room, including the jury, were filled with joy and were not afraid to express themselves, except the prosecutors, who hung their heads and withdrew. It was no place for them. No one ever expected that further prosecutions would follow, but again the agents

of the Steel Trust demanded its pound of flesh and Clarence Darrow was held on another charge of alleged bribery. If the people of Los Angeles County are not asleep they will demand the prosecution desist and the recall of the district attorney.

On August 28, in the evening, organized labor and its friends gave a banquet to its legal defender and champion, Clarence Darrow, at the King Edward Hotel and about 250 plates were laid. At the banquet table Bro. A. J. Mooney, of the Building Trades, was toastmaster, and many of the active members of organized labor replied and toasted our guest, Clarence Darrow. Among those present were Bros. Wm. Hannon and Thos. Wilson, of the machinists; Comrade Job Harriman, former candidate for mayor on the Socialist ticket, the only ticket for a working man or woman to vote in these trying times. I have never attended any function where so much enthusiasm was displayed and when Clarence Darrow arose to speak every eye and ear were riveted upon him. He was greatly affected and the tears rolled down his cheeks as he told in his earnest, simple way what it meant to him to see his loyal friends whom he had fought so many battles with, gather around him and express their feelings. He urged labor to stand by its principles and always continue to fight for the oppressed until every man, woman and child of the toilers received the full reward of their labor.

On Labor Day almost 10,000 men and women marched through the main streets of the city to the martial music of the various bands. The machinists led the first division, which was composed of the different unions of the metal trades, and one feature in particular that appealed to all was that the banners of the machinists, molders and blacksmiths were carried side by side; it was impossible to tell which craft a man belonged to. We here are looking forward to the time when the metal workers will be joined together in one great metal trades union, which will mean the complete organization of

that industry and along similar lines to the German movement. Then thousands will flock to the standards and more success will naturally follow. The Steel Trust and railroad corporations have their industries organized and their departments are only a matter of detail. Why should not the metal workers of this country all unite under one head and then we will be able to do more efficient work at less cost? It is the more modern and the proper way to gain solidarity.

The machinists of Los Angeles have been compelled to fight for over two years and three months to secure a living wage and maintain their local organization. This in the face of the most powerful opposition. It has only been through constant fighting that a bare existence can be secured in a section of this country that nature has, in her generosity, endowed with wealth and climate. Nowhere on God's green footstool has there been more robbery and exploitation in so short a time. Millionaires have been made and also paupers. The beautiful green valleys and foothills have passed into the hands of corporations or land sharks. The Southern Pacific Railroad Company has got its full share. The minerals and especially oil have been gobbled up by the Standard Oil and Southern Pacific. Its rivers and harbors passed over to private monopoly until territory in extent as large as most empires is gobbled up or bottled up and held for speculation and future exploitation of the future generations. The State is now suing the Southern Pacific for stealing oil lands worth millions.

Stand firm, my brothers, and fight an intelligent fight in the future. Fight for the cause that will eventually eliminate wage slavery and preserve our natural resources and restore them to the people so that in the years to come our children will have a world to live upon that will give them every opportunity to expand; when man can meet man and woman meet woman on the basis of equality and justice; when strong men will clasp hands and feel the heart throbs or human brotherhood; when one touch of nature will make the whole world kin; then there will be no little children of the poor in dingy mill or mine or factory, but when childhood, Nature's greatest gift to man, will grow up in their natural environment, a decent home, and to play among the green fields and flowers, instead of like today, under capitalism, with every man's hand seeking another man's throat. We have tried the old political parties and it has gone beyond their power to offer any solution to the problem, if they were honest and desired to do so. Only through organized labor on the industrial field and Socialism on the political field can human beings be made happy and free. The first step should be the nationalization of the railroad and steel industry, the greatest menace to the nation and posterity. Your strike on the railroad, brother, has been the great educator. Keep up the fight just a little longer. They will have to grant your demands, and to you and organized labor the victory.

C. F. GROW.