

To All Metal Mine Workers:



The Metal Mine Workers have long represented the militant portion of labor in America. They have always given freely of their money strength and even of their blood to further the interests of their class, the working class.

Though the miners have always been militants, it has been years since they have had any form of militant organization. The organization in which they have been organized, or semi-organized, in the past few years has been owned and controlled directly by the greedy mining corporations whom they were supposedly organized to combat.

But the miner has awakened from the state of indifference and lassitude that has been his in the past. He now demands a real union, and he has it. It is Metal Mine Workers' Industrial Union No. 800 of the Industrial Workers of the World.

The organization comes clear cut and says to the world at large that it is after shorter hours, more wages and better conditions today, while tomorrow we will be satisfied with no less than the complete ownership of the mines, mills and smelters. Of course, an organization such as this is bound to meet with opposition.

The mine owners see in the success of this organization their final doom. The labor skates see in the growth of this organization the vanishing of their pie cards. The apostles of law and disorder know that this organization means the end of their period of rule. So this holy trinity combines and fights with every weapon at their command this new and growing body of men.

But they cannot crush it. It is here. It is here to stay. Thousands are already in its ranks and applications for membership are pouring in by the hundreds. You, Mr. Digger, and you, Mr. Mill or Smelter Worker, should be in its ranks also, if you are not already there. The time is soon coming when you will be there. Why not now? It is the organization that you will eventually join. It voices your hopes and aspirations. It is your hope of freedom from the yoke of economic servitude that has enthralled you in the past.

It is the Industrial Union. Quasi industrial unions have sprung up in the mining industry, such as the United Mine Workers of America and the Western Federation of Labor, but they never have functioned as industrial unions. In the United Mine Workers of America district organizations have killed every attempt of the miners to show their militant spirit. One district would strike, while other districts would remain at work furnishing the market with coal. Time after time the workers have been virtually sold out, and the only thing that has kept the U. M. W. A. together is the check off system whereby the company collects the union dues. Any time the company collects the dues for the union it is dead certain there is something in it for the company. The Western Federation of Miners, while it has had its bright spots in the history of the militant working class, is now decadent. It has lost its once militant membership and its officials today are spending more time in legislative halls and company offices than they are at the mouth of the shaft. It has lost its punch. All of the red blood that once was in that organization has come into Metal Mine Workers 800 and the headquarters of 800 has more W. F. M. cards that have been turned in in lieu of initiation fees than are being carried in the pockets of W. F. M. men throughout the country.

The I. W. W. is the union for you as a digger to belong to. It is not an organization to restrain your rebellious spirit, but it realizes that you who work in the mines know the conditions in the mines best, and it is you who should determine when to strike and how to strike, and not some set of officials holding down an office chair. It is your union for you to use to better your condition.

It is the union that is going to get the pay dirt for the miner. We are starting out with real modest demands. These demands will be multiplied as soon as we have the power to enforce more demands. Among the demands that we want at once are these:

FIRST: A six-hour work day. Down in the hot stopes a decree has gone forth that six instead of eight hours shall be the length of a shift. That decree, backed up as it is by organization, must be complied with.

SECOND: No less than two men on a machine. This demand is exceptionally modest. Years ago we worked two men to a machine, and today, after 24 years of W. F. M. organization, one man to a machine is the rule. In the drifts and crosscuts we have held our council and have decided to abolish that rule. Our decision, backed by real organization, must be the law.

THIRD: No more speeding up. Too many of our fellow workers are rustling on the hills now. By the curtailing of production we not only will make life more bearable for ourselves, but we will also provide more jobs for the boys rustling on top of the hills.

FOURTH: The abolition of the Physical Examination. We do not propose to be stripped before going to work and then be stripped again when we get our pay check. One of the stripplings must be abolished now. We will tend to the other one later.

These demands are only starters. When we get to making and getting our demands in earnest we will make the boss squirm. In fact, he is squirming now with anticipation. We want no more local strikes. Our future strikes will be industrial in scope, embracing not a locality, but an industry.

Our form of organization provides for the admittance into our ranks of every person working in the mining industry, regardless of creed, color or nationality. Industrial Union 800 covers the entire mining district of the West, from Alaska to Mexico. We have branches in every important mining camp. In the smaller camps

we have delegates who represent the organization. There is one in your camp. See him, or write to headquarters and we will give you any and all information that you require.

Now is the time. Arizona is teeming with agitation. Utah, Nevada and Idaho are doing wonderful work. Butte, Montana, is a tower of strength for the new Union. You need its help. It needs your help. Send in your application today. The initiation fee is \$2.00. The dues are 50c a month. Organization is the key to success. When we are organized, then, and not until then, can we come into our own, the ownership of the earth.

Metal Mine Workers Industrial Union

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