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Writers Project Research Notes.

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"Reminiscences, the story of an immigrant"

By Col. Hans Mattson page 127-129

Published by D D Merrill Company St Paul 1891.

Relating to the year 1872.

"In the fall of the same year I took a trip through Finland and Russia, having secured a passport issued by Gen. C.C. Andrews, who was then United States minister to Stockholm. I went with the steamer Aura from Stockholm to Abo, Helsingfors, and Cronstadt. The pine-clad islands and the shore of the bay of Finland afforded a beautiful panorama from the steamer. The sight of Sveaborg made me feel that I was still a Swede in soul and heart, for I was overpowered by a deep sadness when I thought of the heinous treason by which this impregnable fortress was forced to surrender" \*\*\*\*\* "Returning to Sweden by way of Finland I remained a few days at Helsingfors. Having presented my passports to the authorities of the city, the commander of the Garrison sent an officer inviting me to visit the barracks and other places of interest. I accepted the invitation and spent two days under the guidance of my cicerone. This was of course a rare treat, and it brought me in contact with many prominent citizens and officers. We also took a ride out in the country to see the conditions of the peasants. In common with all other Swedes I have always sympathised with unfortunate Finland, in the belief that its people must be very unhappy and yearn for a reunion with Sweden. This proved to be a misconception. What a peculiar contradiction! The Russian despots treat the Fins (sic) with generosity and justice, and as far as I could understand, the people were highly pleased with Russian supremacy, and would not become subjects of Sweden again, even if they could.\*\*"

(On the bottom of the page the following footnote appears)

"\*\* Since the above was written the Russian government has shown a disposition to treat Finland in a way that will soon change the friendly feelings of the Finnish people."



William Watts Folwell Vol. 4 Page 169

" On September 1st (~~XX~~ 1886 when the Farmers Alliance had 438 locals in the State) of the year a joint convention of the Farmers Alliance and the Knights of Labor took place in St Paul."

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The platform that was drawn up at this convention had two sets of demands. One set was for the farmers and the other for the workingmen. The workingmens demands were: Enactment by Congress of an income tax law. Establishment of a State bureau of Labor statistics. The convention denounced the farming out of convict labor at forty cents per day as 'a great wrong'. It demanded free books for public school children. Protection of workingmen in hazardous industries and indemnification of those injured because of lack of ~~safety~~ safety devices. It demanded hiring of workers by municipalities instead of letting the jobs out by contract. It demanded equal pay for men and women in similar kind of work. It called for reservation of public lands for settlers and denounced the practice of selling of he public domain to corporations and speculators. They wanted a postal savings bank; the prohibition of child labor; arbitration machinery for labor disputes; reform of the judicial system; recognition by the employers of trade unions; legislation to compell the employers to pay their men with lawful money and enactment of labor lien laws.

Page 205

Legislative session of 1893 enacted safety laws for labor to be supervised by the "State Bureau of Labor " The law called for penalties for the employers who did not obey them.

Labor Movement in America  
By Prof Richard T Ely University of Wisconsin  
Published 1905

Page 38

"Something ~~XXXX~~ very like a modern strike occurred in the year 1802" The sailors in the New York Harbor struck for higher wages.

There were many local Unions organized by the workers in various industries between 1800 and 1825. The New York Society of Journeymen Shipwrights was incorporated April 3rd 1803, and the "House carpenters of New York" was incorporated in 1806" The printers of New York had a strong organization called the "New York Typographical Society in 1817"

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Trade Unions begin to grow in Boston and Charlestown in 1822 among the shipwrights and caulkers.

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Boston and New York were the early centers of Labor struggles between 1825 and 1861.

Between 1825 and 1830 George Henry Evans and his brother Frederick W Evans published the "Workingmen's Advocate" in New York which later became the 'Daily Sentinel and still later Young America'

Labor was as progressive and forwardlooking at that time as it is today. The twelve demands of the 'Young America' were:

- ' First. The right of man to the soil, vote yourself a farm.
- ' Second. Down with monopolies especially the United States Bank
- ' Third. Freedom of public lands.
- ' Fourth. Homesteads made inalienable.
- ' Fifth. Abolition of all laws for the collection of debts.
- ' Sixth. A General Bankrupt Law.
- ' Seventh. A Lien of laborers upon his own work for his wages.

' Eighth. Abolition of imprisonment for debt.

' Ninth. Equal rights for women with men in all respects.

' Tenth. Abolition of chattel slavery, and of wages slavery.

' Eleventh. Land limitation to one hundred and sixty acres; no person after the passage of this law to become possessed of more than that amount of land.

But when the land monopolist died, his heirs were to take each his legal number of acres, and be compelled to sell the overplus, using the proceeds as they pleased.

' Twelfth. Mails in the United States to run on the Sabbath.'



"American Minority Peoples "

By Donald Young

Page 26.

A chart is given showing the fluctuation of immigration from all countries to the United States from 1820 to 1930. The chart is prepared on the basis of figures of the Bureau of Immigration.

According to this chart 8,385 immigrants from all countries arrived in 1820, 143,439 between 1821 and 1830, 599,125 between 1831 and 1840, 1,713,251 between 1841 and 1850, 2,598,214 between 1851 and 1860, 2,314,824 between 1861 and 1870, 2,812,191 between 1871 and 1880, 5,246,613 between 1881 and 1890, 3,687,564 between 1891 and 1900, 8,795,386 between 1901 and 1910, 5,735,811 between 1911 and 1920 and 4,107,209 between 1921 and 1930.

The total immigration from all countries between 1820 and 1930 amounted to 37,762,012. Previous to this time from 1776 to 1820 it is estimated that only 250,000 immigrants came in all the 44 years.



Minnesota Bureau of Labor Statistics 1890  
Page 304 and 305

In 1890 there were 6,441 skilled industrial workers in Minnesota. Average wages for these was \$2.10 per day and \$2.24 for foremen in skilled trades.

Minnesota Bureau of Labor Statistics 1890 to 1900  
Page 248

Wages of Miners, Trammers, Helpers, Underground laborers and surface laborers fluctuated as follows from 1896 to 1900.

1896 Miners \$1.60 to \$1.75 per day, helpers and trammers \$1.40 to \$1.45, underground laborers \$1.25 to \$1.45, surface laborers \$1.10 to \$1.15.

1897 Miners \$1.60 to \$1.85, trammers and helpers \$1.45 to \$1.50, underground laborers \$1.30 to \$1.60, surface laborers \$1.15 to \$1.35.

1898 Miners \$1.60 to \$1.95, trammers and helpers \$1.60 to \$1.75, underground laborers \$1.40 to \$1.60, surface laborers \$1.15 to \$1.50.

1899 Miners \$1.85 to \$2.00, helpers and trammers \$1.70 to \$1.80, underground laborers \$1.60 to \$1.65, surface laborers \$1.40 to \$1.60.

1900 Miners \$2.20 to \$2.40, trammers and helpers \$1.90 to \$2.10, Underground laborers \$1.85 to \$1.90 and surface laborers \$1.75 to \$1.80.

The increase in percentage for five years was 37 % for miners, 35 to 44 % for helpers and trammers, 35 to 48 % for underground laborers and from 59 to 65 % for surface laborers.

Page 258 to 267 same report.

Two great mine disasters took place during the year of 1900. Both of them were explosions. The first occurred on June 14th at the Hale Mine in Biwabic, Minn. It was caused by an explosion of black powder and five men were caught under falling ore. One of the men Werni Heti was a Finn, two were Austrians and two Scandinavians. The miners blamed the employer for the disaster and were

so incensed against the company that a rumor was spread around town, that they would lynch the Superintendent and one of the shift bosses.

The other mine disaster took place on July 18th 1900 at the Clark Mine near Hibbing, Minn., when a powder chamber with 275 pounds of dynamite blew up from unknown causes. In the explosion ten men were blown to bits and three injured. Three of the men killed were Finns, two Italians, two Austrians, one German, one Irish and one American. Two of the injured were Finns and one Austrian.

*Substitution from Russi Rothman  
1893. to start*

Sources of material for chapter on Finnish Labor movement.

The Minnesota Alumni Weekly  
August 1933 Vol. 33 No 2  
The rise of the labor movement in Minnesota  
By Arthur J Larsen.

---15 strikes took place in Minnesota between 1849 and 1890.

---First strike was that of Tailors in 1854 St Paul Minnesota.

---From 1881 to 1900, 383 strikes took place involving 1663 establishments and about 70,000 workers. During this same time 49 concerns locked out 3,000 workers.

---Thirty seven percent of the strikes during the above mentioned time took place among unorganized workers. Many of them were for the reduction of the hours of labor

Minnesota Bureau of Labor Statistics  
First Biennial report 1887-1888  
Page 238

The painters Union of Minneapolis organized in February 1886 under the leadership of Mr E.M.E Pease established a co-operative shop called the "Painters and decorators co-operative Association of Minneapolis. which they incorporated June 29th 1886. Shares were \$50.00 and could be bought on an instalment plan with ten dollar payments. The original membership of this organization was twenty. It soon grew to one hundred and in 1887 it had a capital stock of \$5,000.00. At the time that the State Commissioner of labor reported on it, it was considered a successful enterprise.

Page 240 Same report

The Hubbard County co-operative business association, was organized October 25th 1886. This was an industrial co-operative where interest was paid on capital stock and dividends were paid on days of labor performed. It was to secure land for townsites and build industries upon them. It also was to take care of the distribution of commodities produced as well as to distribute to its members the necessities of life. The profits from distribution was to be pooled in a common fund for the purpose of loaning to members on good security. The purposes of the organization was set forth as follows in its articles:

"Section 1. The ultimate object of this association being to establish co-operation, both productive and distributive, it shall be accepted as a fundamental principle that the net profits on production, in excess of the dividend on stock, shall be equitably distributed to the employes and patrons and that the net profit on distribution shall be used exclusively as a fund to prevent usury and assist production, and any rule or regulation that may be adopted that does not in practice promote these objects, shall be null and void."

The organization was beset with many difficulties in the beginning but by 1888 construction was started on its enterprise on the Crow Wing River in Hubbard County and at the time that the Labor Commissioner reported in 1888 there were great hopes for its success.

Page 243 same report.

A co-operative Store called the "Brainard co-operative Company" was organized



in October 1886. At the time of the report of the commissioner of Labor it was considered a success.

Page 244 same report

A Trade Union co-operative store called the "Duluth Co-operative Mercantile Company" was established on December 21st 1887 and started business at 121 West 1st Street. "Only members of labor organizations" were allowed to hold stock. This store was beset with many difficulties from the start but at the time of the report was expected to succeed.

Page 244 same report

The "Co-operative Furnishing Company" was started in Minneapolis October 28th 1886. The business was opened at 313 Cedar Avenue and later moved to 307 on the same street. This organization was quite successful even establishing a branch at 327 Plymouth as a result of expansion. In addition to furnishings it later handled boots and shoes.

Page 245 same report

Another type of industrial co-operative was established by the Teamsters on November 23rd 1887. It was to furnish feed for the horses, manufacture harness and operate repair shops for their equipment. A feed and feed store was opened on March 10th 1888 at 310 Plymouth Ave in Minneapolis which succeeded. The blacksmith and repair shop however which was opened at the same time on Marshall Street and 8th Avenue N E did not fare so well and it was soon disposed of.

Page 248 same report

Yet another type of industrial co-operative was organized when "The Minneapolis co-operative Cigar factory" was incorporated and started manufacturing and selling cigars at 251 Cedar Avenue Minneapolis, Minn. This enterprise was started March 5th 1888. It was started by five share holders and the shares were \$100.00 and could be purchased on a weekly instalment plan. In the Labor Commissioners report it is said that "This company has had many difficulties with which to contend, but thus far it has succeeded fairly well, and has good prospects for the future."

Page 253 same report

#### Strikes.

On July 3rd 1888 a strike of twenty wheelers and trimmers of the Winona Lumber Company, Winona, Minn. took place which lasted 4 days against long hours which were from 6:A.M. to 7:P.M. with one hour for lunch, a twelve hour day. The company charged that the strike was caused by interference of outside forces. The strike was spontaneous with no labor organizations involved.

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On October 13th 1888 a strike of 25 Switchmen took place in the yards of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company for an increase in wages. The stoppage of work lasted for 24 hours in which the men won small wage increases but like in many of the strikes in those days the majority of the strikers lost their jobs permanently.



Page 254 same report

On October 22nd 1888 a few hours stoppage of work took place in the Fergus Falls Wagon Company shops against wage cuts.

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On December 1887 the Journeymen Bakers Union declared a strike in the Martini Bakery shop of St Paul, because Union men had been discharged and replaced by none-union men. This strike led into a considerable litigation in the courts where the Union was charged with conspiracy. The dispute however was finally submitted to arbitration and resulted in the victory for the Union bakers, with the dropping of the charges against the Union and a closed shop. The strike ended February 1st 1888 after a long struggle when the agreement between the Martini Bakery and the Union went into effect.

Page 255 same report

The Carpenters and Joiners struck for a shorter work day in St Paul, Minnesota on June 1st 1887. As a result of the strike only about 25 percent of the men gained their demands while seventy five percent went back to work on the basis of the former conditions.

Page 256 same report

A strike of unorganized furniture workers took place in the Red Wing Manufacturing Company of Red Wing, Minnesota. The walk out took place on April 1st 1888. It was a complete failure and involved only a few men in the small shop.

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On September 1st of the same year a strike of the workers of the Red Wing Pioneer Lime company took place for an increase in wages and a demand for a regular and stable pay day. The strike lasted a short time with a small gain in pay but a loss of jobs to some of the workers.

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The printers of the Duluth Evening Herald plant went on strike in the spring of 1888 because the company violated Union standards with regard to apprenticeship. The strike however was broken by scab labor after which the Union put it on the "unfair list". At the time of the report the secretary of the Typographical Union 136 wrote that, "At the meeting of the Union the employes of the Herald office were ordered out on strike. The places were filled by non-union men and the Herald is now made ~~XXX~~ a 'rat' office".

Page 258 same report

"On January 3rd 1888 Typographical Union No 42 of Minneapolis" called a strike involving 4 men at the "Saturday Evening Spectator" plant for a "Union office". The strike was finally settled in October 1888 through arbitration and dropping of charges of conspiracy against the Union by the Spectator management.

Page 259 same report

In the summer of 1888 laborers of Duluth were forced into such squalid conditions by low wages on all forms of construction work that they struck nearly all of the larger construction jobs operating. They suffered from low wages and loss of time because of inclement weather which made the ~~XX~~ life of their families unbearable. The strike involved well over a thousand men of the various construction companies. This strike soon developed the character of a general walkout. In the beginning of August there was a stoppage of work on all construction jobs in the city. Labor solidarity became a big factor in this strike. Sympathy strikes broke out in many places. The workers held meetings and organized processions thereby securing the sympathy of the general public. Through the strike the workers won a small increase in wages from \$150 per day for laborers and \$175 for carpenters to \$1.75 for laborers and \$2.00 for carpenters. The men were unorganized when they conducted this strike.

Page 261 same report

On August 14th 1888 a strike of the "Clayton Plow Works of Fridley Park, Minnesota" took place. This strike was caused by the management withholding the pay of the workers.

Harold E. Rajala  
May 15, 1939

From Socialisti, page 1, col. 3; Mon. June 5, 1916  
Vol. III, No. 131. Date line June 3rd  
Consulted at Workers Socialist Publishing Co., May 8, 1939:

"MINE STRIKE AT AURORA, MINNESOTA"

"ST. JAMES MINE'S WORKERS ON STRIKE AND DEMAND THREE DOLLARS PER DAY"

"Aurora, Minn., June 3: (our own correspondent) Yesterday morning began here a strike at St. James named mine and is demanded by the men, three dollars wages per day and abolishment of contract work.

"In this mine are working mostly Italians and Austrians. All this mine's workers are unorganized, but regardless of that they have all favored going into strike and will stand together in strike until they win their demands."

From Socialisti, page 1, col. 6; Tuesday June 6, 1916  
Vol. III, no. 132. Date line June 5th  
Consulted at Workers Socialist Publishing Co., May 8th, 1939:

"MINERS' STRIKE IS SPREADING AT AURORA, MINN."

"STRIKERS NOW NUMBER 500, IN THEIR RANKS ARE 200 FINNS"

"THE MINERS DEMAND 8-HOUR WORKING DAY AND ABOLISHMENT OF CONTRACT WORK"

"Aurora, Minnesota, June 5 (word by telephone)--We have before published news that workers at the St. James named mine went last week into strike, and now have joined them Miller named mine workers also. The strikers number in all 500.

"The strikers have held their meetings at the Finnish hall. At the meetings they have planned to contact all miners here and ask them to join with them in their struggle against the mine owners. At meetings was planned to ask the I.W.W. organization for Italian and Slovenian organizers, for all the strikers are ready to join into the I.W.W. league. A larger portion of the strikers are Italians and Slovenians, but is in their ranks 200 Finns. 300 men are working yet at other mines who will be asked to help the strikers, and as far as is known of their opinion it is believed that they are also ready to join and by striking to increase wages and shorten the working-day.

"The strikers demands are for an 8-hour day to take effect immediately, and three dollars the lowest day-wage to those workers who work in the mine, also abolishment of contract-work. Ground-top workers have not yet decided on wage demand but the 8-hour



day they have already demanded. Today, it is believed, a meeting will be held, where it will be stated what lowest wages is wanted by the ground-top workers.

"The abolishment of contract work is one of the most important demands that the striking miners have incorporated in their demands, also the 8-hour work-day. It is not even feared that the strike will not be won, if all miners in Aurora join in the strike and stay in strike until they win.

"The reason for the strike is announced for the reason that, for instance in the St. James mine to the miners was paid only \$1.60 and \$1.80 per day wages and only few miners received over two dollars, which the workers have noticed was insufficient and so the worker cannot by any means live on that wage in such an expensive time, so they planned to fight via strike for higher wages and at the same time also ask for an 8-hour work-day."

From Socialist, page 1, col. 6 and 7; June 7, 1916

Vol. III, no. 133. Date line June 5th

Consulted at Workers Socialist Publishing Co. Duluth, May 9th, 1939:

"ABOUT 1,000 MINERS ARE NOW ON STRIKE AT AURORA, MINN. DEMANDING  
8-HOUR WORK-DAY"

"MINNESOTA'S IRON-RANGE MINERS STRIKE IS SPREADING AND STRIKERS  
PLAN TO INCORPORATE INTO ONE LARGE UNION, SO BY THAT MEANS THEY  
HAVE PLANNED TO RAISE WAGES AND GET THE 8-HOUR WORKING DAY,  
ALSO DEMAND ABOLISHMENT OF THE CONTRACT-WORK.---WORKERS, DO NOT  
BECOME STRIKE DECEIVERS!"

"Aurora, Minn., June 5--(From our own correspondent)--Strike began the 2nd day of this month at the St. James mine because during last month was paid to the men from \$1.69 to \$2.90. This morning (5th day) quit Miller Mine workers, about 300 men, who marched in parade to the Finnish Socialist Hall where was held strike meeting where it was agreed to join the I.W.W. league.

"At the same time it was agreed to ask for I.W.W. organizers to come here to organize the strikers. It is planned to stop all work especially in Aurora, which will be quite easy for a larger part of them are already in strike, about 500 men. All saloons have been shut.

"According to news in business-sponsored newspapers it appears that about one thousand men are on strike, because yesterday it was announced that workers at Mohawk and Hudson mines have joined the strikers and they are also demanding \$3 for the lowest



day-wage and abolishment of contract work, also the 8-hour work-day.

"Business-sponsored newspapers are trying to push the statement that the Aurora Miners would not have gone on strike, but because there has been an I.W.W. league organizer they are urging them to strike. But the real truth is this that the miners have tired of the miserable existence they were forced to live in because of the low wages of work, that those Minnesota iron-range miners receive for working.

"But the business-sponsored newspapers are trying to push propaganda by news, in an attempt to stop the miners from growing stronger than demand rights for themselves and others, and especially to prevent the I.W.W. organizers from completing organization activities."

#### "THE STRIKE APPEARS TO BE WIDENING"

"News has reached us that the Bangor Mine workers at Biwabik have also put into operation a strike and demand better wages and shorter working-day, also ask the abolishment of contract work. It is possible that today or tomorrow that all iron-range miners will raise together against the Employers."

#### "DO NOT GO FOR STRIKEBREAKING"

"The Aurora strikers ask all workers not to go to Aurora for strike breaking, for they have a good chance to win the strike in a short time.

"The Minnesota Iron-Range miners now have a splendid opportunity to fight together against the mine-barons, and can by fighting increase their pay and shorten the working-day.

"They can at the same time organize into one big union, that will help them in struggling, the only union that the capitalist employers are afraid of. The steel-trust does not fear the A.F. of L. organization, nor their organizers, but the I.W.W.'s agitators and its organized workers they do fear, because the mine-bosses know that the Konikauppa with the I.W.W. organization they can not attempt back-business to leave for the suffering of the strikers."

#### "OUR CORRESPONDENT'S LATEST NEWS OF THE AURORA STRIKE"

"Aurora, June 5--All mines are struck. 1,000 men have quit work. They demand shorter working-day and better wages."

"ABOUT A THOUSAND MINERS ARE ALREADY IN STRIKE AT AURORA,  
MINN. DEMANDING 8-HOUR DAY"

(cont. from p. 1)

"At St. James mine began a strike on the 2nd day of this month and this morning the St. James mine strikers gathered at Miller mine before the day shift workers had time to go to work and asked the Miller mine workers to quit their work and join in the strike, which they did. The strikers chose a three man committee to go to the superintendent to ask him whether he would concede to the workers demands and pay three dollars per day to the workers, to become the lowest way. He gave a sharp retort that he will not tolerate the workers demands. The workers marched in parade to the Finnish Socialist Hall, where they held a meeting, and discussed their demands, namely \$3.00 daily, abolishment of contract work, 8-hour day and complete discontinuance of Saturday night shift.

"At the same meeting was planned to join a union and further planned to join the I.W.W. league and request their organizer to come here to organize the strikers. It was also arranged to gather at the Finnish Socialist Hall after 1:30 and go to ask the Mohawk mine workers to join the strike. Where they gathered later and in Parade left to march to the Mohawk mine, where the superintendent was already waiting for them before they could get to the mine top. He halted the procession and asked where, in such a big crowd, where they going; to which the strikers answered that they were going to his mine to stop work and asked him whether he would concede the workers demands, to which he answered that his workers will not join in the strike and are satisfied with what he had paid them and that they had no right to force his men to join the strike. But ignoring the superintendent's warnings they marched to the Mohawk mine to see if the men, who were going to work at 3 o'clock, had come. But in the dry-room was no one but those whose rose to the ground top from the mine, joined the strikers. From there they marched in a procession to the Hudson open-pit mine and asked them to quit their work, which they did. From there they marched to the Miller mine, where a

May 10, 1939:

steamshovel had begun to load cars from the slop-pile and stopped their work. In the evening at 6:30 a procession was formed at the Finnish Socialist Hall and with the



music of band-corps marched to the Medon mine to see if the night-shift men were going to work, but there were none going to work.

"Now, all mines in Aurora are inactive. It all has happened along a peaceful route, no strong-arming has been attempted. About 1,000 men are on strike. Yesterday evening was a meeting at the S.S.O. Hall (Finnish Socialist Hall) where speeches were made in English, Italian, Austrian and Finnish languages. It was planned to go tomorrow morning to the Atriarik mine and ask them to join in the strike. We will see how we fare in the attempt to spread the strike. In the strike are mostly Italians and they have planned to join the I.W.W. league."

From Socialist, page 1, col. 6 and 7; Thurs., June 8th, 1916

Vol. III, no. 134. Date line June 17

Consulted at Workers Socialist Publishing Co., Duluth, May 10th, 1939:

#### "AURORA MINERS STRIKE SPREADING TO OTHER NEARBY MINE-REGIONS"

"THE STRIKERS' ELECTED COMMITTEE HAS ALREADY EXPLAINED THE WORKERS' DEMANDS TO THE MINE OWNERS' REPRESENTATIVES, BUT FROM THE EMPLOYERS' SIDE HAS NOT YET COME AN ANSWER. THE BANGOR MINE WORKERS BETWEEN AURORA AND BIWABIK HAVE ALSO STARTED STRIKE---I.W.W. ORGANIZER HAS ARRIVED--ALL IS QUIET IN THE STRIKE REGION"

"Aurora, Minn., June 7 (by telephone)--Between Aurora and Biwabik at the Bangor Mine, all workers have quit work and have joined the strikers. Their demands are the same as those of the Aurora miners, namely 8-hour day and three dollars daily, the lowest wage, also abolishment of contract work."

#### "STRIKERS HAVE EXPLAINED THEIR DEMANDS"

"Yesterday evening the strikers presented all of their demands to the mine owners representatives, but from their side has come no answer."

#### "STRIKERS MARCH TO NEARBY MINE"

"This morning marched about 1,000 strikers to the Stevenson and Adriatic mines, which are near Aurora, to urge some there, who are still working, to stop work and to join with them in the struggle against the mine-barons."

#### "I.W.W. LEAGUE ORGANIZER ARRIVES"

"As a result of the strikers request this morning arrived several I.W.W. league organizers who began immediately to organize the strikers into the union, and to help them otherwise in their struggle, came from Duluth comrade Fred Jaakola, to help Finnish Strikers."

"EVERYTHING PEACEFUL IN STRIKE REGION"

"Up to now all has been quiet on the strike region, even though the strikers, in thousands marched in parade along the community streets behind the band-corps, and in procession have marched to mine-entrances to urge other miners to join them, even then, up to now have the mine-bosses dared to put their hound-squads in to operation. They have already brought deputy-sheriffs from Virginia, but they have peacefully watched the strikers' movements."

"STRIKERS ARE ALL ONE-VOICED"

"Regardless of the fact that the strike includes many different nationalities, they are all of one opinion, and all are as enthusiastically fighting for the demands. At the working-places where the capitalistic employers are robbing all the workers the same way, where is not taken into consideration race or nationality, there the workers forget bonds of nationality and began understanding his other brothers, for here even now are Finns, Italians and Slovenians fighting side by side against the mine-owners. These workers have determined to get backing from the strong I.W.W. league organization and in being organized they know they are in the organization that the Steel-Trust fears the most."

From Socialist, page 2, col. 2 and 3; Thurs. June 8th, 1916

Vol. III, no. 134. No date line.

Consulted at Workers Socialist Publishing Co., Duluth, May 11, 1939:

(Editorial)

"FOR THE IRON-RANGE, AND ESPECIALLY FOR THE AURORA STRIKERS"

"Now has come the opportune moment to better the unbearable existence, aggravated by for so long by the Steel-Trust and other mine corporations who have pressed you for a long time and kept you in subjection.

"They have pressed you down to your lowest earning capacity, so that with that kind of earnings you cannot anymore support yourself and family, even though you sacrifice all but your bread. It is odd that you even earn what you do, such as the wages paid lately on the Minnesota Iron-range. You have already sacrificed long ago, many necessities. Because the prices of necessities have risen, as they have throughout America over 50%, the two dollars earnings, on daily-work or contract-work does not



reach anywhere. In many cases the worker does not receive that, very rare are those who receive three dollars. The national government certifies that the working-family cannot exist on that kind of wages.

"And to top that, what kind of work is that kind of wages paid for? Work that is made so heavy and hardly human, that in a year or two a physical super-man would be worn down to a frazzle. In that kind of job where the worker has no opportunity to take care of himself, and the company pays no attention to that. There are frequent accidents in which the worker loses his life or limbs or is crippled for life.

"And in that kind of machine like work that these company's workers do, no person can stand for long the work in the long work-day, which these corporations require. An 8-hour work-day is long enough."

From Socialisti, page 1, col. 4; Friday June 9, 1916  
Vol. III, no. 135. Aurora, Minn. June 8  
Consulted at Workers Socialist Publishing Co., May 11, 1939:

"LATEST WORD OF THE STRIKE SITUATION AT AURORA, MINNESOTA"

"AURORA MINE-REGION IS AT A COMPLETE STANDSTILL AND STRIKE IS SPREADING  
TO OTHER REGIONS"

"STRIKERS HAVE FORMED A UNION, WHICH IS JOINED WITH I.W.W. LEAGUE"

"Aurora, Minn., June 8--The miners here in strike have joined with the I.W.W., and want 8-hour work-day and three dollars the lowest days wages, also abolishment of contract work."

"ALL PEACEFUL IN STRIKE REGION"

"It has remained quiet here in the strike-region, even though the following mine's workers have struck: St. James, Fowler, Miller, Hudson, Mohawk and the Adriatic mine's workers, between Mesaba and Aurora have also joined, yesterday, with the strikers. The strikers once marched in procession to the Adriatic mine top and urged those still working to join them, which they did."

"HOUND-SQUADS GUARDING MINES"

"The Oliver Iron Mining Corporation's mines on the Mesaba Range are being protected by large hound-squads and police, for the reason that, so the strikers cannot get there to ask the slaves in their mines to strike and to rise as one to demand betterment of those pitiful conditions in which the Oliver Iron Mining Corporation workers are forced

to live in.

"Business-sponsored newspapers are advertising the fact that the Oliver corporation miners are satisfied in the condition, but of course the mine owners are attempting, with the help of the business sponsored newspapers to get the moral of the workers choked. But the iron-range miners have long enough suffered, for now that they have an opportunity to better their conditions, they are doing it despite the mine-capitalists attempts."

From Socialisti, page 1, col. 1; Saturday, June 10, 1916  
Vol. III, no. 136. Virginia, Minn., June 9  
Consulted at Workers Socialist Publishing Co., Duluth, May 11, 1939:

"Virginia, Minn., June 9--Aurora--Biwabik strike-parade leaders who were jailed have been brought here to Virginia and held behind locks."

From Socialisti, page 1, col. 1 & 2; Saturday, June 10, 1916  
Vol. III, no. 136. Aurora, Minn., June 9,  
Consulted at Workers Socialist Publishing Co., Duluth, Minn., May 11, 1939:

"AURORA STRIKERS JAILED, WITH THEM I.W.W.'S ORGANIZER ARTHUR BOOSE"

"STRIKE CONTINUES ON AND WILL SPREAD OVER THE WHOLE IRON-RANGE.  
RIFLE-HOUNDS STOP STRIKE PARADE AT BIWABIK MINE AND JAIL ITALIAN  
STRIKELEADER AND THREE FINNS AND FOUR ITALIAN STRIKERS. RIFLE-  
HOUND-SQUADS HAVE ARRIVED AT STRIKE-SCENES."

"Aurora, Minn., June 9--(by telephone)--This morning as the strikers were going to Biwabik in parade with intentions of persuading the Biwabik miners to join in the strike, there was the St. Louis County Sheriff with large rifle-hound-squad to receive them and they stopped the procession and jailed I.W.W. organizer Arthur Boose, an Italian strike committee member, also three other Italians and three Finns, of which two were Arvid Lehtonen and Kalee Seppänen, the third's name the correspondent did not remember."

"GUN-HOUND-SQUAD HAS ARRIVED"

"Aurora, Minn., June 8--(from our own correspondent)--The strike continues on and is widening. Gun-hounds have been brought in, enough to be at all mines Wednesday we marched in a large crowd to the Aldrick mine, but about 30 well armed gun-hounds led by the St. Louis County sheriff stopped the parade from arriving at their destination, anyway several men were successful in getting into conversation with the workers and were successful in getting the aforementioned mine's men to strike. On Wednesday was held a large meeting, where was held an election to select an official strike-committee into which was selected two members from each nationality. This committee is to meet

daily as long as the strike lasts. To every mine was selected a strike-observing committee into which was appointed two members from each nationality who were to report developments every day to the official strike-committee. Every worker is to help in every way possible the strike observer committee around the mine where each has worked."



(cont.)

Harold E. Rajala  
May 17, 1939

"At Wednesdays meeting was also drawn up the official demands, which will be brought up before the mine-owners, such demands are the kind that has appeared in this paper and the same kind as explained to all American iron-ore miners and iron-ore loaders.

The employers and strike committee will gather at the city hall to discuss the approval of the workers demands. A strike parade will form every evening at seven o'clock and march around the town after which all will gather at the Finnish Hall to hold meeting to discuss the strike situation and hear speeches.

I.W.W. leagues organizers have arrived in the community. James Gilday, speaker from a Minneapolis Farm-laborer organization, Arthur Boose from Duluth and the Socialist correspondent Fred Jaakkola. We are awaiting the arrival of a Slovenian organizer. If strike continues to spread we will ask Joseph Ettor and probably Haywood here also."

"THE MINE-OWNERS DO NOT APPROVE OF ANY KIND OF DEMANDS"

"Thursday, the 8th day, the strike committee met with the mine-owners to discuss approval of the demands, but the mine-owners did not approve of any kind of demands, nor did they discuss with others, but with their own workers. At any rate members of the strike committee were of the opinion that if it was possible to continue the strike the demands will be approved.

"Thursday evening was held a meeting at which was planned to continue the strike and to send appeal to all miners that they strike to help us win ours as well as their demands.

"A large support is necessary. In Aurora Thursday night joined the I.W.W. over 50 members."

From Sosialisti, page 2, col. 3, 4, 5; Sat., June 10, 1916  
Vol. III, no. 136. No date line  
Consulted at Workers Socialist Publishing Co., Duluth, May 15, 1939:

(Editorial columns)

"APPEAL TO FINNISH SOCIALISTS AND WORKERS IN MICHIGAN, MINNESOTA AND WISCONSIN IRON-RANGES, ALSO TO LAKE SUPERIOR STRIKE-REGION"

"We Aurora and vicinity workers have begun strike. We are already 8 mines were workers numbering about 1300 miners are striking. There are four nationalities among the strikers. The reasons that have forced us to strike have purely resulted from

socially lowered living to which we were driven by the present exploitation system, for we have not been stirred into striking by any organization, nor has there been in our midst any agitators. But the circumstances are such that the prices of necessities have unreasonably risen, as against the fact that the wages here have stayed at an average of \$2.50. It has also happened that several workers have received on the job, only \$1.15 per day. A very few workers earn a little more than \$3.00 a day.

"The work-pace has greatly increased as a result of contract work, so that only a few men, who are stronger can keep up with the increased pace. The mines are so smoky and unventilated so that often the worker's head would not have sufficient time to clear of gas, from one day to the next when he had to go to work anew. To top that it was planned to extend the working day longer than it really should be.

"That is why we have been forced to strike and fight for the following improvements:

"1. Three dollars, the lowest day wage in dry parts of mines, and in wet parts \$3.50, and the complete discontinuance of contract-work.

"2. A straight 8-hour work-period, and entrance and exit from the mine, within that period.

"3. That wages be paid twice monthly.

"4. That Saturday nightshift be completely abolished, but just the same, pay the Saturday night-shift full wages.

"5. That ground-top workers be paid \$2.75 per day, also 8-hour day.

"6. That when a man wants to quit work or is laid off he be paid immediately.

"We realize what kind of gigantic capitalist corporation we are fighting against. If we do not stick together, even how long we will survive standing in strike, to open a road toward betterment of our conditions, then we cannot hope to win this betterment of conditions. We understand that you live in the same poverty as we and that now if ever we have in common an opportunity to win betterments for all. You know as well as we, why now is the best time to win betterments. It is because now business is lively throughout the land.

"We ask you to notice our position in this matter and also your own conditions and the opportunity now to better those conditions, we appeal to all of you socialists and workers on the Minnesota, Michigan and Wisconsin iron-ranges, that you recruit



among you and form a strike-committee who's duty it will be in their respective district to do the following:

"1. Question every worker of our own nationality and other nationalities, whether they will join with us in our demands, and if in favor, to join in with all American iron-miners together in general strike.

"2. So that same committee seek that kind of members who in their midst are universally trusted and to get them to begin agitation toward the same condition we seek.

"3. To consider, take action and publish hand-bills in every nationality of the workers who are working in the iron-ore mines.

"4. That this committee report of their activities once a week to our representative the socialist headquarters and to the I.W.W. headquarters into which we plan to join, or to the I.W.W. local headquarters.

"5. We further suggest that this same committee stress that with their help all will win.

"6. Here are a few demands and suggestions for operation, which we ask you to put into operation for your good and for all. Further we ask all Lake Superior iron-ore dock workers that they plan alone demands for themselves and do the same that we have suggested.

"Approved by all Finnish strikers at the meeting and also all of other nationalities, who were contacted after the meeting.

"Aurora, Minn., June 7th 1916.

"John Jaskari, John Lahti, Matti Niemi.

"(We ask all Finnish Worker's newspapers to public the foregoing announcement.)"

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 2; Mon., June 12, 1916  
Vol. III, No. 137. Date Line: Virginia, Minn., June 10  
Consulted at Workers Socialist Publishing Co., Duluth, May 16, 1939:

#### "ARRESTED STRIKERS BROUGHT TO VIRGINIA"

"Virginia, Minn., June 10--(from our own correspondent)--"The Aurora and Biwabik strikers; about 13, who were arrested yesterday on the county road between Aurora and Biwabik, were brought here and put behind locks. They were jailed without charge, the only thing these strikers have done, is that they have instituted a strike to demand



for themselves better living conditions, but that is a grave wrong against the capitalist employers that against them is began revolting. 40 rifle-hounds led by the sheriff came to meet the strikers and stopped them, and forced them to turn back and arrested 13, in them were 4 Finns, also I.W.W. league's organizer Arthur Boose.

"Attorney T.H. Latimer from Minneapolis, has arrived here this morning and will represent the jailed strikers."

From Socialisti, page 1, col. 3; Monday, June 12, 1916  
Vol. III, No. 137. Virginia, Minn., June 10.  
Consulted at Workers Socialist Publishing Co., Duluth, May 16, 1939:

#### "SIX AURORA STRIKERS FREED BY BOND"

"Virginia, Minn., June 10--(By telephone)--Of those 13 jailed strikers Thursday, today was released six on 200 dollar bail, even though 25 dollars should have been enough. Their case will be tried next Monday, when they will be charged with inciting a mob. We are in hopes of yet this evening the remainder will be freed on bail. Their case will be tried by jury. Among the mine-company officials is circulating such wild rumors that about 700 strikers have left Aurora to free their jailed comrades. They also are fearing that the strike will spread throughout the whole iron-range."

From Socialisti, Page 1, col. 4; Monday, June 12, 1916  
Vol. III, No. 137. Aurora, June 10  
Consulted at Workers Socialist Publishing Co., May 16, 1939:

"BIWABIK MINERS HAVE THREATENED TO BEGIN SYMPATHY STRIKE MONDAY"

"FOUR I.W.W. SPEAKERS ARRIVE AT STRIKE-SCENE"

"AURORA STRIKE-SITUATION HAS BEEN UP TO NOW, PEACEFUL, MEETINGS  
ARE HELD REGULARLY"

"ONE OF THE STRIKERS JAILED LAST THURSDAY, WAS TODAY FREED"

"Aurora, June 10--(from our own correspondent)--Today is all quiet on the strike-scene, and strikers' meetings are held regularly, at which was considered problems concerning the strike, also considered how it is possible to get the entire iron-range miners by striking to help in the struggle, at the same time all of the range's mine-slaves could raise their wages also get 8-hour work-day and the termination of contract work."

"BIWABIK'S MINERS THREATEN TO STRIKE"

"From Biwabik word has been received that there the miners are almost all of the

opinion that now is their time to rise in strike, for in other communities, miners are in strike, where the miners are struggling against the employers with intentions of winning the strike and so get a little better work conditions in mines, also shorter working day and most important, better wages.

#### "4 I.W.W. LEAGUE'S ORGANIZERS HAVE LEFT CHICAGO"

"From Chicago has come word that I.W.W. headquarters has William D. Haywood ordered 4 organizers to go immediately to the strike-region, and it is possible they will arrive this evening or tomorrow morning. Comrade Väinö Wesman also will arrive today, as requested by the Finnish strikers, to help them in organization. He will also act as the Socialist correspondent."

#### "ONE OF THOSE JAILED IS LET FREE"

"Today was freed one of those 13 strikers who were jailed Thursday in the strike-parade from Aurora to Biwabik on the county road. The others jailed are still behind locks in Virginia waiting for trial for law breaking, of which none had done. The only thing they have done was to quit their work and wanting a little better, bearable existence.

"The jailed persons names are: Arthur Boose, I.W.W. league organizer, the others are strikers: William Halmi, Louis Palmeri, Martin Cercie, Mike Arwy, Charles Seppänen, Arvid Lahtinen, Jack Byra, August Palmeri, Sam Sparkowitch and R. Calokar."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 1; Tuesday, June 13, 1916

Vol. III, No. 138. Aurora, Minn., June 12

Consulted at Workers Socialist Publishing Co., Duluth, May 16, 1939:

"AURORA STRIKE WIDENS--BIWABIK MINERS WENT ON STRIKE TODAY"

"STRIKERS ASK TOWN'S MAYOR TO CLOSE SALOONS"

"I.W.W. LEAGUE'S ORGANIZERS JOSEPH ETTOR AND TRESKA HAVE ARRIVED  
IN VIRGINIA"

"IT LOOKS AS IF THE ENTIRE IRON-RANGE MINERS WILL STAND IN  
STRIKE-STRUGGLE"

Aurora, Minn. June 12--(by telephone)--(The date line is probably erroneous for  
this news obviously originates from Biwabik--H.R.)

Yesterday, during the day, the miners held a meeting here where they planned to announce a strike beginning Monday morning, and so stopped this morning about 250 men from work.

The strikers held a meeting this morn. At nine o'clock, where they planned to march

in parade to the city hall and ask the Mayor to close all saloons during the strike."



Harold E. Rajala  
May 19, 1939

(cont. from P. 15)

# "THE STRIKERS' DEMANDS"

"At the same meeting this morning it was planned to present to the mine-owners the same kind of demands as those the Aurora strikers have asked, namely: 8-hour work-day, 3 dollars the lowest day-wage also complete termination of contract work."

# "IN THE EVENING 400 MINERS JOINED THE STRIKERS"

"At three in the evening today joined in with the strikers all those miners who were still today at work, and after that, not even one mine was operating. The strikers after this evening will number near 600. At the Bangor Mine between Aurora and Biwabik, the mine's workers have also joined the strikers and present to the employers the same demands as those presented by the Aurora strikers."

# "THE STRIKE WILL PROBABLY SPREAD OVER THE ENTIRE RANGE"

"From Virginia has come word that even there the miners are considering this an opportune time by striking to better their existence."

From Sosialisti, Tuesday, June 13, 1916

Vol. III, No. 138, no date line

Consulted at Workers Socialist Publishing Co., Duluth, May 17, 1939:

# "STRIKERS' ATTORNEY, LATIMER DISAPPEARS"

"Just as we were going to press we were notified by telephone from Aurora that in Virginia has disappeared the strikers' attorney Latimer, and it is not known where he has gone. It is feared that the steel-trust hounds have grabbed him and put him behind locks until after the striker's trial in Virginia court."

From Sosialisti, Wednesday, June 14, 1916

Vol. III, No. 139. Aurora, June 13th

Consulted at Workers' Socialist Publishing Co., Duluth, May 17, 1939:

# "IRON RANGE STRIKE APPROACHES, ALREADY IN VIRGINIA MINE REGION--ELBA AND GILBERT ARE IN STRIKE"

"Aurora Mines are not operating"

"All Biwabik Mine's workers have begun yesterday, a strike"

"Rumors say that at Hibbing also have the Miners struck"

"Aurora, June 13--(by telephone)--Yesterday was announced that Elba's and Gilbert's miners have begun strike and have joined the Aurora and Biwabik strikers and have pre-

sented the same demands to the mine-owners as asked by Aurora's strikers.

"In yesterday's Duluth Herald was announced that the Aurora strikers were to go back to work, which is not true. Only several pump-men are at work, which has no bearing concerning the strike. Even these, about 8, have stopped work. Not even one miner is in any mine working.

"Strike-meetings have been held regularly every evening, where has been given speeches in many different languages. Finnish I.W.W. league organizer Ahlgren from Duluth has arrived in the community to take part in the strike and to organize the strikers into the union. "

"ALL BIWABIK MINES ARE AT A STANDSTILL"

"Every mine in Biwabik is at a standstill. Yesterday evening, the I.W.W. league's organizer Arthur Boose, who was freed from the jail yesterday, spoke here at a strike-meeting."

"I.W.W. LEAGUE'S ORGANIZERS HAVE GONE TO ELBA AND GILBERT"

"I.W.W. league's organizers Arthur Boose and Scarlet have this morning left for Elba and Gilbert to organize there the miners who are in strike, into the I.W.W. league, also to lead the strike."

"ALSO IN HIBBING A STRIKE HAS BEGUN"

"Rumors have arrived here from Hibbing saying that there too was to begin this morning a miners strike."

"STRIKERS ATTORNEY IS STILL ABSENT"

"The attorney Latimer who is the attorney for those strikers who were jailed last week still has not made an appearance. Attempts have been made to locate him but yet we have not received explanation of his disappearance. The strikers are of the opinion that he has been grabbed by steel-trust hounds, and have brought him somewhere to be kept behind locks until after the strikers case has been tried in court."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 3; Thursday, June 15, 1916

Vol. III, no. 140. Biwabik, Minn. June 14

Consulted at Workers Socialist Pub. Co., Duluth, May 17, 1939:

"THREE STRIKERS JAILED--PARADE FROM GILBERT TO ELBA AND VIRGINIA MINES"

"IN AURORA STRIKE-SCENE ALL IS PEACEFUL.--AT THE BANGOR MINE WAS ARRESTED THIS MORNING THREE ITALIAN STRIKERS, BUT THEY WERE LATER RELEASED ON BAIL.



ONE OF THOSE WAS INDICTED FOR ATTACKING A SCAB, ALSO BECAUSE HE THREATENED TO FIX THE RIFLE-HOUNDS."

"Biwabik, Minn., June 14--(by telephone)--Three Italians were jailed this morning at Bangor mine charging them with attacking scabs, also one of those men is said to have threatened to 'fix' those hounds a little. They were released later on bail and were supported by Biwabik's mayor. The bonds were only 50 dollars per man."

"STRIKE-PROCESSION GOING TO VIRGINIA MINE-REGION"

"Elba's and Gilbert's striking miners are going today at 3 o'clock to march in parade to Virginia mine-region and will try there to get the miners there who are still working to join in their ranks to fight for themselves an 8-hour work-day, better wages and termination of contract work."

"ATTEMPTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO JAIL I.W.W. LEAGUE ORGANIZER"

"Yesterday evening and this morning attempts were made by the mine owners paid hounds to get I.W.W. leagues organizer Scarlett, jailed, but the strikers kept such good care of him that the hounds could not get him in their hands."

"POLISH NEWSPAPER'S CORRESPONDENT HAS ARRIVED"

"From Aurora has been notified that there has arrived Polish newspaper's correspondent, who can speak all Slovenian languages, and he will be able to help the strikers in their struggle against the mine-barons."

From Sosialisti, page 3, col. 3; Thursday, June 15, 1916  
Vol. III, No. 140; Gilbert, June 13th  
Consulted at Workers Socialist Pub. Co., Duluth, May 18, 1939:

"GILBERT"

"The strike began today on the 13th day of this month at Elba and Corsica mines, which are near this place, the strikers number about 500 men. The strikers hold meetings at the Gilbert Finnish-Socialist Hall two times per day and today joined the union 40 men, the I.W.W. league, they are all Austrians. Here are three I.W.W. organizers: George Andreytehin, James Gilday and Joseph Green, who are organizing the strikers."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 1 & 2, June 16, 1916  
Vol. III, No. 141; Virginia, Minn., June 15  
Consulted at Workers Socialist Pub. Co., Duluth, May 18, 1939:

"MINNESOTA IRON-RANGE STRIKE HAS ALREADY SPREAD OVER THE WHOLE RANGE"

"AT VIRGINIA NORMAN MINE ALL WORKERS ARE ON STRIKE, STRIKE MEETING IN EVELETH"



"Virginia, Minn., June 15--(by telephone)--This morning all Norman Mine's workers went on strike and joined with Aurora, Biwabik, Elba and Gilbert strikers asking for 8-hour day, better pay and abolishment of contract work. From every mine in this vicinity have already also workers struck, and it is believed that by this evening all mines will be at a standstill..."

#### "LARGE MEETING AT FINNISH OPERA"

Last night here was a large meeting at Finnish socialist's Socialist Opera. The hall was full and many were forced to stay in the street, because they could not fit in the hall. At the meeting was given speeches in English, Polish, Austrian-slovanian, Italian and Finnish. The Virginia Band played between speeches.

"After the meeting we left the Opera to march in Parade along the community's streets behind the Music-corps.

"Taking part in the Parade were 800-1000 men and women.

#### "ITALIANS STRONGLY FAVOR STRIKE"

"Italian miners have strongly favored and want to rise and fight against the mine-bosses and to win the strike fully. If all Finnish miners remain of the same opinion in this strike-struggle and in going to strike, then it looks like every one of other nationalities are fully favoring the strike and are ready to begin the strike any moment.

"Yesterday morning left a parade from Biwabik and marched first to Gilbert, then from there to Eveleth to the Finnish-Uranian Hall, there was held a large meeting, where was given speeches in several different languages. After the meeting a parade containing about 600 marchers left toward Virginia to urge those miners still working there to join them in fighting for their rights."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 2; Friday, June 16, 1916

Vol. III, No. 141; no date line

Consulted at Workers Socialist Pub. Co., Duluth, May 18, 1939:

#### "I.W.W. ORGANIZER TRESKA ON WAY TO VIRGINIA"

"(Wired from Minneapolis) I.W.W. league's farm-labor secretary has wired saying that the Italian I.W.W. league's organizer and lecturer Tresca has left there yesterday evening in the night passenger train to the Aurora strike-region, and he has already this evening arrived at Virginia, where he will help the strikers in their struggle

against the Steel-Trust."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 1-2 and sections of col. 3-4-5-6-7; Sat., June 17th, 1916  
Vol. III, No. 142. Virginia, Minn., June 16  
Consulted at Workers Socialist Publishing Co., Duluth, May 18, 1939:

"MINNESOTA STRIKE-STRUGGLE SUCCESSFUL COMPANY'S MAGNATES CONSIDER CONCILIATION"

"AT VIRGINIA FINNISH OPERA WAS HELD YESTERDAY EVENING A LARGE MINER'S STRIKE-MEETING"

"CITIZEN'S COMMITTEE' SELECTED IN VIRGINIA"

"THE BUSINESS-SPONSORED NEWSPAPERS BY EVERY DARK TRICK ATTEMPT TO PROVOKE STRIKE"

"VIRGINIA CITY-OFFICIALS HAVE PLANNED TO CHASE SPEAKERS OUT OF THE TOWN"

"Virginia, Minn., June 16--(by telephone)--Yesterday evening was held here, at the Finnish Socialist Opera, a large miners meeting, in which took part 2,000 men and women. At this meeting was drawn up a strike-announcement for the whole Minnesota Iron Range, with intentions of getting every miner to rise as one to fight against the mine-companies, and win for themselves a better existence.

"At this strength-showing meeting was held several strong speeches. First of all the I.W.W. organizer, Tresca, spoke in English and Italian languages. After that were given speeches in many different languages.

"COMPANY AND COMMUNITY OFFICIALS ALSO ASSEMBLE"

"At the same time that the strikers were holding a meeting at the Opera the company and community rulers also were holding a meeting, where they planned that all I.W.W. league's organizers and speakers would have to leave town before 2, on Friday, or else they will throw in jail every one of them. At the same meeting they also approved of a resolution, in which was agreed that the I.W.W. league began the trouble. In the same resolution was stated that the I.W.W. league organizers have, here on the Iron-range begun this difficulty. But the truth of the matter is this, that the miners have, of their own accords begun a fight for better conditions, and only after that time the strikers themselves asked the I.W.W. organizers to come and help them arrange meetings and the strike. It was not until the strikers requested that the I.S.S. league headquarters ordered organizers to go to the Iron-Range."



**"MORE I.W.W. SPEAKERS COME"**

"Today (Friday), in place of those I.W.W. organizers who have left, have come more from Duluth and other places and the strikes gathered at the Finnish Opera at 1 o'clock. The least there was in the Hall was 1,500, and on the outside were several hundreds who could not fit in the Opera.

"At the meeting was discussed and agreed to parade through the town and to Eveleth, to show the bosses that the workers strike and organization activities can not be broken by ordering I.W.W. league organizers out of the Iron-range.

"But the bosses got word of this and this obviously distressed them so the sheriff, trick-playing mayor and company bosses came to the Opera and asked for discussion with the strikers. As a 'protection' they had with them 50 rifle-hounds, who the bosses left on the outside as they went in.

"The strike committee, in which belonged two persons for every nationality and I.W.W. league organizers the bosses were able to see and present their problem after the strike-meeting was over. The discussion took place behind the wings of the stage. The bosses asked that the parade should not be started, and if the strikers agreed then all I.W.W. organizers and strike-leaders could stay in the town and they and the strikers would not be bothered and then the company would send their rifle-hounds back to their own mines.

"After listening to the request of the bosses the committee promised to tell the strikers of the arrangement, who had already been forming for the parade in front of the hall while the meeting was going on, about 2,000 in all. The Virginia band corps during the time the strike committee and bosses were meeting, played various pieces while waiting for the results of the conference."

**"STRIKE ALREADY AT ALL EVELETH MINES"**

"After yesterday's meeting has taken part a portion of workers from every mine in Eveleth have joined the strike. This evening will be held another large meeting at the Uranian Hall, where will speak Tresca in Italian and English, also Väinö Wesman in Finnish."



"IRON RANGE STRIKE SPREADING--IN EVELETH ITALIAN MINERS HAVE JOINED THE STRIKE"

"IN VIRGINIA THE SALOONS HAVE BEEN OPENED"

"STRIKERS HAVE ASKED THE COMMITTEE TO DEMAND THAT SALOONS BE CLOSED AGAIN"

"IT IS BELIEVED THAT SUNDAY THE HIBBING MINE-REGION WORKERS WILL JOIN THE STRIKE"

"Virginia, Minn., June 17--(by telephone)--Yesterday evening was held in Eveleth a large strike-meeting, where was announced by Italian miners that they will join strike this morning, but the Finns are yet disinclined to go into strike, however it is believed that this evening, when another large meeting will be held that the Finnish miners will join in the strike struggle.

"SALOONS OPENED IN VIRGINIA"

"Even though upon the request of the strikers the saloons were closed for a few days, the community officials or mine-company bosses have ordered them to open with intentions of by this means to harm the miner's strike-struggle."

"RIFLE-HOUND-SQUADS PROTECTING MINES"

"At every mine where miners have struck have the company bosses stationed a large rifle-hound-squad to protect the mine and many of those are stationed on county roads too, so that the strikers cannot even peaceful walk on them either, and cannot talk with the miners who are still working."

"PROVOCATORS ATTEMPT TO DISPERSE STRIKERS MEETING"

"The Työmieks correspondent relates that at Gilbert 'yesterday evening was held here a large meeting. Just as the meeting was half-way was thrown into the building, through a window, burning rockets, causing a riot in the hall, everyone made for the door. It is a wonder no one was injured. A short while later when it was noticed that it was planned to scare the strikers, all went back into the hall and the meeting continued peacefully.'"

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 1; Wed., June 21, 1916  
Vol. III, No. 145; no dateline  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., Duluth, May 22, 1939:

"RIFLE-HOUNDS JAIL STRIKING WORKERS AT VIRGINIA WITHOUT CAUSE"

"THE JAILED STRIKERS CASE WILL COME BEFORE VIRGINIA COURT WEDNESDAY"

"STEEL-TRUST 'BLUFFING'"

"The local business-sponsored newspapers state of the Minnesota steel trust affiliate, Oliver Mining Co.'s president has threatened that if the strikers in the trust's mines soon don't agree with the company then he will close all mines on the whole range, and will remain closed for some time. When the trust has to resort to such threats it is obvious that they are afraid the strike will spread greatly, and so will try any trick to stop it. Everyone, knows that this is a scare-bluff, who have this summer read any newspaper. News reports have made it plain that the trust has some many orders ahead for ore that it cannot possibly fill all, even though all of its machinery is in operation. They have already leased all available ships to carry ore from the Lake Superior region. And they have contracts with shipping corporations which they cannot break."

From Sosialisti, Page 1, col. 1; Wed. June 21, 1916  
Vol. III, No. 145; Virginia, June 20  
Workers Socialist Pub. Co., May 22, 1939:

"Virginia, Minn. June 20--(by telephone)--To the strike-committee has the Rudy mine's officials gone to announce that they are ready to submit to the strikers demands if they will all come to work.

"The strike-committee has announced that it will not consider only one mine, but it is the determination of the strikers by striking to get the whole Iron-Range mine's workers to join the strike, and then by striking force all mine-owners to approve of the demands as one."

#### "RIFLE-HOUNDS ARREST STRIKERS"

"Rifle-hounds and police arrest on the street those who peacefully walk along, but it is believed that they cannot be held in jail long because they cannot find anything to charge them with."

From Sosialisti, Page 1, col. 1; Thursday, June 22, 1916  
Vol. III, No. 146; Hibbing; 4 p.m.; June 21  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., Duluth; May 23, 1939:

#### "HIBBING MINERS ON STRIKE--RIFLE-HOUNDS ATTACK STRIKERS"

"AT HIBBING THE RIFLE HOUNDS BEGAN FIGHT WHEN THEY TRIED TO BREAK-UP STRIKE--PARADE--RIFLE-HOUNDS GOT BEATING AFTER FIRST WHIPPING THE STRIKERS"

"By telephone from Hibbing, 4 o'clock, June 21--Today at 2:30 as the strikers parade left the Workers Hall, to march through the town, carrying in front the United



States and red flags, they were attacked by several rifle-hounds near Third Avenue.

One of the company blood-hounds jumped on the carrier of the red flag, to get the flag away from them like that and have their flag-carrier (cont. from Sosialisti, June 22, 1916) attacked like that and went to help him. A result of their own created riot the rifle-hounds got a beating and fled. The parade formed anew and began again the march. A revolver that had fallen from one of the hounds was kicked along as they marched down the street.

"As the procession arrived at the bank corner there again attacked them three national guardsmen with intentions of stopping the parade. The fight began anew, and the guardsmen, of which there were many around beside those three, did not further bother the procession, but these three only fled to the upstairs of the bank for safety. The procession broke up there and its participants went back to the hall, where was held a protest-meeting. There was selected a committee to go to speak to Mayor Powers to demand from him for the strikers, protection within the city borders, which he had earlier promised. (continued from Sosialisti, June 22, 1916) The mayor explained to the strikers that in open fighting like this the company-hounds have hopes of making a riot so then they could call the militia to the region, or because the national guard is on duty on the Mexican Border the steel trust hopes that as a result the riot their rifle-hounds will be given army powers to enforce laws in the region.

"Hibbing, Minn., June 21--(by telephone)--The other day as comrades Arvid Niemi and Jacob Aunela were at the Herald location posting meeting notices at miners' homes and mines and were just coming along the county road with their bicycles to Hibbing, they were overtaken by an automobile in which were seven rifle-hounds, they stepped out of the car and began beating the boys so badly that they are still suffering from the beating. The hounds threatened to hang them and made them take down all the notices they had nailed up."



Outlook Magazine August 30th 1916 Page 1036

"The Mining Strike in Minnesota"

In this issue there are two articles on the 1916 strike starting with an editorial comment by the editors of "Outlook".

The first article is written by Mary Heaton Vorse ending on page 1046. The second article on the point of view of the Mining companies is written by Tyler Dennet under title "The other side". It starts on page 1046 and ends on page 1048.

Mary Heaton Vorse quotes "George W West of the committee on Industrial relations" on what was happening on the range as follows: 'the city of Duluth, the County of St Louis, and the State of Minnesota as represented by Governor Burnquist and other public officials have joined hands in a relentless effort to crush the strike of the iron-workers.' \*\*\*\* 'with the support and good will of the United States Steel Corporation and affiliated interests in the State governor Burnquist, Sheriff John R Meining, of Duluth, County prosecutor Greene, and the Duluth chief of Police are playing at ducks and drakes with the most sacred rights of the foreign workmen who mine the ore that goes down to the ships at Duluth for shipment to the Pittsburgh mills'

According to Mary Heaton Vorse the strike started "on the 2nd of June, 1916" at the small St James mine in Aurora, Minnesota. The walkout was a result of grievances in the mine on the basis of which the workers made a demand for wage increases, the abolition of the vicious contract system of labor and an eight hour day with a pay day every two weeks.

Duluth, Minnesota  
Harold E. Rajala  
July 13, 1939

From Sosialisti, page 2, col. 5; Tue., Oct. 10, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 238; editorial columns  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; July 7, 1939  
Item #33

"WHAT IS HEARD FROM THE IRON-RANGE"

"VERMILION-RANGE"

"This strike was in bad condition for there were no others on strike but in Sec. 30. Dark Ely was kept under control of the corporations. The workers there kept on scabbing and it was impossible to stimulate agitation among the large groups of scabs, during the time of strike. At this only scene of strike, scabs began moving in, and it was for that reason many strikers moved to other regions, for ordinary people could not breathe fresh air when among the scabs. But in this strike were only 200-300 men taking part."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 4; Fri. Oct. 13, 1916  
Vol. 3, No. 241; Chisholm, Minn.; Oct. 12  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; July 7, 1939  
Item #34

"MINER HAS KILLED HIMSELF IN A GHASTLY WAY"

"A MINER, CHARLES MERILÄ HAS BLOWN HIMSELF UP WITH DYNAMITE"

"MERILÄ COMMITTED SUICIDE AS HE WAS WORKING ON NIGHT SHIFT IN A CHISHOLM MINE

"Chisholm, Minn., Oct. 12--A miner, Charles Merilä killed himself here yesterday in a dreadful way. He was working night shift in the Shenengo mine, where he took a prepared charge of dynamite and blew himself to death. The suicide occurred yesterday morning between 4 and 5 o'clock, as the other men were eating their lunch.

"The inquest into the death revealed death was due to suicide with dynamite. Working partners of Merilä said during the past week he had been acting quite queer and thought that Merilä was insane."

"Merilä was only 25 years old he was a single man and had lived in this

country five years. He has a cousin in Chisholm and an uncle in Bovey.---  
Judging by name he is of Finnish nationality.

Sosialisti, page 1, col. 6; Fri. Oct. 13, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 241; Hibbing, Oct. 12  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; July 7, 1939  
Item #35

"STRIKE INVESTIGATORS HAVE LEFT FROM HIBBING"

"THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT LABOR-STRIKE INVESTIGATORS HAVE LEFT  
HIBBING FOR WASHINGTON"

"THE INVESTIGATORS WERE NOT ABLE TO DO ANYTHING IN SETTLING THE  
STRIKE"

"Hibbing, Oct. 12--W. R. Fairley, who has been here on orders from the  
Federal government labor bureau to investigate the Mesaba-Range miners' strike,  
left here yesterday for Washington, where he will complete his reports on his  
investigation.

"Davis who was sent here by another government dept. to represent the  
Federal government on the range returned to Washington yesterday where he was  
called by Wilson's order. However, Davis will return here to spend a few days  
yet on the Mesaba-Range to complete his report.

"These federal government representatives were sent here to Hibbing,  
as a result of appeals submitted by Virginia and Chisholm mayors to come and  
make a way for settlement of the miners' strike. But neither one has been able  
to make any settlement nor explanation, they did not even attempt to stop at-  
tacks upon women and children. They did not make any attempts for settlement  
of the strike, to force the mine-companies to meet with the strikers and settle  
the strike. Their trip to the iron-range only a blind to the workers."

From Sosialisti, page 2, col. 5; Wed. Oct. 18, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 245; Editorial columns  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; July 10, 1939  
Item #36

"BIWABIK"

"Here in two mines, namely the Belgrade and Bangor mines, the Pickands



Mather Co. bosses have begun practicing sabotage against the Finns. They have planned to force this rebellious nationality to move away to somewhere else or die of hunger by refusing them work, by that means they plan to break up the workers' organization and desire to strike. These bosses need men in their mines to start a third shift, but are trying to get more humble servants from somewhere so they will not have to take rebels.

"To the Belgrade mine have gone several Finns, who have worked there for many years, but returned with poor results. The same has happened at the Bangor mine. The men can see in this more reason to organize, every worker when the bosses are trying to place the hang-noose over their heads. This company has been known to be the most implacable in keeping their workers in subjection. A Belgrade mine captain had said--as is reported--when asked why he would not take Finns to work because he already had a large number of Slovenian union men at work, he answered 'I am here as captain, it is true, but I do not run this mine, there are others who give orders.'

"To a relation of Mrs. Masanovitch was told by the Bangor mine captain, 'Wait three days, then I will get an answer whether you can go to work.' After 3 days he went again to ask. Now the captain asked 'Have you been caring for or otherwise helping the Masanovitch children during the time the parents have been in jail?' The man answered 'Yes sir'; the captain shook his head and said: 'It is too bad. You cannot get work here,' the captain made it clear that if he would not do such a crime there would be some possibility for him. To this the man answered that he has cared for ~~this~~ children and will continue to do so as long as he remains alive. After that the captain asked where was his red card. He pulled it out of his pocket and said 'here it is.' The captain promised him a job if he would turn the card over to him. The man said with much force 'you go to hell,' the argument ended as the captain walked away with his head bowed. This was related by the man himself. This man is now

working in Aurora and still caring for the children that the capitalists would want to kill by hunger because their father wanted to give them bread so that that they might live."

From Sosialisti, page 3, col. 4 and 6-7; Oct. 28, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 254; no dateline  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; July 10, 1939  
Item #37

(Steamship agencies and Bankers, in their advertising say they pay from 6:25 marks to 6:60 marks on the American dollar for those desirous of sending money to Finland).

From Sosialisti, page 2, col. 6; Tue. Oct. 31, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 256; no dateline  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; July 10, 1939  
Item #38

#### "VIRGINIA"

"The Employers are trying to force the workers to attend night school. That of course is worth while but the fact that they are doing it there is some other reason than just learning the English language. One influential woman has said, that 'the employers who had no other way to force the workers to sit in night-school during the time they aren't working, so that they would not have an opportunity to listen to wild agitation speeches.' The schooling was arranged by the employers so that names and numbers of the workers reporting at the school are given to mine-corporation officials. The report is given so promptly that the next morning the time-clerk can tell who was and who was not at school the night before. This system is fully in operation at the Alpena mine.

"Workers, keep on going to school and every word that you learn there use it to further interests for yourself and your class.

"Scabs are being kicked out of work. The scabs probably thought that they could be as they wished, but in that they were greatly mistaken. The capitalists do not need that kind of weaklings, only at time of workmen's

strikes. One certain scab was put back to painting a house which was left half done because of the strike. Once this same scab brought names to the mine-corporation supt., of men in their mines who took part in the Freedom-Parade. But this man was not quite smart in doing this and forthwith was fired as he is now. Another who was before the strike a foreman has been placed a 'timber man' now. This strike deceiver's wife had once told strikers' wives, that 'my husband will not go on strike, he just got a good job with good pay.' We ask you now, woman, where is your husband's good job now? That woman appears to be in a very depressed mood now and why not, has not her good fortune broken up when from another side decent workers place pressure.

"The International dance is being put on next Wednesday. The Receipts will be used for the benefit of our friends who are in jail which the trust plans to jail for the rest of their lives."



Duluth, Minnesota  
Harold E. Rajala  
July 10, 1939

From Sosialisti, page 2, col. 6-7; Thurs. Sept. 28, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 228; no dateline  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; July 5, 1939  
Item #28

### "BIWABIK"

"The strikers voted to end the strike, giving the central strike committee authority to announce the ending of the strike. They have made an official announcement in the 'Strikers News.'

"Here in Biwabik the strikers voted to end the strike by a plurality of only five votes, many of whom we are sure changed their minds after the meeting and would have voted to continue. In this will be noticed that the strikers ranks were still strong, even though they have for so long been fighting. The struggle would not have lasted another month if every one would have given as much support as possible. Many of those who promised to give their unyielding support, did give in to the terrible capitalists, and so deserting their fellow workers in their struggle for better conditions.

"Most of the union men have been admitted to work. Several have been refused although some have not yet gone to ask, but it is sure that all of them will be admitted within several days. A group of southern Europeans, union men, had gone to the Bangor mine and asked for their old working places. The captain asked whether they were union men, they answered him that they were. The captain asked whether they intended to continue as members of the organization; the men answered that they intend to be members from now onward, the captain only countered with telling them to come back to work. If these men had been the kind of people who would bring their union cards to the mine office like a little boy who had committed a wrong on the parents, the bosses would surely have cheapened the men and the men would have felt their cheapness inwardly. And the bosses could have continued their punishment further."

From Sosialisti, page 2, col. 3; Sat. Sept. 30, 1916  
 Vol. 3, no. 230; no dateline--editorial columns  
 Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; July 5, 1939  
 Item #29

### "FOR WOODSMEN"

"Now that the I.W.W. plans this fall to organize all woodsmen and saw-mill workers it is the duty of all union men to do everything possible to aid the unions efforts. It is necessary to spread word of the arrangements offered by word of mouth and by distributing hand-bills so as to get all wage-workers to join the union.

"This winter will be a shortage of camp workers, and it will be possible to get an improvement of conditions at woods-camps if they become under the control of the union. When we all work together we will certainly win something.

"So before you go into the woods to work make it a point to call at the union office and have word of where you are going and take along some hand-bills. If you are a 'delegate' be sure to take along with you a sufficiently large number of extra cards, application blanks and membership books. And when you return let others know of your progress and suggestions as to what is to be done.

"The worker should make it a point to attend union meetings at the hall. There are your fellow-workers. There you will meet your fellow workers, there you will get word from working places. There is discussed how living conditions can be improved upon. Make the union hall your headquarters.

"If you have not got a permanent address, drop a line now and then, in the mail, to the union office notifying them of your address.

Leo Ahlgren."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 4; Tuesday, Oct. 3, 1916  
 Vol. 3, no. 232; no dateline  
 Workers socialist publishing Co.; July 6, 1939  
 Item #30

"COMPLETE CLOTHING FOR MEN COST 700 MARKS IN FINLAND"

"Finnish newspapers publish clothing prices through war-censorship. After some research the editors make the statement that the price of clothing have increased in Helsinki from 50 to 400 percent. From reports gathered from prices in different stores the newspapers print the statement that a complete suit of clothes for a man, costs now, nearly 700 marks. Following are the present prices printed by the newspapers, including former prices of the same articles:

	Before the war	Now
Suit	110:	250:
Shirt	6:	12:
Underwear	4:	8:50
Cotton-socks	:90	3:50
Suspenders	2:50	6:
Gloves	3:50	12:
Collar	1:05	1:55
Cuff protectors	1:25	1:75
Scarf	3:50	8:
Cap	15:	27:
Shoes	24:	47:
Shoe laces	:05	:25
Overcoat	125:	220:
Raincoat	8:	14:50
TOTAL	<hr/> 339:75	<hr/> 692:05"

From Sosialisti, page 3, col. 4; Wed. Oct. 4, 1916  
 Vol. 3, no. 233; no dateline  
 Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; July 6, 1939  
 Item #31

#### "HIBBING"

"The miners who were on strike in this town are already at work with the exception of a few who are idle. Most of those who are idle, are mostly Finnish. What kind of a boycott is in operation here now? It is not because they do not wish to work or that there is too many workers. There must be some other reason. The mine-companies have not begun operations in the underground mines yet because there is a shortage of workers in open pit mines. The mine bosses think this way, that no matter how fast they work underground mines they can get but a limited amount of ore this fall, so they believe that by keeping the underground mines idle they will get more men to work in the open pit mines. Most of the Finns are not desirous of working in open pit mines, it is probably for this reason that several are idle.



Item #31

"Southern-Europeans are most strongly represented among the union men. Many of them favor striking next spring to demonstrate to the mine-companies the working-class strength.

Reporter"

From Sosialisti, page 3, col. 3; Fri., Oct. 6, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 235; no dateline  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; July 6, 1939  
Item #32

"HIBBING, MINN."

"Lately, fresh workstrength has arrived here greatly. Socialist members have nearly all returned here from the Dakota harvest fields, where many were forced to go by pressure of the steel trust. Also has come here strangers from other communities, most likely with hopes of obtaining employment now as long as the strike is over. Nowadays exists a fairly good chance for employment. In many of the mines no discrimination is shown, for the union men need not drop their membership for fear they will be black-listed. Now that the strike is ended we not only have the opportunity to regularly attend meetings and pay dues but also do what we can to further progress in the union activities. Where ever is found a non-union man, he should be told that the struggle here has not ended permanently but only temporarily so that when we are again completely prepared we will again raise and fight for capitalist exploiters, and will continue the struggle until we gain satisfactory living conditions."

Duluth, Minnesota  
Harold E. Rajala  
July 7, 1939

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 2-3; Thurs. Sept. 21, 1916  
Vol. III, no. 222; no date line  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., Duluth; June 26, 1939  
Item #14

"WHERE IS THE MINNESOTA IRON-MINERS' STRIKE-COMMITTEE MEMBER, ALEX VATANEN"

"We have received two telephone calls from the iron-range that Alex Vatanen, of Keewatin, Minn. left Saturday for the Virginia strike-committee meeting and has not been seen since. Vatanen has been one of the most active members of the committee, so it is reasonable to believe that the steel trust gun-men have grabbed him and have brought him, no one knows where. It is time to take consideration in this matter and determine the reason for Vatanen's disappearance."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 6-7; Thurs., Sept. 21, 1916  
Vol. III, no. 222; Virginia, Sept. 20  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 26, 1939  
Item #15

"STRIKERS INDICTED FOR MURDER HAVE BEEN BROUGHT BY AUTOMOBILE TO VIRGINIA"

"Virginia, Sept. 20--Last night was brought here the strikers who were indicted with the I.W.W.'s organizers who were also indicted, because the District court at Duluth moved the trial last Monday to Virginia. Sheriff Meining was accompanied by deputies in the car in which the accused were transported. The officials appeared to be afraid that the strikers would come in a large mob to the depot if the prisoners were brought by train. They spent the night in the local jail and in the morning were brought before Judge Hughes in District court. The defendant's attorney asked the Judge to move the trial to Hibbing for the October term, because the defendant's attorneys had not prepared all their material. As we go to press we do not have word as to the Judge's answer, however we will have it in tomorrow's issue.

"The courtroom was filled with strikers and sympathizers."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 5; Thurs., Sept. 21, 1916  
Vol. 3, no 222; Virginia, Minn., Sept. 20  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 26, 1939  
Item #16

"THE MINNESOTA MINERS STRIKE HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED AS ENDED"

"THE STRIKERS, IN A GENERAL ELECTION, HAVE DECIDED TO END STRIKE AFTER THREE MONTHS OF BITTER STRUGGLE--UNION MEN, AND THOSE ACTIVE IN STRIKE ARE UNCONDITIONALLY GIVEN FORMER JOBS--AS A RESULT OF THE STRIKE CONDITIONS ON THE MESABA-RANGE WILL BE GREATLY CHANGED."

"Virginia, Minn., Sept. 20--Last week were held elections at every location. Results were brought to the iron-miners general committee, who decided at their meeting of Sept. 15th and 17th to announce the strike has ended and then give word to all union men that they may go to work in the mines. On Monday men went to work in their towns. Nearly all of the miners were taken back to work regardless of the fact they were members of the union and active in the strike. We would have made this announcement in an earlier issue, for we received word of reports in the election, but we preferred to wait for official word of the ending of the strike from the general committee, the complete report announcing ending of the strike will be published in a later issue, as soon as we receive it.

"It is going on to three and a half months, the duration of the bitter strike, in which the Steel Trust has used up to the last, vile tricks in attempting to break up the strike. Even though the companies do not openly admit defeat or concede to the strikers demands they have, in this struggle lost halfway which everyone will admit, who will be working this winter and notice the great changes which have resulted from this strike.

"It remains to be seen to what extent the wages will be increased and whether in other places besides Virginia will be adopted three shifts per day, making an 8 hour work-day, and whether they will adopt other improvements asked by the strikers which will be taken up within the next few months."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 3-4; Fri. Sept. 22, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 223; Virginia, Minn., Sept. 21  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 26, 1939  
Item #17

"THE MURDER-TRIAL OF THE STRIKERS AND ORGANIZERS MOVED TO THE DECEMBER TERM OF COURT"

"Virginia, Minn., Sept. 21--Judge M. Hughes at the district court trial moved



Item #17

the trial to the December term of court. This is the first victory gained in this trial. At the trial was quoted all those articles, which appeared in the Duluth News Tribune about the I.W.W., its organizers and of the Mesaba-range strike. Judge Hughes moved the trial to the December term because he wanted all the information available and so the defendant's attorneys have time to prepare all their material. Another reason brought up by the defendant's attorney was the fact that the state will try to convict the defendants of conspiracy to murder. The Judge will give an answer to that next Saturday. The December term will be held in Virginia."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 1; Sat. Sept. 23, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 224; Keewatin, Minn., Sept. 22  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 26, 1939  
Item #18

#### "FOUND"

"Keewatin, Minn., Sept. 22--(by telephone)--The Minnesota strike committee member Alex Vatanen has returned home and said he was absent on his own business. But word received by us has not made plain whether as we feared that something had happened to him, because of the fact that during the entire strike period the gun-men had bothered him."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 7; Sat. Sept. 23, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 224; International Falls, Minn., Sept. 22  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 27, 1939  
Item #19

#### "PAPERMILL WORKERS WIN STRIKE"

"International Falls, Minn., Sept. 22--The papermill workers here and at Fort Francis have returned to work after winning a strike. Last night the employers notified the strikers that they agree to pay time and a half for overtime work and also from this time on no sick-benefit will be deducted from their wages and approved of also that no worker in the mills is forced to join in one general insurance company. In all, 500 men took part in the strike."

Item #20

From Sosialisti, page 2, col. 2-3; Sept. 23, 1916  
 Vol. 3, no. 224, no date line--editorial columns  
 Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 27, 1939  
 Item #20

"BUY YOUR POTATOES WHEN YOU CAN"

"Day by day the price of necessities rise now during the time of scarcity when market prices are in control of speculators, who use that excuse to increase prices. Another reason attributing to increase in prices is that all machinery and especially the price of metal have increased unreasonably high so has brought about an advantageous condition for the necessity price controllers who take advantage of the fact so raise the prices accordingly.

"We compare of several of the most important food items for instance sugar; the wholesale-dealers price for 100 pounds if \$6.75, last year, at the same time it was \$5.75. Wheat price now has raised to \$8.50 per 100 pounds; a week ago it was 25¢ less and a year ago it was \$6.00 per 100 pounds. Potatoes, which a year ago cost \$1.26 a barrel, now cost \$3.50 a barrel, a week ago it cost only \$3.00 a barrel. They will continue increasing for potatoes have grown more poorly throughout the land than they have for years. And when we know that potatoes are considered of all work-people's foods, the most important, and are used mostly of, and have risen in price from last year near 200 percent, we can realize how difficult has grown the condition of the working-people during the past year. In the following columns are listed wholesale prices of necessities and other important items, the higher prices listed are the prices of the article this week;

Beans, 100 pds.	\$9.40	\$7.25
Butter, pound	0.33	0.26
Cheese, pound	0.24	0.19
Eggs, dozen	0.32	0.25
Beef, 100 pds. live weight	6.00	6.25
Pork, (same)	10.25	7.00
Mutton, (same)	6.90	5.25
Pork, barrel	28.00	18.00
Rice, pound	0.05	0.05
Flour, barrel	8.50	6.00
Potatoes, barrel	3.50	1.25
Apples, dried, pound	0.06	0.07 $\frac{3}{4}$
Peaches, pound	0.06	0.04 $\frac{1}{4}$
Plums, pound	0.11 $\frac{1}{2}$	0.10 $\frac{1}{4}$

Raisens, pound	0.07 $\frac{1}{4}$	0.07 $\frac{1}{2}$
Lard, 100 pounds	14.40	8.00
Coffee, Rio, pound	0.10	0.06 $\frac{3}{4}$
Coffee, Santos, pound	0.11 $\frac{1}{2}$	0.08 $\frac{3}{4}$
Tea, pound, Formosa	0.16 $\frac{1}{2}$	0.17
Tea, Japan, pound	0.19	0.18 $\frac{1}{2}$

"Notice that the prices of necessities have risen rapidly in such a short time it would be well if the worker could have some method, whereby he could increase his wages just as rapidly. As established by law it is necessary sometimes to wait for years to put in force legislation that might be enacted for the worker. By means of organization or by unionism the workers may immediately join together in getting a raise in wages whenever prices rise. With help of unionism the worker can do that in the Fall, Winter, Summer or Spring, or whenever there exists an opportune time, as compared to the state legislature which can only do so during a few months in winter.

"When the worker is of the opinion that his wages must be raised as a result of the higher price of necessities, if he is of opinion that working conditions must be improved upon, if the work day should be shortened, when it is necessary to abolish certain rules of work, then is needed a union, that is the workers tool for betterments. If the miners of the iron-range had been properly organized before the beginning of the strike there probably would have been an immediate raise in wages and improvement of working conditions."

From Sosialisti, page 3, col. 1-2; Sat. Sept. 23, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 224; no dateline  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 28, 1939  
Item #21

#### "AURORA"

"Now our struggle against the Steel-trust has arrived at a turning point. It has been resolved to take a rest for a short time and return to work and wait until better organization is formed than we had at the beginning of the strike in June, so that we might be able to take a new and better hold on the steel-trust's neck at the next opportune time. We cannot become discouraged because we did not



win all, this time, but make preparations for a more opportune time then we can come anew into the arena. Now we will, with great hurry, do what organization work we can and all workers join the I.W.W. We have during the strike seen those who have been against the organized workers, so now after the strike we can give back to them what they deserve. We ask you miners, do you still support the businesses which have during the time of strike fought against you and protected scabs and gun-men who broke the strike? In other parts of the land the workers do not do business with the kind of business-men who fight against them.

"Former Aurora residents have returned during the recent days in large crowds, those who were kicked out of town during the strike. A hearty welcome for those who were active in the strike, but a warning is given to those who scabbed, to stay away from our town.

"Socialist activities will begin anew. Entertainments, dances and other joyful recreation will be put on as was done before, which, for the last  $3\frac{1}{2}$  months we could not do because the hall was used every day by the strikers. The first dance will be held Sept. 23 at 9 o'clock. The admission is only 25¢ a person.

"A union meeting will be held on the 24th at 8 o'clock. All members are urged to attend. Important business. New members will be taken in at the same time. If you do not already belong to an organization then attend the meeting and join in one large union!"

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 3; Tuesday, Sept. 26, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 226; Virginia, Minn., Sept. 25  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 28, 1939  
Item #22

#### "VIRGINIA STREET-WORKERS ON STRIKE"

"Virginia, Minn., Sept. 25--(by telephone)--About 30 Finnish and Italian city street-workers went on strike here this morning, demanding an 8-hour day and wages to be paid every week. It is believed the strike will spread to Gilbert and Eveleth which are under the supervision of the same contractor. The contractor's name is Lawrence McGan."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 3; Tuesday, Sept. 26, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 226; Hibbing, Sept. 25  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 28, 1939  
Item #23

"EDITOR OF STRIKERS NEWS CRITICIZES THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATORS"

"Hibbing, Sept. 25--Today here the editor of the 'Strikers News,' E.W. Burns gave a notice that the Federal Government investigators W. F. Fairly and Hywell Davis have left their work uncompleted, the work which they were sent directly here to do, that was to force the steel-trust to arbitrate with the strikers. The only thing that they uncovered was the fact that one mine-operator had accepted bribes. Because they were not inclined to force the steel-trust to meet with the strikers as they should have, will put shame upon the government investigators. The government representatives have grown quite lazy. It is true that they said they had sent a report to Washington a few weeks ago, but if that report is not published or if the people do not get word of it - then it does not help the workers in the least. Here again is a new lesson for the workers, that they cannot win anything for themselves unless they personally attend to it."

From Sosialisti, page 2, col. 6-7; Tuesday, Sept. 26, 1916  
Vol. III, no. 226; no dateline--editorial columns  
Consulted at Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 28, 1939  
Item #24

"STRIKE-ENDING ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE MINNESOTA STRIKING MINERS"

"We hereby announce to all our friends and supporters that in the striker's general election a majority have voted to end the strike and so notified us, of the strikers general committee to end the strike on the Mesaba-range, and so we want to explain to all those who so willingly gave us help in our struggle during the last three months.

"We rose in strike, because of pitiful living conditions, without organization, without warning, without plans, nor did we know each other. We had to depend on workers throughout the country to furnish us with help so that we might get bread for our wives and children. Hundreds of our striking-comrades, organizers

Item #24

and speakers were arrested, and the last mentioned are now in jail on murder charges. Many energetic and strong men stayed on the range and would not leave until improvements in working conditions are noticeably put into operation.

"We have fought through the whole summer, we have fought against the terrible steel trust with all of our strength. But we believe it unwise to continue our fight through the cold winter of Minnesota.

"Our strike-experience will prove very valuable. We are now organized. Our fighting-personal has awakened and will stay indomitable. We have fought our first encounter and is already a part of the past, but we have planned to fight to a finish our next encounter for we will be stronger than ever then. Our plans are to bide our time this winter, and concentrate our efforts toward helping our jailed comrades, so they will not be left to suffer in our cause and we will prepare to again strike if necessary to help them.

"We express deep thanks to all who have sent us help and aided us.

"A complete financial report of receipts and disbursements, together with a statement of money sent by Wm. D. Haywood, John Seppanen and Jas. J. Ettor, will be published, in the next issue of the 'Strikers News.'

"Further we promise to continue our efforts and solidarity in fighting for the discharge and freedom of our friends who dared to fight with us, namely Carlo Tresca, Jas. Schmidt, Sam Scarlett and Mrs. Masanovich, also in behalf of the strikers, Philip Masanovich, Joe Nikichin, John Orlandich and Joe Cernogortchevich.

"Unless we otherwise get a fair hearing and trial for our jailed comrades we will ask all workers to join with us in a general strike.

"Working comrades and laboring-brothers! Join with us in our demand: Open the jail doors or we will close factories and mines!

"Long live the solidarity of the working people!

Strike Central Committee"



Item #25

From Sosialisti, p. 3, col. 1; Tuesday, Sept. 26, 1916  
Vol. III, no. 226--; no dateline--editorial columns  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 29, 1939  
Item #25

"CHISHOLM"

"On the 15th day the miners here voted to end the strike. A Slovenian organizer here said that a large portion of strikers were in favor of continuing the strike, only by a small plurality the vote was favored to end the strike. On Monday Sept. 18th the strikers returned to work.

"Immediately after the strike the betrayers began to attempt friendliness. One such betrayer, Ivar Nikunen, has already come to ask for a boarding place at the boarding house, thinking all is forgiven now that the strike is over. In that he was wrong, for he was told that he had committed such a grave wrong against the workers, that forgiveness cannot be given as easily as that, so he will have to first go to a union meeting and there clear up his bad behavior, and only then can he come here seeking a boarding place.--All boarding houses are asked to adopt the same policy as this Chisholm boarding house, so that during the next strike there will not be as many Finns scabbing, and so that only decent persons are permitted to eat there."

From Sosialisti, page 3, col. 2; Tuesday, Sept. 26th, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 226; no dateline--editorial columns  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 29, 1939  
Item #26

"MARKHAM"

"About two months ago cream from here was begun to be brought to the Aurora creamery. 31¢ per pound was promised them. But the cream test did not warrant selling the cream. It was revealed that in every pound of butter it was necessary to put one pound of cream too much. But when that was announced and when the test was corrected the price was reduced to 29 cents, even though they promised to raise the price. So exploitation it is. Some have threatened to establish a cooperative creamery as a result. Push the idea forward!"

Item #27

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 2; Wed., Sept. 27, 1916  
Vol. III, no. 227; Biwabik, Minn., Sept. 26  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 29th, 1939  
Item #27

"FINNISH FARMERS HAS COMMITTED SUICIDE"

"Biwabik, Minn., Sept. 26--John Kaskiniemi, who owns a farm about 14 miles east of here has killed himself by blowing up his head with dynamite. Kaskiniemi left his home Friday. The following day was begun a search for him and just yesterday he was found dead in the woods. He left his wife, five boys and one daughter. The reason for suicide was announced as an unhappy life."

JUL 10 1939

Duluth, Minnesota  
Harold E. Rajala  
June 26, 1939

From Sosialisti, page 2, col. 1-2; Thursday, Sept. 14, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 216; no dateline--editorial columns  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 21, 1939  
Item #10

"WHEN STEEL IS EXPENSIVE THEN EVERYTHING IS EXPENSIVE"

"A short time ago a government survey report was published in which is stated that the prices of necessities have risen during the past year, over 20 percent, some have risen to around a hundred percent. A report by the Department of Agriculture, published on June 8th states the following prices of grain and foodstuffs in September of 1915 and 1916:

	<u>1915</u>	<u>1916</u>
Wheat, bush.	0.95	1.31
Corn, bush.	0.77	0.84
Oats, bush.	0.39	0.43
Potatoes, bush.	0.51	1.09
Eggs, doz.	0.19	0.23

"Cotton which cost 8 and a half cents a pound a year ago now costs 14.6 cents per pound. The price of hay is the same now as it was a year ago.

"As will be noticed by these prices that cotton and potato prices have risen sharply from a year ago. The prices stated in the report are average prices and are not retail sale prices which are higher in most places, because all grain and most foodstuffs are prepared by machinery the prices of metal have also risen.

"That is why we examine the reports of metals and how the price of metal has jumped during the period from 1914 to 1916.

	<u>1914</u>	<u>1916</u>
Pig iron	* 14.75	19.75
Bessemer-iron	* 14.90	21.95
Wrought pig iron	* 25.00	69.00
Wire nails	** 1.55	2.50
Barb wire	** 1.95	3.35
Tin sheet metal	** 3.49	6.24
	* Ton	
	** Pound	

"At the same time we wish to quote price increases of other important metals.

Copper, pound	13.75¢	26.5¢
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Aluminum, pound	18¢	61¢
Zinc, pound	05¢	10¢
Tin, pound	31.6¢	37.25¢
Lead, pound	03.9¢	06.3¢

"Copper, zinc and lead have increased in price double, aluminum more than three times, and other metals doubled in price. Most important the wrought steel increased even more than that.

"With increased production and higher price of metal we can but wonder what a huge profit the steel mills gain. You do not need to be an expert seer to forecast that next winter will all necessities such as food and clothes be increased in price, some near 20%. The working-class does deserve a raise in wages to compensate for the increasing prices, if not then there will come a crisis of bigger propositions than have been felt during any panic-period.

"The only hope the workers have is to organize and together force and increase in wages. Now is the time to strike when the iron is hot."

From Sozialisti, page 3, col. 1-2; Mon., Sept. 18, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 219; no dateline--editorial columns  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 22, 1939  
Item #11

#### "CONSIDER THIS FULLY"

"I have heard that you Mesaba-Range strikers plan to hold a general election to determine whether you will end the strike or continue on, at the earliest opportunity. As you know the situation is very serious. Consider very fully which is best. Because we so long have struggled I can see no reason to quit as long as there is the barest possibility to win. From the east has come word that on Lake Erie and at Pennsylvania ore-stocks there is not even 50 percent ore compared to the amount on hand there before, where there surely should be many times the amount that there is with the coming of winter, for we know that the demand for iron-production has increased greatly from before. That is one reason why I think that victory is possible. One perception that is obviously devised to deceive the strikers is that in the ore-yards are placed loaded ore-cars, intending to show that more ore is being taken out than can be shipped to smelters. But the truth is this, that they are not taken out of the yard, but for a few which are exchanged and only the loaded cars that come from the mine are shipped to ore docks, even though much more than that standing in the yards is needed. But let the boats wait until

the scabs can fill their hatches. I only want to make it plain that the yard full of ore does not mean that so much ore comes out of the mines. I have had an opportunity to observe how many ore trains leave here daily for D.M. & N. ore docks, it is 9, 10 and most are 11 trains per day compared to the spring shipments before the strike when ore trains left every 15 minutes, which can be verified at all the docks. So shipments of ore do not even nearly equal the amounts shipped before the strike. Which is not strange for over 15,000 men have quit digging ore. But friends, you know better, you who stand together, and if you decide it better to vote on strike-ending, then do it as you think best, even though it be tomorrow and whenever it is necessary to again raise in strike, do it so many times that we will finally gain our demands, we cannot live otherwise.

H. Ahlfors"

From Sosialisti, page 4, col. 4-5; Tuesday, Sept. 19, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 220; no dateline  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 22, 1939  
Item #12

#### "WINTON"

#### "SECTION 30 STRIKE REGION"

"Gunmen have created riot in Winton. On Sept. 13th was held a court trial as a result of a disturbance created by gun-men. They were in Winton drinking, then they came to a Finnish saloon when they had already drank plentifully of liquor. One of the gunmen pulled out a revolver and said that he will shoot anyone who dares to even speak a word with him. A town policeman arrested him. This man, Jack Jems was tried in court where he was fined \$5.00. When the hearing was over another gun-man, Matt Linti began to complain that the other was under-aged and that to him was sold liquor by the Finnish owner of the saloon, Albin Maki. And so Maki was brought up for trial and was fined \$25, even though it was not determined if the gun-man was under-age or not. Albin Maki did not pay the fine but only waited for a better trial and the arrest of the gun-man. That was not done. Right after the trial the company fired the two gun-men, Jack Jems and Matt Lindin and so they left the region and were not seen again. It is not known if they will bring them to the other court trial which is slated next Saturday.

"The strikers held a meeting Thursday the 14th day of this month where they resolved to stay in strike as long as those on the Mesaba-range, where the strike situation is



as equally strong. The meeting was attended by many strikers and others too who had been scabbing during this strike."

From Sozialisti, page 2, col. 1-2-3; Wed. Sept. 20, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 221; no dateline, editorial columns  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 22, 1939  
Item #13

#### "WHAT DID THE MINNESOTA STRIKERS WIN"

"When news of the ending of the Minnesota iron-miners strike reaches the world the workers will ask: What did the Minnesota strikers win? When the capitalist newspapers receive word from the capitalist representatives, they will undoubtedly try to blazon forth to the world that the strike was lost, and that the workers gained nothing. The informed worker will understand that in this kind of strike the workers do not lose, and they have not got anything to lose, and consider it a victory for the worker. It cannot be determined as to what extent the strikers and workers have won in this strike. No matter how great their victory they do not consider its extent. When taking all into consideration then can be said that the strike was the most successful strike which has ever been attempted in United States history!

"It is true that the strikers did not win a victory to outward appearance but they did win morally:

(June 23, 1939):

"If the trade union had wished to win openly they had the opportunity to do so. After the first month of the strike at Aurora the mine-companies were ready to agree to the demands of the strikers. And if the workers had agreed to deal with them it would have been an open trade-union victory, for the companies would have agreed to all demands, which would have been a very rare settlement. There were three other mine locations besides Aurora where the companies offered to settle before the strike had progressed a month. The mine locations were Keewatin, Chisholm and Buhl.

"Further, word came from Biwabik, but not officially. It was but a week or two before the ending of the strike that the companies in the town were seriously attempting to make settlement with the workers.

"Why was not settlement made in towns where the companies had agreed to demands and then taken open victory?



"Because the strikers were not seeking an open victory, they only wanted a moral victory, which they received. The strikers were opposed to making direct settlement with the companies, at any certain place, for they knew that no advantage was to be gained for workers by making settlement in any certain location, perhaps more damage would result. For instance in Chisholm the strikers knew that if they made a settlement then and go back to work that would be deserting the solidarity of the working-class and would breed infidelity among others and result in others going to work at other locations, as strikebreakers, where settlements were not made. It would also damage future attempts of striking. They also knew that a settlement among themselves, would not mean anything if the workers have not got the strength to force the companies to stand behind their promises and to put them into operation.

"So at the end of the strike no working agreements were written. But in the absence of such a written agreement the strikers can say with surety that we took nearly everything we demanded without any certain open agreements, in others words: We took by force. The truth is that the workers in the strike got nearly all what they demanded, all except the abolishment of contract work. But abolishment of contract work together with the demand for a shorter work-day will result in a more serious fight, in this region, than any other of the demands. But it appears that the strikers will get great improvements in operation of the contract-work system. The company representatives promised the state investigators that they would give a more reasonable wage in contract work. In due time the strikers demands for higher wages will be considered and it is possible that the companies will, before Spring, be paying higher wages than what the demands called for. It is almost certain that the Saturday night-shift will be abolished and the workers will get full pay. In capitalist papers have appeared announcements saying that union men will all be reinstated to their former jobs, and they will not be bothered or boycotted. Too much faith cannot be put into their announcement, but in that will be noticed that the companies fear that the Union men will boycott the companies. So with good reason can be said that the strikers won, not only the few demands stated but also many other improvements at working and living quarters. The same improvements will only be felt by the workers themselves.

"It is obvious that all during the time of strike that the company representatives

knew they would be forced to agree to most of the demands in the entire iron-range, but they did not desire to offer settlements to be effective throughout the Iron range. They realized it would not be good policy. If they had done that the workers would realize their own strength which the employers wanted to keep unknown. So the companies thought it better to make casual settlement rather than admit that the workers were stronger than they, so in this way they retain their opportunity to say to the workers that they did not win but that they would grant them some concessions out of their good will. So here again by bluffing they intend to blind the worker's eyes, as they have before in many instances done so, with some success, however most of the workers are not blind to those attempts at bluffing, for they know that they cannot get anything from the Steel trust without struggle.

"The Minnesota miners, in truth have won in their demands for improvements, but it is a small victory compared to what it will mean in a future struggle, not overlooking the benefit it created for all American workers."

Harold E. Rajala  
Duluth, Minnesota  
June 21, 1939

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 5; Tuesday, Aug. 15, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 191; Aurora, Aug. 14  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 14, 1939:

"LARGE STRIKERS MEETING ON MESABA RANGE"

"Aurora, Aug. 14--Yesterday marched here about 400 strikers in a parade from Gilbert, Biwabik and Eveleth to greet the local strikers. At the Socialist Hall were held two large mass-meetings at which speeches were given in several different languages by I.W.W. organizers Rowe and Racal, also in Finnish by Heiskanen."

"FINNISH FARMERS HELP STRIKERS"

"Yesterday the Pike and Embarrass Finnish farmers put on a festival for benefit of the strikers. At the Festival W. Tanner spoke in Finnish. The farmers have promised to send butter and potatoes to the strikers. The Finnish farmers want to show they are supporting the strikers."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 6-7; Wednesday, Aug. 16, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 193; no date line  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 14, 1939:

"THE POOR OF FINLAND ARE UNDER STRICT WAR-RULE"

"ARTICLES ARE VERY EXPENSIVE AND LEAVING THE LAND IS PROHIBITED"

"FINNISH MERCHANTS, TOGETHER WITH THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT ARE PRESSING  
THE FINLAND POOR"

"FISHING, HUNTING AND EVEN GATHERING OF TWIGS IS PROHIBITED UNDER PENALTY  
OF IMPRISONMENT"

"Here in Duluth has arrived several refugees from Finland, among them John Heikku, from Eurajaki in western Tura and Pori. He had resided before in America, at Hibbing and Chisholm for 13 years. He came to our office to mention of the pitiful living in which the Finland poor are forced to live in now. John Heikku, who was forced to leave his family in Finland, is 56 years old, he is a former miner. He was in Finland a year and a half, he intended to spend his old age there. He arrived in the war-suffering land near Christmas he found all other burdens and troubles of war except actual warfare. Because he had no way of making a living there he decided to return to America. He was successful in reaching the Swedish soil after many floggings, and from there he continued on to America."



"In answer to our question on how conditions are in Finland he said that it was a much more terrible trust operated land than America has ever been. The masters there have, during war time, operated in trust so closely that the poor people cannot hardly draw a free breath, for fear they would have to pay a high price for it. The Western governors set prices so the masters and other large property owners conspire with them and pay them a royalty when they raise prices. So in this way has prices on all commodities risen terribly: rye-meal costs now 27 marks for a 60 kilo sack; salt, 50 penni\* and up per kilo; sugar 2.50 per kilo; coffee 5 and 6 marks per kilo; matches 25 penni per package, which were before 2 to 10 penni,; silaka 1 mark per kilo, which before was no more than 10 penni, pike, bream and other fresh fish from 8 marks and up per kilo, salmon, 8 marks per kilo; beef 2 marks, pork 3 and 3.60 per kilo, before beef could be bought at 60 penni and pork at 1 mark per kilo; butter from 3.60 marks to 4.80 marks per kilo, before 2 marks to 3 marks per kilo. (\* A copper coin--value now about 1/5 of a cent)"

"Shoe packs, which before cost 12, 18, and 20 marks, now cost 35 to 40 marks a pair, boots, which before cost 15, 16 and up per pair, cost now 50 to 60 marks per pair.

"The average suit which before cost about 75 marks or a little more now costs 150 marks and more; cloth-caps which before cost 2 marks, now costs 4 marks, wool socks which before cost 1.50 a pair or 2 marks per pair, now cost 6 marks, cotton socks near 3 marks, wool yarn cost 12, and cotton yarn 8 marks per kilo."

#### "MANY KINDS OF RESTRICTIONS

make life unbearable. For instance, all publishing of agitation is forbidden, strikes and other means by which the poor can defend themselves is forbidden, also the gathering in meetings is forbidden. Every able-bodied man is required to spend two weeks digging trenches and fortifications and those who do not do so of their own free will are forced to do it. The wages for this work is 5 marks a day which is not enough for even a pair of wool socks.

"Meat cannot be eaten on Wednesday or Friday; no butchering or slaughtering is allowed on those days. And to even further press the poor, the property owners have forced a law through so that now none can fish in any waters and cannot hunt on their lands, nor can they gather brush or twigs for fuel in their woods.

"The big land owners have in many other ways caught on the poor peoples' necks.

At Uudenmaa also at Turu and Pori they have got the governor's approval that no passes to leave the country are given, even to women for they are needed in their 'homeland.'"

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 1; Thursday, Aug. 17, 1916

Vol. 3, no. 193; Virginia, Aug. 16

Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 14, 1939:

#### "18 ARRESTED STRIKERS FREED IN KINNEY"

"Virginia, Aug. 16--(by telephone)--Today was the trial here of those 18 strikers who were jailed some time ago from Kinney because those men were picketing. The judge released them all and walked out freely. The defendants were represented by attorney John Keyes from Duluth. At the trial nothing was found to charge them with so the judge was forced to free them."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 1; Monday, Aug. 21, 1916

Vol. 3, no. 196; Aurora, Aug. 19

Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 15, 1939:

#### "AURORA MINE COMPANIES READY TO SETTLE THE STRIKE--THEY APPROVE THE DEMANDS"

"Aurora, Aug. 19--This morning all scabs quit work at the mines in this vicinity, and because of this the mine owners had to shut down the mines entirely. They were at the St. James, Millen and Mohawk mines.

"Today approached union officials, two mine-captains and one mine's superintendent, and said that they approve fully of the strikers' demands if the strikers return to work Monday. But the union officials said that they have no right to approve of the settlement, and that it should be brought to the attention of the strikers' committee at Virginia. These bosses had said the mine-companies in Aurora are ready to settle the strikers' demands in full.

"Victory is near. It will not be necessary far long to struggle together for victory is near."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 1; Tuesday, Aug. 22, 1916

Vol. 3, no. 197; Biwabik, Aug. 21

Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 15, 1939:

#### "MINE COMPANIES BEGIN DRIVING STRIKERS OUT OF COMPANY HOUSES"

"MATT MOILANEN, WHO WAS ARRESTED ON THE DYNAMITE CASE FREED ON \$100 BAIL"

"Biwabik, Aug. 21--(by telephone)--Yesterday began the local mine company masters notifying that from all of the mine-owned homes the workers are to move immediately,



or go to work in the mines as scabs. The masters want these houses for use of the scabs even though no more scabs have come to work. It is just opposite for the number of scabs have decreased to such an extent that one mine was forced to completely close, that company found it was too expensive to keep working with only several scabs."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 1; Tuesday, Aug. 22, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 197; Virginia, Aug. 21  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 15, 1939:

#### "MINE-COMPANY BOSSES HOLD CLOSED MEETING"

"Virginia, Aug. 21--Yesterday the mine owners' representatives held a closed meeting at Ormond Hotel. Results of the meeting have not been given to the outside."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 1; Tuesday, Aug. 22, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 197; Biwabik, Aug. 21  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 15, 1939:

#### "MATTI MOILANEN FREED ON 100 DOLLAR BOND"

"Biwabik, Aug. 21--Matti Moilanen, who was arrested Friday because of the dynamite blast that happened at the back door of the home of an Italian scab, was freed on 100 dollar bail. No charge could be filed against him, which appears sure that he will be freed of all blame in court.

"Mary Ranta, who was arrested for picketing was freed on 50 dollar bail. The only 'wrong-doing' that this woman has committed is that she had accompanied other strikers' wives when they were picketing."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 1; Friday, Aug. 25, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 200; Winton, Minn., Aug. 24  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 15, 1939:

#### "STRIKE BEGINS ON VERMILLION RANGE"

#### "300 MINERS ARE ON STRIKE AT WINTON AND ASK MORE WAGES"

"Winton, Minn., Aug. 24--(by telephone)--Last night the miners on the night-shift of Section 30 mine went on strike and this morning the day-shift workers, so that all miners in this mine went on strike, probably about 300 in all. This morning the strikers left for the mine to present their demands to the mine's superintendent. The demands of the strikers are exactly the same as asked by the Mesaba-range strikers."

#### "LARGE STRIKERS' MEETING AT SOCIALIST HALL"

"This morning the strikers held a meeting at the Winton Socialist Hall where they



discussed questions concerning the strike. There are 200 Slovenians and 100 Finns among the strikers."

#### "STRIKE COMMITTEE SELECTED"

"At the strikers' meeting this morning was selected a strikers' committee whose duty it will be to transcribe the strikers' demands on paper and present it to the mine's superintendent. At the meeting was resolved to ask the Ely miners to join them and to begin strike immediately. The strikers hope that all miners of the Vermillion-range will rise as one to demand betterments from the pitiful existence and for a shorter work day.

"The strikers have drawn up one other demand, that is the complete abolishment of the Saturday 'short-shift.'"

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 2; Saturday, Aug. 26, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 201; Ely, Aug. 25  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 15, 1939:

#### "ELY MINERS HOLD MEETING TO DISCUSS GOING INTO STRIKE"

"Ely, Aug. 25--(by telephone)--This evening will be held in Ely a mass-meeting of miners where they will discuss a strike and agree of the demands on the mine owners. The Winton strikers have selected a committee which will be at this meeting to ask the Ely region.miners to join with them and together struggle for their demands and at the same time help the Mesaba and Cuyuna-Range strikers in their struggle for their rights. The Italian and Bulgarian miners are strongly for the strike and by that means help others to get a better living. It is believed that this evening's meeting will result in a miners' strike on the whole Vermillion-range."

*main file copy*

1.

Duluth, Minnesota  
Harold E. Rajala  
June 21, 1939

From Sosialisti, p. 1, col. 3, Monday, Aug. 28, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 202; Winton, Aug. 26  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., June 16, 1939 (aft.)  
Item #1

"MINE-COMPANY WANTS TO SETTLE AT WINTON"

"Winton, Aug. 26--(by telephone)--The mine-company superintendent has notified the strikers that he wants to meet the strikers and settle the strike with them Monday. The selected strikers' committee has notified the superintendent that he may meet the strikers Monday, if he has business with them, at the Socialist Hall. It remains to be seen if the bosses will settle with the workers."

From Sosialisti, p. 1, col. 2-3; Tuesday, Aug. 29, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 203; Virginia, Aug. 28  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 16, 1939  
Item #2

"LARGE STRIKERS' MEETING AT KEEWATIN"

"Virginia, Aug. 28--(by telephone)--Last night a large mass-meeting was held by the strikers here, at which spoke I.W.W. organizer J. Ettor in English and Italian, also Rowan in English. The hall was very full of strikers. The gun-men and county-officials have not bothered the strikers' meetings all week. The strikers have been able to peacefully go about their business and continue picketing, which has produced good results."

From Sosialisti, p. 1, col. 1; Thursday, Aug. 31, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 205; Virginia, Minn., Aug. 30  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 16, 1939  
Item #3

"GRAND JURY HAS RENDERED THE VERDICT"

"THE GRAND JURY HAS VINDICATED WESMAN AND AHLGREN--BUT SCARLETT, SCHMIDT AND TRESKA, WITH OTHERS JAILED WILL BE CHARGED WITH MURDER"

"MRS. MASANOVITCH IS ALSO CHARGED WITH MURDER"

"Virginia, Minn., Aug. 30--(by telephone)--The Grand Jury which since the 22nd day of this month has been conducting a hearing on the Biwabik killings for which are held I.W.W. organizers, today rendered the verdict in which they have returned true bills against the following: Philip Masanovitch and his wife, in whose home the gun-men began the skirmish, Joe Nicatch, Joe Chernegortchevitch and Joco Orlandich, their

Item #3

boarder. Those who were indicted for the killing of deputy sheriff Myron are: Carlo Tresca, Sam Scarlett and Joe Schmidt, I.W.W. organizers, who are being accused of inciting and instigating the murder. Comrades Väinö Vessman and Leo Ahlgren, who also were on the Iron-Range making speeches, paid by the I.W.W. organization, were absolved of all charges by the grand-jury, and they will now be freed, after being innocently confined for two months."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 6, 7, 5; Thursday, Aug. 31, 1916

Vol. 3, no. 205; no date line

Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 19, 1939

Item #4

"**APPEAL TO AMERICAN WORKERS FROM THE MINNESOTA STRIKE COMMITTEE  
AND ORGANIZERS**"

"LET THE FOLLOWING BE KNOWN TO ALL AND SPREAD THE WORD IN WHATEVER  
WAYS POSSIBLE. GIVE IN ENGLISH ALSO THIS NOTICE"

"VIRGINIA, MINN. GRAND JURY INDICTS THE I.W.W. ORGANIZERS, FOUR  
STRIKERS AND ONE WOMAN CHARGING MURDER IN FIRST DEGREE"

"The following appeal has been wired to papers, labor organizations, and their officials by the Minnesota striking iron miners general strike committee and the general organizers of I.W.W. who have been working for the strikers. Make this appeal known all among your fellow workers throughout America. Now is the time to act and to act quick and solidly to frustrate the attempt of the monster steel trust to take vengeance on those innocent fellow workers of yours!

"Grand Jury has returned true bills against four strikers and one woman and also against our fellow workers Carlo Tresca, Sam Scarlett and Joe Schmidt, charging murder in the first degree. No bills returned against the private gunmen who killed Latvala and Alar. All our fellow workers are absolutely innocent. Every effort must be made to secure justice we count upon you and all the workers of America to open the jail door by closing the mines and factories. We shall count upon you and do your duties in this fight against the steel barons. Answer!

The Minnesota Strikers General Committee, also

Joseph J. Ettor  
Elizabeth Gurley Flynn"

"The following telegram of loyalty and assurance of solidarity has been sent to the fellow workers indicted to the St. Louis County Jail, Duluth, Minn.:



"Carlo Tresca and companions, County Jail, Duluth, Minn.:

Grand Jury accuses you of murder. We have absolute faith in your innocence. We send you our pledge of solidarity and our love. We swear by the ideals we held in common with <sup>you</sup> to secure your freedom and vindication. Salutations and cheers, from

The General Strike Committee, and

Ettor, Flynn, Gilday, Rowan, Jacobson, Pettineli,  
Shreagal, Tanner, Jaakkola, Laukki, Pantzar et. al."

From Sosialisti, page 6, col. 4; Friday, Sept. 1st, 1916

Vol. 3, no. 206; Virginia, August 31

Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 19, 1939:

Item #5

#### "LARGE PROTEST MEETING AT THE FINNISH OPERA IN VIRGINIA"

"Virginia, Aug. 31--(by telephone)--The strikers will put on a large protest meeting Friday night at the Finnish Opera at 8 o'clock in the evening, because the grand-jury has indicted for murder 4 strikers, one striker's wife and 3 I.W.W. organizers, even though all are innocent of killing deputy sheriff Myron and the finnish striker Latvala, for it has plainly been proved that the deputies and gunmen committed the crimes. At the meeting will be held speeches in many different languages. It is the duty of every Finnish man and woman to attend, if possible, this meeting. This meeting is important to all American workers and to those who are being held in jail. If the steel-trust is successful in sentencing these fellow workers for the murder then no one can be sure when he will be convicted of a murder."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 2; Sat., Sept. 2, 1916

Vol. 3, no. 207; Virginia, Sept. 1

Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 19, 1939

Item #6

#### "A LARGE PROTEST MEETING AT BUHL SUNDAY"

"Virginia, Sept. 1--The strikers' general committee has planned to hold large protest meetings over the whole range because the Grand Jury has indicted innocent strikers and three I.W.W. organizers of murder which means that these innocent workers will be committed to long prison terms. Sunday afternoon at 2 will be at the Buhl Socialist Hall a large protest meeting at which will be given speeches in many different languages.

"At Winton also will be held a large protest meeting on the same subject. At that

Item #6

meeting will speak Elizabeth Flynn and others.

"Thursday night was at Eveleth a large workers' meeting at which not even ten Finns were against the strikers in their struggle with employers. They pledged themselves to support their fellow workers in every way possible. At the meeting spoke J. Ettor in English and others talked in other languages."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 2; Wed., Sept. 6, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 209; Chisholm, Sept. 5  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 20, 1939  
Item #7

#### "STRIKERS PARADE SUCCESSFUL IN CHISHOLM"

"Chisholm, Sept. 5--Strikers held a parade here Sunday, in which took part nearly 300 strikers and their wives and children. The procession marched through the city's main streets and terminated the parade at the Socialist Hall, where a large meeting was held. At the meeting speeches were given in many different languages. The strikers' opinions are still strong toward continuing the strike, even though they have for so long been in strike-struggle against the powerful Steel Trust."

From Sosialisti, p. 1, col. 2; Friday, Sept. 8, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 211; Butte, Mont., Sept. 7  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 20, 1939  
Item #8

#### "200 DOLLARS GATHERED ON A WORKDAY FOR BENEFIT OF STRIKERS"

"Butte, Mont., Sept. 7--(by wire)--This morning arrived word from our friends in Butte in which they announce that during a working day was held a large celebration at the Butte Workers Club at which John Korpi had an opportunity to speak on the Minnesota iron-range strike and the condition of the miners there. After the speech was started a collection which amounted to 200 dollars. The money will be sent to the strike-committee treasurer. The wire also pledged full support with the Minnesota strikers and they know that if the Minnesota strikers win their strike they will benefit, and if they lose the strike then it will be felt by workers throughout the land."

From Sosialisti, p. 2, col. 3-4; Tuesday, Sept. 12, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 214; Editorial (no date line)  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 20, 1939  
Item #9

#### "MINNESOTA MINERS STRIKE AND THE INTEREST TAKEN IN IT BY FINNS"



Item #9

"The Minnesota Miners' strike has lasted 15 weeks. It has been a bitter struggle by the work slaves against the most powerful employer in the world the steel-trust. We are all familiar with conditions which forced the strike. We have read of how the contract work system in four days of work has sometimes amounted to four cents. The average miner's wage is only \$2.50, which is in itself starvation-wages in these times when the prices of necessities have risen to the highest that they have ever been. To top this the workers have been forced to work under the most miserable conditions.

"From that was born the strike which spread over the entire iron range, affecting 20,000 miners. The steel-trust did not take any steps toward ending the struggle. But when the steel-trust saw how enthusiastically, unafraid, and bold the miners entered into the strike they immediately began using the same raw tricks they had used before. They paid several thousand to government officials in the region, those government officials who were active with them before in strike breaking. They hired a large number of gangsters, who were not even accepted by the county and city officials. Those gangsters killed Alar and Latvala, brutally beat up pregnant women, unpitifully beat up strikers, their wives and children, many who were forced to be treated in hospitals, many were crippled for life.

"The steel trust has bribed officials for their part, from the state governor, judges, investigators, down to the lowest in line, the gun-men, who have arrested hundreds of strikers, who finally in court were given the severest penalties possible under the law, regardless of whether they were guilty or not. Jail sentences were given to those who were members of the workers union for crimes committed by their own gunmen who many times forced entry into the strikers' homes. The steel-trust underlings have many times broke up strikers' meetings, in so doing they broke the law established by the United States Constitution. The Steel Trust has attempted the breaking the strikers' ranks by whatever dirty trick possible with help of bribed officials and their newspapers.

"All this the strikers have had to contend with for the past 15 weeks, but opportunity still exists to win the strike. The strikers' ranks are even growing. They will continue to struggle on."



Duluth, Minnesota  
Harold E. Rajala  
June 14, 1939

From Sosialisti, page 2, col. 1-2; Tuesday, August 1, 1916  
Vol. 3, No. 179; no date line (editorial)  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., Duluth, June 12, 1939:

# "STRIKE-SITUATION"

"At the same time that we receive word of the strengthening of the strikers' ranks we receive word that the capitalist paid hounds are beginning bloody-work and 'arresting.'

"Last week when the strikers put into operation a parade and marched during hot summer-days for a great distance, to awaken attention throughout the land, the result was that many scabs quit work in mines. For the Steel Trust was left only old employees in their offices and several under-age boys. They cannot get near as much iron-ore out as was taken before the strike. The strong workers are on strike in the strike-region, and many have gone to Dakota to do harvest work. Many Southern Europeans have gone to the Pennsylvania Hills and smelting regions.

"The Steel Trust is already feeling its failure. Their representative publications have made announcements that they have paid their workers more wages than they are now demanding. Its officials have begun to notice the demands of the ore miners. It shows nothing more than that they want to meet with the strikers to discuss terms of settlement, but do not want it known that the strike is won. Government arbitrators and investigators who are in the strike-region would not be there if the Steel Trust was not in distress. The Steel Trust would not consider arbitration if there were other means and if they would not need workers."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 1-2; Wed., August 2, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 180; Virginia, August 1  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 12, 1939:

"FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENTS BEGAN INVESTIGATION YESTERDAY AT VIRGINIA"

"GUNMEN ATTACK WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN HIBBING REGION"

"Virginia, Aug. 1--H. Davis and W. R. Fairley, the Federal Government

agents who were sent to the strike region, have today asked all I.W.W. union leaders to gather at Mayor Boylan's office to meet with them. The strikers will explain to these agents the reasons they have begun strike-struggle against the employers and they will also explain the demands which the strikers have presented to the employers. Results of this meeting will not be published yet, for no newspaper reporters are allowed at the meeting, for it will be a closed meeting. Only those allowed will be a strikers' committee, Mayor Boylan and the government agents.

"Last night the government agents questioned I.W.W. organizer Joe Ettor and the strikers' newspaper editor E.W. Burns, also attorney Keyes. No information was given as to results of the meeting. After this meeting the government agents met with the Hibbing Mayor, Powers."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 1; Wed., August 2, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 180; Hibbing, August 1  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., June 12, 1939:

#### "GUN-MEN ATTACK STRIKERS' WIVES AND CHILDREN"

"Hibbing, Aug. 1--Yesterday morning when about 60 strikers' wives and children were picketing at Kittsville location, which is about two miles from here, a large crowd of gun-men arrived on the scene and began in a brutal way to drive them away from there. These women with small children in their laps had already early in the morning arrived to picket to get the scabs to quit work. Then arrived two automobiles full of company 'blood-hounds' who began to beat those women and children. The women began to scream and within a few minutes gathered there 200 people. One gun-man is reported as having clubbed a small child on the head. The 'hound squad' leader said he had given orders to his gun-men not to attack women and children, but the scoundrels had beat these helpless children and women regardless."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 1-2; Wed., August 2, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 180; Hibbing, August 1  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co; June 12, 1939:



"PHOTOGRAPHER SENDS EXPLANATION TO GOVERNOR"

"Hibbing, Aug. 1--Because the Virginia and other towns' merchants have poured hundreds of wires to the governor of the state that the strikers' giant-parade has caused much disturbance as they travelled from town to town, prompted the local Photographer, Carl Thiel, who took motion-pictures of the parade, to send a wire to Governor Burnquist in which he proves that the wires from the merchants were lies and purely intended as provocation. The contents of the wire were as follows:

"'Governor Burnquist: In reference to the protests sent to you of the strikers parade, I want to notify you that I am sending you motion-pictures of the parade, in which you will see that not even the smallest disturbance took place and your representative Lindquist can be seen marching with the strikers. I am sending the films so that you might look at them if you wish.'

"'This proves that all of those protest wires sent to you and newspaper items saying that the strikers must stop the disturbance, are untrue.

Carl Thiel, photographer.'

"This film of the parade is good proof that the parade was, in every way, peaceful even though hundreds of gun-men with weapons in their hands followed the parade on both sides and would have been glad to begin bloodshed if they would have dared, but the strikers held them at bay and ordered them not to attempt anything to break up the procession."

"HOUNDS KILL BLIND-PIG OPERATOR"

"Hibbing, Aug. 1--Today was a sad-day for a certain blind-pig operator as he attempted to escape federal officials. When this man got word that government officials are coming to arrest him he ran to the Sellers open-pit mine and there he was shot by company gun-men. These hounds thought the man was a striker. A revolver bullet entered through his mouth."



### "150 GUN-MEN ARE NEEDED TO PROTECT TWO SCABS"

"Hibbing, Aug. 4--At Kitsonville and Nelson location it was necessary to call for 150 armed gun-men to protect two scabs who are the only two who are working in the mines. If every scab needs such a large escort of gun-men to protect them, then surely it will become very expensive to the payers to protect their scabs."

### "TWO STRIKERS ARRESTED"

"Yesterday morning was arrested here two strikers and were brought to court charged with picketing. They were held in lieu of 200 dollars bond. It is the plan of the gun-men and sheriff to attempt by whatever trick possible to stop the picketing activities."

### "STRIKERS ESTABLISH OWN STORE AT HIBBING"

"Hibbing, Aug. 4--The strikers have established their own store here. A Finn, Steni Wilson was selected for manager. Into the store has already been moved a large quantity of general merchandise so the strikers can now go to their own store to buy articles on credit, which means that a part of the merchandise can be sold on credit and the remainder in cash money."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 7; Thurs., Aug. 10, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 187; Virginia, Aug. 9  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 12, 1916

### "STRIKERS HOLD LARGE MEETING ON RANGE"

"Virginia, Aug. 9--Yesterday evening was held here at the Opera a large strikers' meeting. At this meeting was gathered a hall full of strikers. At the meeting spoke Elizabeth Flynn and Brown in English and W. Tanner in Finnish. This week and Sunday will be held large meetings everywhere in the strike region, where speeches will be given in many different languages. A meeting will be held in Gilbert tonight, and Thursday night at Buhl and Kinney."

### "SCHOOLBOYS AND FINNS ARE SCABBING"

"High-school students and Finns are doing most of the scabbing on

the Mesaba Range. But the number is so low that it is insignificant, and does not affect the strike."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 3-4; Saturday, Aug. 12, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 189; Nashwauk, August 11  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 13, 1916:

"WHOLE POLICE-FORCE DISMISSED BECAUSE OF STRIKE"

"Nashwauk, Aug. 11--At the council meeting the other night was resolved to terminate the services of the whole police force because they did not indecently treat the strikers and because they were not strict enough with the strikers. Police Bianch and John Koski refused to bother the innocent strikers and were for that reason dismissed. In the opinion of the council-members police-chief Hayes was not aggressive enough in dealing with the strikers.

"In place of the police chief was placed former Itasca County sheriff Tom Riley and in place of the two policemen were put McGuire and Dorgan."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 6; Saturday, Aug. 12, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 189; Virginia, August 11  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 13, 1939:

"FINNISH SCAB ATTACKS WOMAN PICKET"

"Virginia, Aug. 11--Last night as strikers' wives were picketing and were trying to get the scabs to quit betraying their fellow workers, one big Finnish scab attacked an Austrian woman and hit her on the head with his dinner-pail so hard that she is now in poor condition as a result of the injuries. The strikers had this crude scab arrested. We did not receive this man's name yet but will publish it in this newspaper as soon as we get it.

"This is a clear example of how brave those Finnish villains are when they are engaged in fighting with the weaker sex. But those same cowards are not brave enough to join in the struggle for the workers' rights. Would it not be fitting that all those Finn scabs were put on a boat and brought to Russian land where they would have an opportunity to suffer a living in hunger and



tyranny then many would not come back who will dare scab and beat up women."

# "LARGE STRIKERS' FETE AT VIRGINIA ON SUNDAY"

"Virginia, Aug. 11--(by telephone)--On Sunday will be a large entertainment at the Finnish Opera where will be shown the motion-pictures which were taken of the giant parade which marched through Iron Range towns--all proceeds of this entertainment will be used for the benefit of the strikers."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 1; Monday, Aug. 14, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 190; Virginia, Aug. 11  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 13, 1939:

# "MASS ARRESTS BEGIN ON RANGE"

"17 JAILED IN KINNEY AND 12 IN VIRGINIA, ALSO 8 IN CROSBY STRIKE REGION"

"Virginia, Aug. 11--This morning as a crowd of strikers and their wives and children were picketing and attempting to get the scabs from going to work in the struck mines, a large gun-squad, accompanied by police arrived on the scene and began clubbing the strikers. The skirmish took place at the north end of 2nd Avenue. Alice Arcola, a woman, was arrested because she was reported as having bitten some policeman's hand. She was declared guilty in court and was sentenced to 60 days at the county jail or fine of \$102.50. Her attorney said he would bring the case before a higher court.

"Henry Arcola, Louis Suiti, Peter Beraldinna, Santi Domico and Charles Serva were arrested because they tried to get the woman out of the policemen's hands. They were sentenced to 60 days each, for a wrong that could not be proved. The Judge gave an alternative of a fine of \$300 each before they are let free.

"Joe Romano, Julius Krigerberg, Hilda Coppelets, Mary Teroni and Mary Morelli were arrested also because they called scabs as 'scabs' and because they attempted to shame them for their low brow work. Their case will be tried in court this afternoon or Saturday morning."



From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 1; Monday, Aug. 14, 1916  
 Vol. 3, no. 190; Kinney, Aug. 11  
 Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 13, 1939:

#### "17 STRIKERS ARRESTED AT KINNEY"

"Kinney, Aug. 11--This morning was arrested by Gun-men and police, 17 strikers, among them was J. Hamilton, I.W.W. organizer. These strikers had gathered at the road leading to the mine near Buhl, where they were asking the scabs not to continue the dirty deceit against their fellow-workers. But then the gun-squad overtook them and without any reason arrested them because they were speaking peacefully to the scabs on the road. Are we not in the land whose constitution gives us the right to gather and free speech?"

From Sosialisti, page 2, col. 1-2; Monday, Aug. 14, 1916  
 Vol. 3, no. 190; no dateline (editorial)  
 Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; June 13, 1939:

#### "PRICES AND WAGES"

"Within the last year the prices of many food stuffs have risen. It means that within the past year that the dollar buying power has lowered so that now the dollar will buy just half of the foodstuffs as it could a year ago. The United States Labor Department has given those figures.

"Do not forget this in speaking of wages, only a few tradesmen given pay increases during the past year. The question of raising wages is not considered nor is taken in consideration when the buying power of the dollar is lowered.

"When your wages are increased 30 or 40% and the dollar buying power has decreased 50% it is true that you are in a worse condition. Now you need \$1.50 to buy the articles that you bought before for a dollar, and you do not get but \$1.36 or \$1.40 after your wage increase.

"The question then is not the amount of your wages, it is instead buying-power of the dollar when buying necessities for yourself. This is an important angle to remember."

*main file copy*

Duluth, Minnesota  
Harold E. Rajala  
June 12, 1939

From Sosialisti, Page 1, col. 2; July 11, 1916  
Vol. III, no. 161; Biwabik, July 10  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., Duluth, June 5, 1939:

"THE STRIKERS DEMONSTRATE THAT THE STRIKE CONTINUES ONWARD"

"Biwabik, July 10--(by telephone)--Yesterday when the mine-company officials announced that today on Monday work will begin full force at all mines, the strikers planned to show those liars that the strike is just the same as before. So today they held a meeting at 8 o'clock and planned to go in a large parade to Aurora and Gilbert and there ask all strikers to join in the parade and then come back to Biwabik to hold a meeting. So the Aurora Strikers went on their way and at 11 o'clock at Biwabik was held a large strikers' meeting, attended by 800 miners. After the meeting the 800 strikers marched back in procession, to Aurora, with the Aurora Band corps leading the parade playing revolutionary airs. As soon as the procession left the town and continued along the county road the mine-company officials sent a rifle-hound squad of 50 men after the parade. What happened on the county road is not known for we have received no reports. It is possible the hounds did not dare bother the parade for the strikers in the procession greatly outnumbered the men in the gun-squad."

"STRIKERS HAVE ON DUTY PICKETS"

"Our correspondent notifies us that the strikers continue to station, at all places, pickets, and they have in many places discouraged scabs from going to work in the mines. It has been impossible to contact all scabs for the companies have maintained living quarters at mine tops where the scabs stay night and day so they would not have to come before the eyes of the strikers."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 3-4-5; July 11, 1916  
Vol. III, no. 161; Virginia, Minn., July 10  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., June 5, 1939:

"NO ANSWER HAS BEEN GIVEN TO STRIKERS"

"Virginia, Minn., July 10--(by telephone)--As we were going to press our correspondent notifies us that at 2 o'clock today when the city representative was to bring an answer to the strikers' representatives as to what the mine-company bosses answer to the demands of the strikers, nothing was heard nor seen of the representative nor others at the



Opera where the strikers' committee was waiting for the answer. The strikers' representatives held a meeting at which was approved a resolution in which they ask I.W.W. league headquarters to answer within 48 hours if they can send more organizers and to what extent can help from them be expected so that they can plan the struggle further."

#### "CITY AND COMPANY OFFICIALS TORMENT STRIKERS"

"Company and city officials have, in Kinney, gone into strikers' homes and pulled men and women to the outside where they tortured and beat them into unconsciousness, and after that brought them into jail. At a strikers' meeting was selected a committee to investigate the matter and to take action in stopping this inhuman savagery."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 1-2; Friday, July 14, 1916  
Vol. III, No. 164; Aurora, July 13  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., June 5, 1939:

#### "AURORA JUNK-DEALERS IN FRENZY"

"Aurora, July 13--This town's merchants are greatly concerned because of the strike for their business is suffering greatly because the strikers are not doing business with them but buy all their merchandise from the Aurora Finnish Co-operative store. Many business places have had to close up completely because their business before was kept going by the purchases of miners. If these same merchants had, at the beginning of the strike sided with the strikers and demanded that the mine-companies approve of the strikers' demands then now they would not have to cry of the poor business."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 2-3; Sat., July 15, 1916  
Col. III, no. 165; Virginia, July 14  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., June 6, 1939:

#### "\$25 REWARD FOR INFORMATION"

"Virginia, July 14--Police-officials and the fire-department chief have been given permission to pay \$25 to any person who will come and give information of the persons who have attached notices on doors of homes of scabs, in which is warned against continuing to scab and deceive fellow workers. To the police headquarters and the governor's representative have been given several of those warning bills. In this way it is obviously planned to show the governor's representative of the 'terrible doings' that those strikers are attempting, when they dare say to scabs that we will not forget your doings."



From Sozialisti, page 1, col. 4-5; Tuesday, July 18, 1916  
 Vol. III, no. 167; Pittsburgh, Pa., July 17  
 Workers Socialist Publishing Co., Duluth, June 6, 1939:

"PENNSYLVANIAN SMELTING WORKS LACK ORE"

"MINE STOCK-PILE ORE TOO LOW GRADE FOR STEEL TRUST MILLS"

"Pittsburgh, Pa., July 17--(from our correspondent)--The Steel-Trust smelting mills in this city and vicinity are in need of iron-ore because of the strike on the Minnesota Iron Range no new iron-ore can be sent here, which is needed to fill orders. Even before the strike was on the mills could not get enough to fill the large orders the Steel Trust has contracted for, for the European warring nations and for use in this country. In this respect it looks as if the Mesaba Range strikers have a very good chance to win if they can but hold out for a short while yet. This is surely an opportune time for the miners to strike on the Mesaba Range and so win betterments from that pitiful existence, in which the Steel-trust slaves live in on the Minnesota Iron Range. That is the time to strike when the iron is hot."

"STOCKPILE ORE IS NOT SATISFACTORY AT SMELTING WORKS"

"At the Alpena mine top in Virginia is thousands of tons of ore which was before taken out of the mine, which has been, with the help of scabs, to some extent, been moving to the Pennsylvania smelting-works, but now has the trust's steel-mill's managers notified that no more stock-pile ore be sent to them for it is low grade and not enough metal can be taken out of the ore. It is time then for the mine-owners to begin to consider the demands of the strikers."

"ORE STOCK PILES OF ALL OTHER MINES HAVE BEEN SENT"

"Stockpiles of all mines affected by the strike have already been brought to smelters, so that now there is no more ore to be put into cars, and the scabs cannot produce enough ore to ship because most of these scabs are high school students and other youngsters and have not got sufficient strength to load the cars to any extent. These youngsters can only get one car filled with ore against the 20 carload regularly filled by miners. There is a great difference between the scabs and the miners, but regardless of this fact the mine-companies keep the scabs in the mine to make the strikers believe that they have many workers on the job."

"IN THE ALPENA MINE ARE 20 SCABS WORKING"

"Even though the Alpena-mine-officials have, with much fuss, announced that there are 300 'men' at work in the Alpena Mine and that ore is leaving the mine daily at the same rate as before the strike. The truth is this, that at this mine are 20 scabs at work and most of them are high school students who cannot do anything but stay in the mine and look at each other. Some of these high school students have become ill as a result of the hard work and foul air in the mine. The same condition exists at other Virginia mines, even in those are only a few at work."

From Sozialisti, page 1, col. 1-2; Thurs. July 20, 1916  
Vol. III, no. 169; Keewatin, Minn., July 18  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., June 6, 1939:

"OFFICIALS CAUSE DISTURBANCE IN KEEWATIN"

"RIFLE-HOUNDS HAVE USED THEIR WEAPONS"

"150 RIFLE-HOUNDS LEAD BY THE SHERIFF MAKE WAY INTO HALL AND DISTURB  
UNION MEETING"

"Keewatin, Minn., July 18--From our own correspondent--Last night as the strikers were going to the hall to a union meeting and before even 50 were inside the hall, the Itasca County sheriff with 150 armed rifle-hounds charged into the hall and said they had come by authority of the state governor to disperse the strikers' meeting and said the governor had given them orders to break-up all meetings, even if it is necessary to spill blood it is to be done. The Sheriff boasted that he had 500 hounds at his command in case it was necessary for bloodshed to keep peace in the strike region. After this statement by the sheriff, the rifle-hound pulled out their guns and directed the muzzles toward the strikers and began driving the strikers out of the hall. They poked and kicked at these strikers as they drove them out, as rudely as only the savage hounds could do. Those who dared object were carried bodily into the hounds' automobile and brought to the jail.

"To think that this happens in a land where the constitutional rights are given to all, to be given right to assemble, free speech and press, even then the workers cannot even hold a union meeting in peace. Company paid rifle-hounds come and raid and break up peaceful workers' meetings.

"Under these kind of conditions we are fighting here for our bread."

"MARTIAL-LAW IS IN EFFECT"

"We, in Keewatin, are in hands of martial-law. No person can stop on the street before the rifle-hounds attack."

"ATTACKS ON HOMES ARE FEARED"

"The strikers are afraid that the rifle-hounds will come and attack their homes and begin riot among their wives and children."

"HOUNDS COME TO GET MEN TO WORK"

"Early this morning a large band of hounds were hunting up and intending by force to make the strikers go to work in the mines. But the strikers were brave enough to answer that they would sooner die than go to work as scabs and deceive their fellow-workers who are in strike. It is possible the hounds will come with their guns and clubs to force the strikers into the mines to work if everyone everywhere, does not soon send strong protests to the Minnesota governor, Burnquist, telling him to immediately order the rifle-hounds out of the strike-region. Demand the governor to side with you, your wives and children."



Duluth, Minnesota  
Harold E. Rajala  
June 12, 1939

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 4; Thurs., July 20, 1916  
Vol. III, no. 169; no date line  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., Duluth, June 7, 1939:

"RIFLE-HOUNDS AGAIN BREAK UP STRIKERS' MEETING"

"From Keewatin has come word by telephone that yesterday evening when the strikers were trying to get a meeting into operation there came again a hound-squad lead by the sheriff and broke up the meeting. He said if the strikers try a third time to gather for a meeting they would take such action as is necessary that will surely put an end to any more attempts. This threat means that every member will be either killed outright or jailed--It remains to be seen if the rifle hounds will dare to put into operation the blood shed that they threaten if the strikers again gather at the Finnish Hall."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 4; Fri. July 21, 1916  
Vol. III, no. 170; Hibbing  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., Duluth, June 7, 1939:

"PRESIDENT WILSON HAS ANSWERED THE STRIKERS' LETTER"

"Hibbing--by telephone--From Washington has come a wire from President Wilson in which is said that the strikers letter has received consideration, and that he will dispatch immediately the best man available to the strike-region. The duty of this representative will be to stop all operations of the rifle-hounds and to arrange a settlement between the mine-companies and strikers."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 3; Fri., July 21, 1916  
Vol. III, no. 170; Keewatin, Minn.  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., June 7, 1939:

"RIFLE-HOUNDS HAVE INSTIGATED A THIRD FIGHT"

"Keewatin, Minn.--(by telephone)--Last night as the strikers were trying a third time to gather for a meeting at the Finnish Hall, a large crowd of rifle-hounds lead by the sheriff furiously entered the hall and broke up the meeting, also arrested several strikers without any kind of reason."

"Families are in distress."

"Monday night was jailed about 23 strikers, of which 6 were Finns. The families of those jailed are in distress as a result, because they have no one to look after their welfare. The families of those jailed should have some help."

"This kind of rifle-hound instituted riots will happen too often if the organized strikers do not take some action to stop these bloodshed and clubbing activities."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 3; Fri., July 21, 1916  
Vol. III, no. 170; Chisholm, Minn., July 20  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., Duluth, June 7, 1939:

"LARGE STRIKERS' MEETING IN CHISHOLM"

"Chisholm, Minn., July 20--Last night was held here a strikers' meeting at the Socialist Hall, at which was a hall full of strikers. At the meeting spoke I.W.W. organizer Elizabeth Gurley Flynn in English and John Korpi in Finnish. All strikers were mutually agreed to continue the strike until it is won."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 1-2; Mon., July 24, 1916  
Vol. III, no. 172; Hibbing, July 22  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., June 7, 1939:

"LARGE STRIKERS' PARADE IN HIBBING"

"Hibbing, July 22--by telephone--Today was put into being a large strength-showing parade. In the parade 2,000 striking miners took part, some were accompanied by their wives and children. After marching along the city streets the parade wound up at the Workers Hall where a large strength-showing meeting was held. The hall was full of strikers. At the meeting Elizabeth Gurley Flynn spoke in English and F. Jaakkola spoke in Finnish, also speeches were given in many different languages. The speakers urged the strikers to remain strong in their demands and to stand as one in the strike."

"TWO SCABS DIED IN VIRGINIA"

"Our correspondent has told us that yesterday died two scabs at the Murton mine, as a result of injuries suffered when rocks fell from the mine ceiling; they died immediately."

"LARGE STRIKERS' MEETINGS WERE HELD AT  
MANY PLACES"

"Within the last three days the strikers have held large meetings at Aurora, Biwabik, Gilbert and Virginia. Speeches were given in many languages. At each meeting was a hall full of strikers. This signifies that the strike situation has not weakened in the least."

"ELIZABETH FLYNN GOING TO MINNEAPOLIS"

"I.W.W.'s organizer Elizabeth Gurley Flynn is going to Minneapolis Saturday where



she will speak at a large workers' meeting. At the meeting Flynn will explain the Mesaba-range miners' strike situation and at the meeting will be held a collection for the benefit of the strikers.

"Throughout the land organized workers are helping the strikers financially, by means of which the strikers can continue their struggle and so win their demands."

#### "SCAB DIES IN HIBBING"

"Hibbing, July 22--Mako Murkovich, an Austrian miner who was working at Letonia mine near Carson Lake as a scab was found dead late last night at the bottom of the mine. This open-pit mine is a little more than a hundred feet deep and it is believed he fell as he was going home in the dark. It is reported he had worked steady in that mine for 10 years. His wife and children are in Austria.

"The Duluth Herald is of the opinion that some I.W.W. striker had pushed him into the pit because he was not a striker and he did not favor the I.W.W. Of course the business-sponsored newspapers blame the strikers and the I.W.W. organization when some scab loses his life while working in the mine."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 2; Mon. July 24, 1916  
Vol. III, no. 172; Duluth, July 22  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., June 7, 1939:

#### "PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION BEGINS INTO THE DEATHS, BY MURDER, OF LATVAIA AND DEPUTY SHERIFF MYRON"

"Duluth, July 22--The court of Justice here began a preliminary examination into deaths by murder resulting from a riot instituted by deputies and hounds at Biwabik July 3, in which were killed a Finn, Thomas Latvala and a deputy sheriff, Myron. Held for the murders were all I.W.W. organizers in the strike-region at that time and occupants of the house who were home at the time of the murder. There were in all 13. Representing the state in the trial were prosecutor Warren E. Greene and county prosecutor-aid E. L. Boyle. Representing the defendants were John A. Keyes of Duluth and Otto Christianson, from Chicago.

"The first witness was E. Schubisky who was accompanying Myron to Biwabik when he was killed. The county prosecutor questioned him first and then Keyes and Christianson began a cross examination. Many times during the cross examination Schubisky gave details differently when questioned on same occurrences, his testimony was very badly muddled.



"The state will try to charge with the murders, I.W.W. members, as a result of speeches which the I.W.W. organizers Tresca, Scarlett, Gilday, Ahlgren, Schmidt, Little, Wesman and Stark had made at strike-meetings."

#### "MEN'S COATS BROUGHT AS EXHIBITS"

"A little before five o'clock last night, just as St. Louis County Sheriff Meining was on the witness stand was brought into the court room 4 men's coats. Their coats were supposed to belong to 4 men who were at the Masonovich home at the time of the happening. With the help of these coats the county prosecutor hoped to prove that these men who took part in the murder scene were I.W.W. members for on the lapels were I.W.W. buttons and membership cards were found in the pockets. The defendant's attorney Keyes protested and asked the judge not to accept the coats as evidence. The judge promised to give an answer this morning as to whether he will allow use of the coats as evidence. Sheriff Meining testified that he got these coats from the house where the murder took place immediately after he got word of the occurrence. This morning sheriff Meining and after that the trial will be shifted to Wednesday because Attorney Christianson cannot arrive before Wednesday from Chicago.

"Doctor McCarthy who made the inquest on Myron's body was examined yesterday, also the mine-company's rifle-hound Dillon and deputy-sheriff Hoffman. The last mentioned was, during cross examination by Christianson, forced to break up the former testimony. He testified on the same questions in many different ways."

From Sozialisti, Page 1, col. 4-5; Thurs. July 27, 1916  
Vol. III, no. 175; Chisholm, July 26  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., June 8, 1939:

#### "THREE STRIKERS AND ONE WOMAN JAILED IN CHISHOLM"

"Chisholm, July 26--Yesterday was jailed here three Austrian strikers and one woman because they were strike-picketing and forced several scabs to turn back home as they were going to work. They were brought to court but because no charges could be filed against them they were freed immediately."

#### "GIGANTIC-PARADE POSTPONED TO THURSDAY"

"The strikers central-committee has postponed the strikers gigantic-parade until Thursday at 8 o'clock because of rainy weather. At 8 o'clock will leave the parade from Chisholm, going on toward Eveleth where the strikers expect to arrive by Saturday.

"As we asked in yesterday's paper that all Finnish strikers join in the parade we again ask every Finnish striker to come along."

"MORE HELP ARRIVED FROM WEST"

"The I.W.W. Farm-Labor secretary has notified us that from Merinic, Arizona has arrived 120 dollars for strike-help and from Butte, Montana 83 dollars and from everywhere in the country has come notice to him that collections are being made."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 1-2; Fr. July 28, 1916  
Vol. III, no. 176; Hibbing, July 27  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., June 8, 1939:

"GIANT PARADE LEFT HIBBING"

"DULUTH SOCIALISTS SEND PROTEST TO MINNESOTA GOVERNOR"

"Hibbing, July 27--(by telephone at 10 a.m.)--The strikers' giant parade left here this morning at 8 o'clock. In the procession joined several hundred strikers and their wives and children. A food-car was also in the parade, so that the marchers need not walk in hunger, so at meal time the procession can stop to eat, then after eating it can continue onward. The procession arrived at Chisholm at 10 o'clock and long before the parade arrived at Chisholm the strikers were waiting there to join them in the large strength showing parade, which is meant to show the mine-company bosses and city officials that the strike has not ended, and that during the 6 weeks that the strike has been in progress it has not weakened. From Chisholm to parade again left and at this writing the parade is well on its way to Virginia. In Virginia more will join in this parade which will end at Eveleth where they will greet the strikers there."

"DULUTH SOCIALISTS SEND PROTEST TO STATE GOVERNOR"

"At a meeting last Thursday of the Duluth Socialists it was resolved to send a protest letter to the Minnesota governor to stop the mine-company gun-men from tormenting the strikers further and attacking their wives and children.

"Following are the contents of the protest letter:

"J.A.A. Burnquist,  
Governor of Minnesota  
St. Paul, Minn.

"Whereas you a chief executive of the State of Minnesota have entirely neglected to give protection to the striking miners and their families on the Mesaba Range, whose well being, lives and persons should be of higher value than the property interests of



the mining corporations which you have been over zealous to protect;

"Whereas you have allowed not only the gunmen in the employ of the mining companies, but also the county officials under your administration to perpetrate almost every imaginable form of violence upon the striking miners, their wives, and in some cases even their children;

"Be it therefore Resolved by us, residents of the City of Duluth and members of the Socialist party in mass meeting assembled at Duluth, Minnesota, that we do hereby condemn the partiality shown by you to the property interests of the mining corporations; and demand that you use the good offices of your state to bring about the removal of the gunmen of the mining companies from the Mesaba Range, since they are the instigators of all forms of violence; and further demand that you do all within your power to guarantee to the miners of the Mesaba Range their Constitutional rights of free speech and free assemblage, which is continually being infringed by the gunmen of the corporations within the state of Minnesota.

"Unanimously ratified by those in meeting at Duluth, Minnesota, this 25th day of July, A.D. 1916.

"Duluth Socialist Local

"O.F. Okkonen,  
Chairman,

"Jack Maki,  
Secretary."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 2-3; July 28, 1916  
Vol. III, no. 176; Duluth, Minn., July 27  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., June 8, 1939:

#### "THURSDAY MORNING SESSION"

"The entire morning was devoted to investigation of witnesses for the prosecution. First testified Oliver Company time clerk from Virginia, Mr. Smith, that he was at the grave when Joe Alar was buried and Little, Scarlett, Tresca, and Wesman spoke that 'if more are further killed, like our friend who is being buried, then you have a right to protect yourself with weapons and do the same.' In cross examination it came clear that the same time clerk was at a strikers' meeting between July 14 and 22 and, where he heard Little speaking on organization and warning that if nothing else help then with arms, the same was told by other speakers, but he could not remember well whether they had spoken as he said.



"When questioned as to the statement made by Tresca at the Alar grave as to his mentioning the old Jewish law that 'tooth for a tooth, eye for an eye, and life for a life,' he answered that he paid no attention to it, but that he remembered having heard 'tooth for a tooth, eye for an eye.' When he was asked whether the company gun-men were present at the graveyard he answered he did not know but he had seen several there. The prosecution asked was it possible that the congregation would be ired at sight of the same gun-men there at the burial as those who were fighting when Alar was killed. The boy answered, 'It is possible, but nothing resulted at the Alar burial.' Generally during his testimony the boy was very restless and otherwise disturbed, it looked as if he was 'framed' someway to speak as he did in court.

"The next one to testify was Jas Palner, Kinney town sheriff, the same man who during the whole strike has taken part in attacks on strikers, their families, and children. With no change in expression he mentioned that the Kinney speakers urged arming of strikers, and if it wasn't possible to get weapons then clean all rusted rifles available for use when necessary, he said he heard this word for word, and at this writing he is still on the stand, as if he had not already told enough lies.

(continued page 3 col. 3)

"Every witness was testifying for the prosecution and not even one was allowed for the defense, all mentioned that Tresca and Scarlett urged the workers to organize and by that means demand better conditions. The prosecution attempted in every way to get the memory of every one awakened to remember that 'there has been that kind of speeches which promised 'tooth for a tooth and eye for an eye.'"

Duluth, Minnesota  
Harold E. Rajala  
June 6, 1939

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 1-2; Fri. June 23, 1916  
Vol. III, No. 147; Virginia, Minn. June 22  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., Duluth, May 23, 1939:

"STEELTRUST HOUNDS ARE IN THEIR BLOODY-TASK"

"STRIKERS RANKS STRENGTHENING"

"Early this morning the Virginia Steel-Trust Rifle-hounds have killed one striker and shot two other men.--All Eveleth mine workers have struck--which means a complete Mesabe Range mine-strike. Large gun-squads have been stationed on Oliver mine-company property"

"Virginia, Minn., June 22--Early this morning the Oliver Mining Company's 20 gun hounds attacked residences of strikers in the north Hibbing residence section and killed John Alar named worker and shot at Vincent Elias, a store owner also shot at an unknown worker. Both of them remained alive.

"The murdered worker intended to protect himself with a winchester fifle in his own yard, but fell in death in an empty lot in back of his own yard. The hounds shot him in the abdomen, and jaw. As Alar fell in death the shooting was ordered to cease. Who shot the fatal bullet is not yet known. In the fight a woman, Mrs. Nick Rosandich, took part with revolver in her hand. This woman had attempted to protect herself and comrades against the steel-trust blood-hounds. The murdered striker is survived by his wife and three children."

"COUNTY SHERIFF ARRIVES AT SCENE OF MURDER"

"As soon as word of the shooting was received by the sheriff he left for the scene with his deputies. There he was given a statement by David F. Foley, the steel-trust hound leader. We loan from the Duluth Herald the conversation between the county sheriff and the leader of the hounds:

"'Foley, why didn't you notify me of this happening?', asked Sheriff Meining.

"'I could not find you,' answered the leader of the band, Foley.

"'It is not true,' said Meining. 'I am surprised that you found King and you could not easily find me.'

"King is the Duluth, Missabe & Northern railroad's president McGonagle's special agent and he has been ordered here to the iron-range to direct actions of the rifle-hounds and he is the same man who yesterday lead the attack on the Hibbing strikers



parade.

"County Sheriff Meining then said, after the investigation, to this hound-leader:

"'I have nothing more to do with you.'

"These kind of murders can be stopped completely by the workers by strongly organizing. Only when all the Minnesota Iron-Range miners have joined in one big union, can they force the mine-companies to keep their hound-squads where they belong. Now if ever, while a fellow worker lies dead by hands of the rifle-squads, is the time all Minnesota iron-range miners have a reason to raise up and demand rights for themselves, and stop the slaughter of their fellow workers."

From Sosialisti, Page 1, Col. 3-4; Mon. June 26, 1916  
Vol. III, No. 149; Chisholm, Minn., June 24  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., Duluth, May 24, 1939:

#### "CHISHOLM MINE-REGION IN STRIKE"

"Large strike-meeting held last night in Chisholm, where strongly is expressed the desire to strike.--At Buhl was announced a strike last night.--Today at Kinney was planned to strike.--In Hibbing has joined the Union 400 miners.--The Chief of Police at Hibbing has promised to protect the summer-festival parade next Sunday.--Jailed strikers 'found' guilty in court.--Firms are slow in joining the Union."

"Chisholm, Minn., June 24--(by telephone)--Last night was held here a large and important meeting in which have come to take part so many miners that many could not get into the hall, but had to stand outside and hear the best they could the proceedings at the meeting. At the meeting was the I.W.W. organizers who spoke in several different languages and explained to the miners assembled how important it was now to join all together and put to a standstill all mines on the Iron-Range for the good of the struggle. At the meeting was strongly approved to strike and immediately joined the union a large crowd of men, and today and tomorrow is believed that all miners of this territory will be in the union and in strike."

#### "ALL MINES AT A STANDSTILL"

"This morning hardly anyone went to work, so we can say with assurance that all of this vicinity's mines are standing idle and their workers have joined the ranks of the strikers and struggle for the 8 hour day, better pay and abolishment of contract work."



"VILLAGE POLICE-CHIEF PROMISES TO GIVE PROTECTION TO THE FESTIVAL-PARADE"

"The Hibbing Mayor and police-chief have promised to protect the Finnish Socialist Festival parade next Sunday, in which will take part thousands of people."

"JAILED STRIKERS HAVE BEEN FOUND GUILTY IN COURT"

"Virginia, June 24--(by telephone)--The jailed strikers case was yesterday tried by jury, the jury has found guilty 5 of them and 6 were freed and declared not guilty. Sentence will be passed at 2 o'clock this afternoon. The strikers' attorney Keyes and his assistants have appealed to a higher court.

"Those found guilty were: Joseph Grunt, Arthur Boose, Charles Seppänen, Arvid Lehtonen and R. B. Calakar. Those freed were: Martin Cocic, Mike Arony, Jack Brya, William Holm, Louis Paulmeri and August Paulmeri.

"It is obvious by this action that it is planned by what ever tricks possible to hold I.W.W. organizer A. Boose in jail until the end of the strike. But even if he is jailed then with so much more fury the miners will struggle for their rights, and all Iron-range miners will stand as one for their demands. The capitalists cannot stop the workers fight by holding organizers and speakers, for from the ranks of the strikers raise every day 10 speakers and organizers to each one jailed.

"I.W.W. MEMBERSHIP INCREASES"

"Only several days after the union was established at Hibbing has already joined 400 miners. A larger part of the members are southern-Europeans, only several Finns are among them. It looks as if the Finns have abandoned their support in this class struggle; that should not exist under any circumstances. How can those Finns stand back and let the Southern-Europeans begin the union and be the first to go in strike. Away with fear! Join your working partners and the union, for with the help of all a strong front will be attained that the capitalist employer is afraid of."

From Sosialisti, Page 1, Col. 1; June 30, 1916  
Vol. III, No. 153; Duluth, Minn., June 29  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., Duluth, May 24, 1939:

"ORE DOCK WORKERS ON STRIKE"

"FINNISH RIFLE-HOUNDS IN EVELETH"

"ALL OPEN PIT MINES ARE AT A STANDSTILL IN CHISHOLM REGION"

"Duluth, June 29--This morning has many ore dock-workers gone on strike and by this Saturday it is believed that all docks here and in Superior will be fully in strike."

"TWO MEETINGS LAST NIGHT"

"Under auspices of the I.W.W. league, was held here last night two large meetings for ore dock-workers, where was held speeches in several different languages. All dock-workers attending were in favor of strike. None were there who objected going into strike."

From Sosialisti, Page 1, Col. 1-2; Fri., June 30, 1916  
Vol. III, No. 153; Eveleth, Minn., June 28  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., Duluth, May 25, 1939:

"LARGE STRIKERS MEETING"

"Eveleth, Minn., June 28--From our own correspondent--There was a meeting Wednesday at Eveleth where the Finnish speaker Fred Jaakkola spoke, first for half an hour and asked all Finns to join the union or else get out of the meeting. This was said for the reason that in Eveleth are near 20 Finns are rifle-hounds.

"You can imagine the scene following as the Finns marched out of the door, only three joined the union. Other nationality workers hurrahed and clapped their hands.

"After that other speakers began talking and Jaakkola left after the Finns to the street to urge them to go back into the hall and join the union.

"No one gave any reason for not joining, some said the Finns were poorer and could not afford to join the union. It finally developed that none were anymore miners, they were some contractors or city's workmen. Then intruded a band leader Valma by name, who is a union man, and another man and said that the men are during the present strike gone into other work. Then all left but four, and as they left they promised to join the union soon."

"SCABS AT WORK"

"At the Feiling open pit mine in Eveleth are 70 scabs, among them and 20 Finns, as stated by an Italian correspondent.

"At the Talkkori home is a Finnish rifle-hound nest. From the Vic Maki home a



Matt Harju named rifle-hound was ejected by other boarders.

"It was also reported that the Steel-Trust rifle-hounds had invaded the town and beat up a striker. It is not known yet whether he will live. The attacker was the same man who already in Virginia had murdered one. The strike-committee has demanded that the city be responsible in keeping the city clean of hounds. The mayor was not at home, and he has developed bad-blood."

From Sosialisti, page 3, Col. 5; June 30, 1916  
Vol. III, No. 153; Chisholm, Minn., June 28  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., May 25, 1939:

#### "THREE STRIKERS JAILED"

"Chisholm, Minn., June 28--(from our correspondent)--Three strikers were jailed this morning as they were engaged in strike-picketing. One mine-official drove his automobile to town and held his rifle toward the strikers. It irked him as there came another 'auto' carrying strike-breakers which the strikers stopped and made them retreat. But another car was successful in passing by the pickets even though the strikers did a little bombing with stones. At the same time arrived on the scene the town police, about 14 men, in their automobile they carried arms. They arrested 3 strikers (we have not received their names). From there they were hurried to another town."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 1-2; Sat. July 1, 1916  
Vol. III, no. 154; Hibbing, June 30  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., May 25, 1939:

#### "BLOODY SKIRMISHES IN STRIKE REGION"

"KEEWATIN AND STEVENSON MINE WORKERS HAVE JOINED STRIKERS"

"DULUTH-IRON-RANGE RY. SECTIONMEN HAVE GONE ON STRIKE"

"RUMORS SAY THAT TWO RIFLE-HOUNDS HAVE DIED OF INJURIES"

"Hibbing, June 30--(by telephone)--Last night was a large miners meeting in Keewatin, at which spoke F. Jaakkola in Finnish and Andreychine in Slovenian. The miners hurraed as the strike was announced. There were no miners present who objected to the strike as the strike vote was on."

"75 riflehounds are ready to nab organizers"

"The mine-company's have ordered 75 rifle-hounds for readiness in strike-duty. To the hounds were given orders that they were to jail every I.W.W. league organizer who speaks at miners meetings and urges the workers to strike. But the hounds as they



saw and heard demonstrations and strong hurrahs at announcements of strike by the miners, did not dare go and get the organizers or speakers."

#### "THE STRIKE IS IN FULL FORCE AT KEEWATIN"

"The strike is in full force at Keewatin and the Stevenson mine is completely stopped. The strikers have immediately organized a picket group which will see that scabs cannot go to work."

#### "HOUNDS ATTACK STRIKE PICKETS"

"Hibbing, June 30--The first skirmish between strikers and rifle-hounds happened here last night, at Third Avenue and North Avenue. About 200 strikers were accompanying the pickets, and as they saw that scabs were planning on going to work on the night-shift into the mine the strikers tried to get them to give up their lowly deed, but when they did not obey the strikers, but just tried to get through their hands then one striker gave a scab a little 'urge,' but then the company hound-squad with help of city police attacked the strikers, resulting in a melee. In this fight, it was announced that the Oliver Mining Company hound-leader Martin Teller had received fatal wounds. He received two knife wounds in his back and one on his hip. His brother who also was a rifle-hound, was reported as having received a large knife wound on his neck. A Mahoning hound was beaten badly with clubs and stones, and the same was received by a former scab of the Sellers mine."

(May 26, 1939)

#### "3 STRIKERS JAILED"

"At the time of the skirmish was taken into custody three strikers, who are charged with knifing the rifle-hounds. Every striker had also many bad wounds given them by the rifle-hounds. A Raphael Pett named striker, as he was being escorted away by the police, from his head ran a steady stream of blood where the hounds had struck him. The others arrested were Steve Dronjack and Eli Manovich. Steve Dronjack will be charged with wielding a knife, but in the search no weapons were found on him."

#### "2 "RIFLE-HOUNDS, IT IS RUMORED, ARE DEAD"

"Our correspondent notifies us that at Hibbing rumors are afloat that two Oliver Mining Company rifle-hounds have died last night from wounds received. The rumors lack official confirmation."

"POLICE-CHIEF ARRIVES AT SCENE OF FRAY"

"Twenty minutes after the fray arrived Hibbing's police-chief at the scene, where had already gathered 200 strikers. He arrested Dronjack named striker, who was named to the chief as the one who began the fight."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 1-2; Thurs. July 6, 1916  
Vol. III, No. 157; Biwabik, July 4  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., May 26, 1939:

"RIFLE-HOUND'S BLOODY-WORK REOCCUR--A FINNISH STRIKE IS KILLED"

"I.W.W. SPEAKERS TRESKA, LITTLE, GILDAY JAILED MONDAY"

"WANDE AHO NAMED STRIKER APPREHENDED AND IT IS NOT KNOWN WHERE  
HE IS BROUGHT"

"FOUR ARRESTED STRIKERS HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TO ST. LOUIS COUNTY  
WORKFARM TO BE TORMENTED"

"Biwabik, July 4--(from our correspondent)--A terrible blood-work was put into operation by Belgrade mine's rifle-hound-louts at that mine location on the 3rd of July about 3:30 p.m.

"The occurrence in all its savagery is as follows: Four of the Belgrade mine's blood-thirsty blood-hounds went to one striker's home, to the residence of Filip Masonovich--according to what I heard--to arrest the above named striker or all those living in the house. Masonovich's wife met them at the door and asked what they wanted, to which the mine's hound, an Austrian named Nick, answered he had come to arrest her. The wife asked him to go on his way and to send a policeman with a warrant. But the ruffian paid no attention to her and began to push her and beat her on the head with a club, and naturally came to help her Filip and other men who were inside, then began a melee. In the melee the hounds used their clubs and rifles. One of them tried to shoot Filip Masonovich and shot several times, but missed him, as Masonovich attempted to grab his hand and finally he did succeed, he succeeded in getting the gun away from him but was left under the hound. When the hound found he was without a gun, he began to hit Masonovich with his club, who then feeling his life was in danger, and he would have died by the hands of the hound if he would not have turned the gun onto his aggressor and shot, then the hound fell backward in death to the ground.

"But this was not all. To the scene had arrived just before the fight the town's



soft drink bottler Elias Latvala's brother Tomi Latvala, who was working for his brother driving 'pop,' and was bringing pop to Filip Masonovich. When the hounds began the fight he was standing between the wagon and house and the hound-louts shot him in the chest and neck. All that Tomi could say was: 'I was shot, I don't think I'll last long,' and then fell in a heap. He and the rifle-hound were brought immediately into town but aid was too late for both.

"On the scene were two Finnish eye-witnesses who had, for the fun of it, accompanied Tomi Latvala in riding with his load to the location.

"In the fight another rifle-hound got two bullets in his leg and his head was battered. Probably in the fray the hounds hit one another for no one saw the strikers using weapons. That hound is in the local hospital. The rifle-hound Nick, mentioned before, is arrested now as also is another rifle-hound. Filip Masonovich, who was at home, in stocking feet reading a newspaper in a rocker when the hounds had come, walked in his stocking feet to town, a distance of about a mile and a half, to bring his wife, who the hounds had beaten with clubs and had shot in the leg, to get the help of a doctor. The wife's condition will not be fatal but she is left very weak. In town then Filip Masonovich and a miner friend, John Orlovich were taken into custody, and with the arrested hounds they were brought to the Virginia jail."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 1-2; Fri. July 7, 1916  
Vol. III, no. 158; Virginia, Minn., July 6  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., May 26, 1939:

#### "IS THE STEEL TRUST BEGINNING TO GIVE IN"

#### "STRIKERS, EMPLOYERS AND COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES IN ARBITRATION MEETING IN VIRGINIA"

#### "TO HIBBING STRIKERS HAVE BEEN GIVEN ORDERS TO MOVE OFF OF COMPANY LAND"

"Virginia, Minn., July 6--The strike situation here continues to look promising regardless of the fact that nearly all I.W.W. organizers are now held in jail. In doing this the mine companies think they can break the strike, but in that they have made a big error, for the strikers know well what they mean by jailing. From the strikers ranks raise always ten speakers in the place of one that is jailed, so the bosses need not think that the fight against them will end when they jail the strike leaders."



# "IS THE STEEL-TRUST BEGINNING TO GIVE-IN?"

"Mine-company bosses and city officials have come and asked the strike-committee if it is possible to arrange an arbitration meeting between the strikers and themselves. After deliberating the request the strike-committee has announced that they will meet the company and city officials Friday at the Opera at 1 o'clock p.m.

"The business-sponsored newspapers have taken advantage of this situation and have issued special editions saying that the strikers are ready to give-in to a conference with the company officials. But the situation is the other way around for it appears that the city rulers and mine-companies are in distress, if the strikers do not go back to work."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 1-2; Fri. July 7, 1916  
Vol. III, no. 158; Biwabik, July 6  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., May 31, 1939:

## "BOARD INVESTIGATES REASONS FOR DEATHS"

"Biwabik, July 6--The board investigating the deaths of Thomas Latvala and Sheriff Myron of last Monday, announced after the investigation that both men received fatal wounds from revolver bullets but have not cleared up the names of the shooters.

"The 11-year-old Marsonovich boy testified to the board that he saw Dillon shoot Thomas Latvala, 'the pop man,' 5 times, and one bullet he saw go into Latvala's neck. He also said he saw Dillon beat up one man, and because he could stand the sight no longer he took a stone and hit Dillon with it. Further the boy said that his father, Marsonovich, did not have a revolver.

"Charles Havanen testified that he saw Dillon shoot.--Gust Kallio, who was accompanying Latvala on his pop-wagon said he heard the shooting but did not see the shooter because he was running further away from the scene.

"On the death investigating board were the following persons: F. Colvin, Max Glassmer, John G. Niemi, John Talle, Ora Everett and Swan Moran.

"The inquest was held at the Finnish hall, and the hall was completely full of people, a big part were Finns who were greatly concerned with the slaying of Latvala. The city government has prohibited playing of the band at the burial, and that no speech can be given at the burial, and also that no kind of meeting can be held at the Finnish

hall. But the orders will be ignored for the strikers will give their friend as large a ceremony as possible. The burial will probably be Friday at 2 o'clock."

#### "MURDERED MINER BURIED"

"Biwabik, June 6--(by telephone)--This evening was buried the miner who was killed last Monday, Thomas Latvala. The funeral procession containing about 600 began going along the main street. The casket was carried in the procession through the town. At the Grave was held speeches in several different languages. The city's officials and rifle-hounds did not dare do anything to bother the Funeral."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 3-4, 5-6; Fri. July 7, 1916  
Vol. III, no. 158; Biwabik, Minn., July 5  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., May 31, 1939:

#### "THE CORRESPONDENT'S EXPLANATION"

"Biwabik, Minn., July 5--The mine-company bosses want to arbitrate with the strikers. Today at 12 o'clock the Virginia Mayor announced that the mine-companies are desirous of settling differences with the strikers. From the union headquarters was sent word to all locations that each must select representatives for their union and to meet at Virginia, Thursday to discuss and handle the business. Among the matters to be settled will be, first, that all those jailed during strike be freed before negotiations will be discussed any further. Further will be considered for ending of the strike the demand that all hounds be ordered away from the mines. Wednesday the business-men have prohibited the use of telephones for the strikers, so that the strikers have not been able to give much news by telephone."

(consulted June 1st, 1939)

"In Gilbert the strike is strong. At Sparta and Gilbert the scabs are mostly Finns.

"On Wednesday the Gilbert miners had a meeting in which Fred Jaakola spoke in Finnish and a few words in English in discussion of the strike situation....

"The hounds had shot Latvala so that he could not be a witness. The city police-chief has been uninclined to jail the murderer, but he was forced to because the mob had besieged the hotel in which the rifle-hounds were in.

"Of the coroners inquest has come clearly the announcement that the hounds shot Latvala.

"The Finnish certifications in the coroner's inquest were wrongly translated into



English. Following are two certifications signed by the makers, certified by them, which were wrongly translated in the coroner's inquest:

"I, Väinö Seppälä certify that the testimony presented at the coroners inquest in the death of Thomas Latvala by Kusti Kallio has left untranslated the incident that Kusti Kallio had certified to, that Mrs. Masonovich was pulled out of her home by the hair by Pickands Mather special-police as they left the Masonovich home, which they attacked July 3rd."

"Further, I, Väinö Seppälä certify that at the coroners inquest into the killing of Thomas Latvala that the judge's questions to witnesses were not translated correctly in Finnish by the interpreter Kusti Niemi.--Signed--Väinö Seppälä."

"Another certification of the mistake in translation at the inquest is following:

"I, Isaac Martolin, certify that at the inquest in the death of Thomas Latvala on July 5th, that interpreter Kusti Niemi has translated Kusti Kallio's testimony wrongly in the statement made by Kallio certifying that the mining company's special police Nick Dillon shot four times before Latvala fell. The interpreter Kusti Niemi said of Kallio's testimony that Dillon shot 5 or 6 times before Latvala fell. The above is true to the best of my knowledge.--Signed--Isaac Martolin"

"If such a translation were left unchanged probably the result will be that Kallio's statement will be dropped because of the fact that the hounds gun has only a capacity of 5 bullets in the magazine."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 1-2; Tues. July 11, 1916  
Vol. III, No. 161; Virginia, Minn., July 10  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co., June 1, 1939:

#### "THE STRIKE-SITUATION HAS STRENGTHENED"

"3,000 STRIKERS MARCH IN LARGE PARADE SUNDAY AT CHISHOLM"

"Many Finns Are Serving As Strikebreakers And Company Hounds"

"STRIKERS HAVE ASKED PRESIDENT WILSON TO SEND HIS REPRESENTATIVE  
TO THE STRIKE-REGION"

"SCABS WHO ARE WORKING IN MINES AT VIRGINIA AND HIBBING HAVE BECOME ILL"

"Virginia, Minn., July 10--(by telephone)--Our correspondent who has been stationed in the strike-region has notified us that the strike-situation is strong and is much stronger than it has been even before. The strikers hold meetings every day and their representative committee has kept care of all matters pertaining to the strike."



"THE SHERIFF HAS BLUFFED AT FINNISH OPERA"

"The county sheriff has come to give notice that at the Finnish Opera cannot be held any kind of meeting in the morning or at night, but only during mid-day. But when he was told not to come there to bluff his face turned shamefully and he left, walking hurriedly."

"STRIKERS APPEAL TO UNITED-STATES PRESIDENT"

"The following appeal the strikers have approved to send to the United States President, in which is asked him to send a representative to the Minnesota strike-region to investigate the pitiful and low existence in which the miners are forced to live. This appeal was signed by thousands of miners and more are being contacted so that the president can see that the strikers are struggling in earnest for better conditions."

"To the United States President, Woodrow Wilson,  
Washington, D.C."

'Dear Sir:

'We, the undersigned St. Louis County, Minn. workers and miners who have accepted this land as our own home-land and have settled here on the St. Louis County Iron Range,

'Appeal to you and ask you to send your representative here to St. Louis County to investigate the conditions under which we are forced to work and investigate the deplorable conditions in which we are forced to live;

'We ask of you protection for our wives and children against the rifle-hounds and police who are bothering us in this region.

'They jail and shoot men and women without reason and try to entice us and our wives and our young daughters.

'We <sup>pray</sup>~~pay~~ that you will see it necessary to send here your representative to clear up the above conditions in such a way as to be satisfactory to both sides.'

'Yours very truly

St. Louis County Strike Committee  
Virginia, Minn."

"SCABS BECOME ILL"

"The high school students who are working as scabs in mines at Virginia and Hibbing

have become ill because they were kept in such working places where it was necessary to stand in water many hours. Many were forced to stay off of work because of illness, and others try to keep working even though sick to stay within the good graces of the company."

Clayton A. Videen  
May 25, 1939

The Duluth Herald, P. 15, col. 1; August 12, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 108; Virginia, August 12  
Old News Tribune Building, 24 East Superior St., May 15, 1939:

A single col. head reads as follows:

"TWO PICKETS ARE ARRESTED"

Two pickets were arrested at Virginia and charged with disturbing the peace. Several others, already arrested, came up for a preliminary hearing. With Judge James P. Carey presiding, bail was fixed at \$300 each, which the accused were unable to furnish.

A story, page 15, col. 2, with a Hibbing, Aug. 12, dateline, states Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, speaking before an audience of 300 at the Finnish Workers' Hall, "Claimed that a great many of the Mesaba range miners were forced to <sup>buy</sup> ~~by~~ their jobs from mining captains and that even their wives were insulted by these captains."

The Duluth Herald, Page 1, col. 3; August 16, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 111; St. Paul, Minn., Aug. 16  
Old News Tribune Building; May 15, 1939:

The following 3-col. head, in fairly large type, appears on Page 1.

"STRIKING MINERS OF MESABA ARE PARTLY EXONERATED BY THE STATE LABOR DEPUTIES"

The following sub-heads appeared:

"DISSATISFACTION FANNED TO ACTIVITY BY I.W.W. WORKERS IN MINES"

"PUBLIC POLICE DEPARTMENTS AND MINE GUARDS ARE GIVEN SCORING"

"SOME MINE CAPTAINS ACCUSED OF BRIBERY AND EXPLOITING MINERS"

"St. Paul, Minn., Aug. 16--Striking miners of the Mesaba range are exonerated to a large extent in an investigators' report made by Don D. Leseohier and Martin Cole, deputies of the state labor commission, as submitted to Governor J.A.A. Burnquist by William F. Houk, state labor commissioner.

"While not arriving at the conclusion that 'industrial dissatisfaction,' fanned to its maximum proportions by I.W.W. activity, was responsible for the strike, the investigators find the action partially justified in many instances, as revealed by a Federal investigation now under way.

"They charge 'a misuse of police departments,' declaring 'we are entirely satisfied



that the mine guards have exceeded their legal rights and duties and invaded the citizenship rights of the strikers; that such violence as has occurred has been more chargeable to the mine guards and police than to the strikers, and that the public police departments have entirely exceeded the needs of the situation and have perpetrated serious injustice upon the strikers.'

"The investigators say 'numerous cases of arrest without warrant, and unfair trials in the Justice courts' were brought to their attention.

"'Every shooting affray that has occurred on the range,' the report continues, 'has occurred on public property. In no case have the so-called riots on or even near company property.'"

"'The parades of the miners have been peaceful, the public police have had no trouble in maintaining order, and if the private guards had been compelled to remain on the company property we do not believe that there would ever have been any bloodshed on the range.'

"In tracing the source of the 'dissatisfaction' cited, holding that some miners (continued on page 11, col. 2) gain easier work and consequently higher pay by giving the mine captains money or presents. Affidavits were presented by the workmen to support these claims as well as charges that 'the captains exploit the men by compelling them to buy tickets for raffles and other activities in which the captains have a financial interest, and from which they derive profit.'

"The state deputies report that these affidavits, taken by the miners' representatives before notaries public in various towns, were read aloud in their presence by Hywell Davies, Federal investigator, and that they had opportunity to examine them. In these papers individual miners swear they had been victims of various abuses, among which were charges of bribery and exploitation.

"Other complaints thus sworn to included allegations that the companies change the contract price (piece rates) without notice to the men and during the month; that the rate is cut when a man strikes 'soft ore' and could make good money, but it is not increased when he gets into 'hard ore' and his earnings decrease; that the companies do not furnish the men with a detailed statement showing the basis upon which their

gross wage was calculated, or with a statement of the tools, powder and other 'expenses' with which they are charged, nor the price at which these supplies have been sold to them; that the mine captains 'play favorites' and give their favorites the soft ore and those they do not like the hard ore, and that favoritism is won by bribery.

"If these affidavits are substantiated,' say the state investigators, 'they will demonstrate very serious abuses on the iron ranges--abuses sufficient to have justified a strike. But only the corroborative investigation of the Federal representatives can demonstrate whether the charges will hold or not.'

"Personally, we are satisfied,' they add, 'that the further investigation will reveal that all of the abuses (continued on page 11, col. 3) complained have existed to a certain extent.'"

The following is the investigators' report in full, as reprinted by this issue of the Herald:

"The strike started on June 2 at the St. James mine at Aurora. The St. James was opened some years ago and then laid idle until last spring, when work was resumed. The miners were put to work on the contract system, as in all underground mines on the Mesaba range, and at piece prices approximately equal to those in operating mines in the neighborhood. When the month had elapsed it was found that the work was proceeding more slowly than in other mines and that the men had not been making decent wages. They complained to the company and were given additional sums to increase their average daily wages to between \$2.50 and \$3.00 per day. But friction between the men and the company over the contract prices continued and on June 2 the miners, without previous notice to the company, left their work and struck.

"The strike spread to the Miller Mine in Aurora the same day and then swept westward over the range, mine after mine going out. Many of the people with whom we talked believe the strike was a spontaneous outburst against the contract system, and that the I.W.W. organization came in only after the strike had started. But we reached a different conclusion. We were informed by a credible authority that one of the national organizers had told him that the I.W.W. had a group of local I.W.W. members planted in each mine as early as February, but had no locals on the range.



"(note: The miners work on 'contract.' They are given a piece of ground to mine and are paid so much per foot of the drift cut away or so much per car loaded.)

"It is our conclusion that there was a dissatisfaction with the contract system among some of the miners, that the I.W.W. men in some of the mines fanned the dissatisfaction into action, and that the successive walking out of the miners in mine after mine as the strike spread gradually westward, was due to the leadership of these local groups of I.W.W. members or sympathizers. Industrial causes underlaid the strike, but probably would not have caused a strike of such proportions except for I.W.W. activity. The strikers and I.W.W. leaders did not do any organizing before the strike was called, but we are inclined to believe that they did a good deal of planning for a strike and for organization.

"There has been a good deal of criticism for the miners because they did not present their demands to the companies until after they had gone on a strike. This criticism is unfair. Unorganized workmen, however dissatisfied, cannot present demands until after they are organized. There is no one to formulate and present the demands until there is organization. The mining companies never permitted organization and therefore this phase of the strike was inevitable and unavoidable.

"The complaints of the men concentrate on two conditions--the hours of labor and the contract system. They allege that they have a nominal eight-hour day, but really an  $8\frac{1}{2}$  or 9-hour day with pay for but 8 hours. At each mine is a wash house or change house, where the miners change their clothes before going into the mines and after leaving the mines. They demand that pay shall be by the day rather than by the piece, and that pay shall begin when they leave the wash house to begin their descent into the mines and end when they come back to the wash house. Their complaint on this score is of course duplicated in many other industries in which workmen complain that they have to be on the employer's premises ten or fifteen minutes before pay begins and some time after pay stops. This always looks to the workman to be an injustice, and to a certain extent it is, but the employer always contends that this presence of the workman is an essential to and incident to the work in question, that it does not benefit the employer any, and that he cannot be expected to pay for a workman's time except when



he is producing output. In the underground mines of Minnesota, the miner must descend to the level on which he is working and it is unquestionably true that this consumes a considerable amount of his time--say from ten to twenty minutes before and after his work. On the other hand, probably no greater amount of time elapses on the average between the time he leaves his home and the time he actually begins his work than elapses in the case of men in other occupations, who generally take from thirty minutes to an hour to get to and from their work. We are not deeply impressed with this grievance of the miners.

"Their other grievance is the contract system, which is simply a piece work system. But piece work in a factory is one thing and piece work in a mine is another. In a factory a piece worker is employed with materials, appliances and machinery which always remains the same. Each unit of work that he turns out requires the same expenditure of energy, time and skill as each other unit of output. His machinery runs at a constant speed and with a constant working efficiency; his tools and materials are practically the same one day and another. But in a mine the workman is working in materials of a constantly (Page 11, col. 4) changing quality. No two workmen's jobs are exactly identical and no two day's work is performed under identical conditions. A miner starts to work in a certain drift and if the ore is hard or the overburden hard to deal with he may be able to cut away only one-half as much ore as he is able to mine on another day when the ore is softer, or the ground easier to deal with. This constant variation of the natural working conditions, with the variation of pay it causes between one shift and another or one miner and another, and the continuous readjustment in piece rates that it compels in order to bring about a substantial equality of wages between the wages of various workmen is at the basis of the whole trouble over the contract system."

(The following copies May 16)

"The striking miners make the following complaints against the contract system:

"(1) That the companies change the contract price (piece rates) without notice to the men, and during a month, and that when payday comes a man never knows what he is going to draw. He may keep track of the work that he has done and figure out what is coming to him at the contract rate, but when he draws his check he finds that the rate has been cut without notice to him.

"(2) The rate is cut when a miner strikes 'soft ore' and could make good money, but is not increased when he strikes 'hard ore' and his earnings decrease.

"(3) That the companies do not furnish the men with a detailed statement showing the basis upon which their gross wage was calculated; nor with a statement of the tools, powder, and other expenses with which they are charged, or the price at which the supplies have been sold to them.

"(4) That the mine captains 'play favorites' and give their favorites the soft ore, and these they do not like the hard ore, so that the man who works easiest gets the best pay and the man who works the hardest gets the poorest pay.

"(5) That the way to get to be a favorite is to bribe the captains by giving them money or presents, and that a man can get a good drift only by these methods.

"(6) That the captains exploit the men by compelling them to buy tickets for raffles or other activities in which the captains have a financial interest and from which they derive a profit, and that if any man does not buy he is marked for discharge or discrimination.

"Other minor charges were made but without citation of specific cases illustrating the abuses complained of and will therefore be disregarded.

"On Tuesday, Aug. 8, the miners presented a large number of affidavits taken by their representatives before notaries public in various towns, in which individual miners swore that they had been the victim of these various abuses. These affidavits were read aloud in our presence by Hywell Davis (Federal investigator) and we had opportunity to examine them. They were then turned over to the Federal investigators for further investigation. If these affidavits are substantiated, they will demonstrate very serious abuses on the iron ranges--abuses sufficient to have justified a strike. But only the corroborative investigation of the Federal representatives can demonstrate whether the charges will hold or not.

"Personally, we are satisfied that the further investigation will reveal that all of the abuses complained of have existed to a certain extent. Only an examination of the companies' books will show whether or not the first two charges are true-but we have seen exactly the same thing occur in factories when the working men were unorganized



and their piece rates not protected by wage agreements.

"The third statement of the miners is admitted true, but companies state that it would require an excessive amount of bookkeeping to give each miner detailed statements. They admit that the men ought to be furnished such a statement, however, at any time they demand it.

"The fourth and fifth charges are unquestionably true with respect to certain mine captains and certain mines. The evidence presented by the miners' affidavits can leave no doubt that certain mine captains have profited by forced bribes, either in the form of money or goods, paid to them (1) to enable a miner to get a job, (2) to enable a miner to keep a job, (3) to enable a miner to get soft ore. But our investigation led us to believe that the condition is not characteristic of mining conditions in general on the iron ranges and exist only in certain mines. The Federal investigators are investigating this matter in a comprehensive fashion.

"Our report thus far has dealt with the industrial issues that led up to the strike. The miners further charge that since the strike broke out the private mine guards have been allowed excessive license in going about the public streets carrying arms, in interfering with strikers on public streets, and in entering strikers' homes, and that the public police departments (col. 5) have virtually been as much under the control of the mining companies as the private guards.

"We are not entirely in sympathy with the belief that vigorous measures were necessary to maintain peace and safety in this strike. But we are entirely satisfied that the mine guards have exceeded their legal rights and duties and invaded the citizenship rights of the strikers; that such violence has occurred is more chargeable to the mine guards and police than to the strikers, and that the public police departments have entirely exceeded the needs of the situation, and have perpetrated serious injustice upon the strikers.

"Numerous cases of arrest without warrants and unfair trials in the justices' courts were brought to our attention. We will not go into these cases in detail, as the Federal men have promised a thorough investigation of them, but we are seriously impressed that the mine guards should have been compelled to remain on mine property or disarmed when they left it.



"Every shooting affray that has occurred on the ranges has occurred on public property. In no case have the riots occurred on or even near company property.

"The parades of the miners have been peaceful, the public police have had no trouble in maintaining order, and if the private mine guards had been compelled to remain on the company property we do not believe that there would ever have been any bloodshed on the range."

(signed)

"Don D. Lescohier  
"Martin Cole"

The Duluth Herald, Page 11, col. 5; August 16, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 111. No dateline  
Old Tribune Building, May 16, 1939:

In answer to the special report, Governor Burnquist said he was interested only in maintaining order, that he had no power to appoint deputies, and said that it wasn't his fault. He said that his own personal committee had not reported "any undue violence on the part of officers."

Duluth Herald, Page 17, col. 3; August 16, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 111; Virginia, Minn., Aug. 16  
Old Tribune Building, May 16, 1939:

A single col. head reads:

"VIRGINIA JAIL GETS SCORING"

Followed by a smaller sub-head:

"MAN WHO WAS IN BASTILE TELLS COUNCIL OF BAD CONDITIONS"

"Virginia, Minn., Aug. 16--The city council last night heard George Sprude, a local carpenter, who claimed to have been railroaded into the city jail, score the place as unsanitary, poorly managed, and the prisoners fed on the worst kind of food, although the city pays 20¢ for each meal. Sprude also claimed he was not allowed to see an attorney.

"'Sprudes' contentions are true,' said Mayor Michael Boylan. "He was prevented from seeing an attorney. I sent Attorney Daniel D. Morgan to see him, but the jailers would not allow him to talk to Sprude. Other prisoners have been treated like Sprude.'

"'Some prisoners have been 'railroaded' to jail, but I dare them to 'railroad me,' shouted the Mayor.

"The council could take no action in his case."

I copied the foregoing from the Herald because it is the first intimation I have found of conditions in the range jails. The item has no direct bearing on the strike situation, but I believe it is closely allied to living conditions because the Mesabi Range jails were generally well occupied during the strike--Videen.

The Duluth Herald, Page 11, col. 3; August 22, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 116; Virginia, Minn., Aug. 22  
Old Tribune Building, May 16, 1939:

The grand jury probe into the killing of Deputy Myron will begin as soon as there are enough jurors on the panel. Also, the petit jury cases are expected to be tried soon. "The I.W.W. leaders are showing a deep interest in the probe. John Keyes of Duluth, Attorney Burns of Virginia and Cook and Berkman of Chisholm are all here, presumably looking after the interests of the I.W.W.'s. There are many other lawyers on hand.

"If the grand jury should decide to go into the strike in detail it is expected the grand jury session would be the longest ever held on the range and might develop untold sensation."

The Duluth Herald, Page 11, col. 3; August 31, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 124; Virginia, Minn., August 31  
Old Tribune Building; May 17, 1939:

The story reads, in part: "Sam Scarlet, Carlo Tresca and the other I.W.W.s indicted for first degree murder, are not expected to be arraigned until Saturday or the first of next week.

"There were eight in all indicted for killing Deputy Sheriff Myron, as follows: Joe Cernoyarovich, Sam Scarlet, Carlo Tresca, Joseph Schmidt, Philip Masonovich, Joseph Nickich, Mrs. Mallica Masonovich, and John Orlandich.... John A. Keyes, attorney for the I.W.W.s indicted for killing Myron, has gone to Duluth to consult his clients, and it cannot be learned here today just what his next move will be. It is understood he will demand separate trials and may even ask that the cases be transferred to some other place on a change of venue because of alleged bias against the accused."

The Duluth News Tribune, P. 5, col. 2; Sept. 7, 1916  
Vol. 48, No. 128; Virginia, Minn., Sept. 6, 1916  
Old Tribune Building; May 17, 1939:



"Mayor Victor L. Power of Hibbing will be one of the counsel to the I.W.W. agitators charged with the murder of Deputy James C. Myron.... The Mayor made this announcement today and added that Attorney Hilton of Denver and John A. Keyes of Duluth would constitute the balance of the legal battery who will fight the state in its efforts to convict "those allegedly implicated in the Myron slaying. The men will be arraigned on Sept. 12, at Duluth. It is believed by those who should know that the trial will start the latter part of next week. Mayor Power was present when the accused had their preliminary hearing 'and his entrance into the case now is no surprise to the range people.'"

(I am using the September volume of the Duluth News Tribune because the September volume of the Duluth Herald is missing--CAV)

The Duluth Herald, p. 15, col. 2; Oct. 10, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 158; Hibbing, Minn., Oct. 10, 1916  
Old Tribune Building; May 17, 1939:

"Federal Investigators Davies and Farley, who for the past two months have been conducting an investigation of the strike, will complete their duties here in two weeks and within thirty days will file their report with the department of labor at Washington. The department of Labor will then have a summary made of the entire investigation made in Hibbing and in other towns on the range which will be available.

"Both examiners refuse to give out any information as to the nature of their investigation, stating that it was not their business to furnish anything to the newspapers and that the department of labor alone has that authority."

The Duluth Herald, P. 11--whole page; Nov. 21, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 194; no dateline  
Old Tribune Building; May 17, 1939:

This issue carries a full page advertisement, a report from the "Committee of Industrial Relations, Southern Building, Washington, D.C." Huge, underlined headlines at the top of the page, reads:

**"DOLLARS AND STEEL AGAINST HUMANITY"**

Large type at the bottom of the page proclaims:

"IF YOU WANT TO SEE THE IRON MINERS WIN; IF YOU WANT TO SEE THE IMPRISONED WOMAN, STRIKERS, AND ORGANIZERS OF THE I.W.W. GET A FAIR TRIAL, SEND FUNDS TO JAMES GILDAY, SECRETARY-TREASURER MESABA RANGE IRON ORE STRIKERS' DEFENSE COMMITTEE, BOX 372, VIRGINIA, MINN."

In the top middle of the page is a faded picture of "MALITZA MASONOVITCH AND HER



## CHILDREN."

I think certain parts of this advertisement are worth noting because they are the documented statements of certain miners, how they live, and the wages they received for their labors.

The report begins by stating that influential offices and people in Minnesota, particularly St. Louis County, "have joined hands" in resisting the efforts of 15,000 iron ore miners to make a decent living. Among those raked over the coals are Governor Burnquist, Sheriff John R. Meining and County Attorney Greene. "More than 1,000 men, according to the sheriff's own statement, have been deputized, and armed with carbines, revolvers and riot sticks....they have been placed in brutal and tyrannical control.... The slums of Duluth and other cities have been combed to recruit this army of gunmen, and Sheriff John R. Meining admitted to the writer he had deputized company guards without investigation of their records or character. In fact, he specifically stated that some of the men employed by the companies in this capacity, and deputized by him, 'might possibly be' men of the character suggested when the writer told Meining they looked like thugs."

(continued on May 18, 1939)

"Duluth business is doing its bit. Responding to the Steel Corporation's bidding, its leading wholesalers have served formal notice on the merchants of the iron range towns that all credit will be curtailed pending the strike and weekly payments required. A copy of this notice is in my possession.

"And while the miners of Minnesota face want and suffering and endure the abuse and violence of a private army of gunmen, the United States Steel Corporation announces the largest earnings in the history of an American industrial corporation.

"....The strike started without organization of any sort, and spread almost instantaneously through the iron range before any outside labor organization had participated. The men were unorganized and out of touch with the labor movement...and appeal reached the I.W.W. and organizers for that organization made a tardy response. It is not an I.W.W. strike in the sense that it was fomented by agents of that organi-

zation. No I.W.W. agent or organizer was on the range prior to beginning of the strike. I.W.W. agents have offered to withdraw from the district if their elimination would lead to a settlement, and the strikers have specifically agreed in writing to the companies that they would not ask for the recognition of any union. Yet the companies refused a conference."

#### "THE MINERS' DEMANDS"

"1. An eight-hour day.

"2. A minimum wage of \$3.00 in the underground mines, and \$3.50 in the same, but in wet places, and \$2.75 on the surface for eight hours of labor.

"3. Abolishment of the contract labor system.

"4. Payday twice a month.

"Laborers in the open-pit surface workings are now paid \$2.60 for a ten-hour day. In the underground workings, where the majority of the miners are employed, the miners work an eight-hour day and are paid on piece-rate basis, designed to speed the men up. Rates per car of ore mined are changed every week, resulting in driving the men at top speed and placing them in competition with each other.

"Miner after miner swears that pit bosses and foremen exact bribes for awarding favorite 'ground' to the men, and that no miner can obtain a working place where \$3.00 or more can be earned unless he has first won the good will of the shift boss or foreman, by whatever means appeals to the individual. ....these complaints undoubtedly are based on widespread abuses.

"At a conference at Virginia by officials of the municipalities in the range and presided over by Mayor Michael Boylan of Virginia, testimony was given by many miners from which the following are extracts:

"M. Shusterich: 'Those fellows who are working for \$3 and \$4, what do they do? I can bring proofs from fellows at Chisholm that every miner who makes over \$3 there, he had to tip the captain. I know certain captains there--if necessary I will name them and bring proofs--where they are making tips of \$5 and \$10 from fellows making money there, and then going into saloons, they have to buy drinks and cigars, and I can prove that even if the mining captains like the woman of some of these miners in



order to keep his job he has to shut his eyes to that. Any miner who is working ten or fifteen years, if he have hard work for fifteen years at contract, this speeding system, I tell you if a miner makes up to \$3 he works like hell, and all his power and everything he can make \$5 or so, and then if they see he makes more money they cut him down, and he has to work harder, and I challenge anybody to say that any miner who works in these mines at contract for ten years is fit for any labor after he gets to be 35 to 40 years.'

"Rupert Swinnerton, business man and council man at Hibbing:

"While I am a business man I want to agree with what the man just said. I have had several talks with mining officials and others and what he says is true. There was a good deal of dissatisfaction with conditions here in the mines long before the I.W.W. came onto the range. I am in the land business, and sometimes sell a piece of land to some of these men, and they would tell me their grievances--the hard time they had getting along--how it was impossible for them to pay their own way. I am convinced that there are things that should be adjusted. I would like to see the time come when a great corporation like the United States Steel Corporation could see these differences and make efforts to remove them. And these things that this man mentioned about men having to tip the mining captains are true.'

"Mike Stark of Chisholm: 'I am a miner for 14 years. I have eight children, seven living and one died. I work now for last three years. I get \$59 check a month, \$61, \$61, \$61, \$67 and up to \$70 a month--but a couple of times over \$70 in three years, and I send four kids to the school and the teacher would like to have the children dressed and clean and everything like that. I like to do that myself. And the children go to church, and the priest like to see that the wife is dressed nice like the American ladies, and the children dressed like American children. I like that, too, but I can't.'

"Joe Thomas, miner: 'Look at me. I have five children to support. I have to send them back to school. If they go with dirty clothes the teacher send them back, say 'your father get better clothes.' If our women go to church, the priest they say 'What the matter with Austrian women?' They stink in church. People should sit by them because we didn't buy stuff like they.'



"Matt Mattson, Virginia: 'I worked in the mines thirteen years around Virginia all the time, any mine here. Last I worked at the Alpena. I want to say something about the contract system. You get place to work on contract and make \$2, and you make it run up to \$3, he cut you in middle of month. A man can't work through the month. He cut him. You say something and the Captain says 'I can't help it, you make too much. If you don't like your job, you quit.' I worked three years steady. I made first year pretty nearly every month around \$3.00. Some time I had a little over, some time under. After another two years I make \$2.22 $\frac{1}{2}$ , \$2.22, \$2.35, make around \$49 a month, \$50 a month, \$55 a month. It works like that.'

"Fulvio Pettinello: 'I worked for the Oliver Iron Mining Company at the Alpena, two years ago I struck a hard place, and I make \$1.97, some other time I make over \$3.00 and \$3.50. What should I do then? Two years ago I got married and got American girl. I believe she has right to live like another American, so I believe further I got right to live. What should I say when I got \$1.97?'

"'I should tell her, 'This month don't order meat or nothing. I only get \$1.97 (a day).' I should only pay rent of the house, insurance, and such things? That month when I work contract and strike hard place we no have enough to eat. I work in some other places in Alpena for \$2.17. What do you think of that? Get \$45 or \$50. I should have paid \$12 for rent of the house. I should pay \$5 or \$6 for meat, \$30 for grocery bill. What will be left? If we eat we don't dress. And if we dress we don't eat. That is a fact.'

"Tony Shragel: 'At the Bangor mine there are places you wouldn't stay. I was working in a drift at the bottom level where the water was high (indicating three inches above knees) all day long. The water is coming down the same as rain. I have two or three coats and rubber boots, and three hats and then you get wet all through. They have to carry timbers nearly a quarter of a mile under a place like this (indicating height of table). It isn't fit for a dog. But man have to go long through it pulling timbers by his side a quarter of a mile. I have seen lots of these places.'

"There remains to be told the steps by which public authority in Minnesota prostituted itself to the Steel Corporation and the economic interests of the privileged class,

and in doing so violated not only common justice and humanity, but every constitutional right of the miners in the premises.

"Sheriff Meinings deputization of more than 1,000 gunmen has already been told to his credit, he informed the writer that 'If I had it to do over again, I would do differently,' and agreed that the state's police power should not be put into the hands of guards employed by the companies, and of whom no investigation had previously been made.

"Sheriff Meining acted largely under the direction of Governor Burnquist, at St. Paul, but not beyond the influences that dominate in Duluth. Burnquist sent a personal representative to investigate. The governor's agent, Gustavus Lindquist, spent a week on the iron range in the company of corporation officials. He did not go near the striking miners of the Municipal authorities. So flagrant was his disregard of the miners' claims and interests that the authorities of the range cities met and adopted a resolution denouncing his course, which they forwarded to the governor. Acting on this man's report and in conformity with the wishes of the Steel Corporation, Governor Burnquist on June 30 sent the following telegram to Sheriff Meining:

"'Arrest forthwith and take before magistrate PREFERABLY AT DULUTH, all persons who have participated and are participating in riots in your county and make complaints against them. Prevent further breaches of the peace, riots and unlawful assemblies. Use all your powers for the preservation of life and property.'

"It should be noted that the range towns are seventy miles from Duluth and that magistrates were available at all of them. Surely there is something in the Minnesota law directing that men charged with crime be taken to the NEAREST magistrate. But Duluth, ambitious and hungry for Eastern capital, is notoriously with the companies and against any interest opposing them.

"In the light of that one phrase, 'Preferably at Duluth' and of subsequent developments, the observer can almost see the hand reaching over Burnquist's shoulder and directing his pen. Commenting on the telegram, the Mesaba ore, a newspaper of general circulation at Hibbing, said on July 22:

"'The governor accepted without question the word of the mining companies that the law was being violated on the ranges by the striking miners, that riot and bloodshed



was rampant and life and property were in danger of destruction from the mob, but the governor made no effort, it appears, to ascertain the truth or falsity of the statement made to him by the mining companies, he acted blindly.

"Had the governor made proper, or half proper, investigation, he would have learned that nearly all of the law violation that followed the strike was that of the armed thugs employed by the mining companies, or inspired by them.

"In his order to the sheriff to unarm the strikers the governor was commanding a county official to violate his oath of office. By that order the sheriff was supposed to approach a group of men anywhere and proceed to go through their pockets without formality--simply strongarm them; he was ordered to enter without warrant the homes of miners in search of firearms, and if there was resistance, to arrest the miners and slap them into jail, or beat them into insensibility with a billie. Deputy sheriffs employed by the mining company used these tactics as an excuse for 'getting' the men they wanted, and they were exceedingly busy along that line.

"Was there ever anything more likely to drench the range with human blood than this governor's order to the sheriff? It was just what the mining companies wanted to give their gunmen, their armed thugs, full authority of the state of Minnesota backing up the mining companies in the Wanton killing of men who were only asking for an increase in wages, and the protection of the state for their thugs with their bloody hands.'

"Following the receipt of this telegram, the company gunmen became bolder. On July 3, a notorious character named Nick Dillon, a gunman in the employ of one of the companies, stormed into the home of a striker at Biwabik without knocking, armed with a revolver, and followed by three deputy sheriffs. According to a newspaper, owned by the Postmaster of Duluth, received his training as 'bouncer' for a house of ill fame. This invasion of the workingman's home, the facts which are admitted, was undertaken ostensibly to serve a warrant for the illegal sale of liquor. Surrounded by his wife, children and several miners who boarded with him, the miner hotly resented the intrusion of the company guard, and a fight ensued in which one deputy sheriff and a peddler friendly to the miners was killed, and a miner shot twice through the thigh. The miner and four of his friends were arrested and taken to Duluth, and jailed for first degree murder. A coroner's jury refused to return a verdict fixing responsibility.



"Within a few hours after this outrage on the part of the company guard and the subsequent tragedy, seven organizers for the I.W.W., stationed at distant points on the range, were arrested without warrants, refused a hearing, placed on a special train, taken to Duluth, seventy miles distant, and lodged in the county jail, charged with murder in the first degree.

"Under a peculiar Minnesota statute, these organizers are charged as principals in the murder of the deputy sheriff on the ground that speeches made by them induced the killing. The writer talked to a witness for the State who had heard the organizers advise the strikers to refrain from violence and keep their hands in their pockets, but to retaliate if the life of one of the strikers were taken by a guard. This and the fact that the miners carried union cards apparently is the principal and in fact the only evidence against the organizers. Yet Sheriff Meining admitted to the writer that if gunmen in the employ of a private corporation were to enter his home without knocking and threaten the safety and lives of himself and family, he would feel justified in defending himself.

"In jail at Duluth on the murder charge are Carlo Tresca, Lawrence strike leader Frank Little,\* Sam Scarlet, Joe Schmidt, James Gilday,\* Leo Stark\* and others. (\*"These men were dismissed after the preliminary hearing at Duluth.") Every effort is being made to convict them and send them to the gallows by County Prosecutor Greene of Duluth, on whose order Sheriff Meining arrested them.

"Mayor Victor Power of Hibbing vouches for the following:

"Two of the toughest looking characters he ever saw appeared at the door of his office and asked where the jail was. They said they wanted a flop, meaning a place to sleep. He asked them what they were come for and they replied that they had just arrived from Duluth to act as deputies. He demanded their credentials, and according to Mayor Power, they produced a letter from Chief of Police McKercher of Duluth, to a superintendent of a mining company controlled by the Steel Corporation, which said in substance: 'I am sending these two men for the work we talked about. Let me know if they do not do it satisfactorily, as I have something on them.'

"The story is not yet half told of the lengths to which the companies went in

beating up, shooting, jailing and terrorizing their workmen, of how they cloak their acts by appealing to popular prejudice against the I.W.W. and ascribing the strike to I.W.W. organizers who had nothing to do with its inception, of how the Duluth newspapers, subservient to the company interest, exhorted the authorities to disregard every legal constitutional right of these organizers, and how the authorities responded. It is a story of tyrannical abuse, cruelty and persecution involving a hundred cases and a thousand details. And all to defeat any movement to defeat industrial democracy, living wages, a square deal for the men who mine the raw material for the countrys prosperous and powerful corporation. .

"These arrests are only the worst of many violent acts committed by the sheriff's deputies and company gunmen. Strikers have been arrested by the hundred and thrown in jail on trumped up charges. Picketing was absolutely suppressed, and the Finnish socialists were thrown out of their own halls and refused the right of lawful assembly. A Steel Corporation gunman named King, employed by the Duluth, Missabe and Northern railroad, a steel trust subsidiary, became so offensive and shameless in his efforts to start trouble at Hibbing that he was ordered out of the district by Sheriff Meining himself.

"The strikers are doing and have done their part in this battle for freedom, for the things America is supposed to stand for. The outcome today depends largely on whether the United States mediators, with the backing of an aroused public sentiment, can persuade the Steel Corporation and its allies to redeem their course and act the part of decent, humane men."

A resume of the state labor investigators follows, but this has been noted elsewhere in these notes.

The Duluth Herald, P. 2, col. 2 & 3; Nov. 22, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 195; New York, Nov. 22, 1916  
Old Tribune Building; May 19, 1939:

This news item states that the United States Steel Corporation has announced a 10% raise in wages for its employ. A short item underneath says that the local subsidiaries have said they can do nothing about this raise until they receive official orders from New York; nor do the local steel officials know how many men will be benefited by this raise. The news item states "this is the second 10 per cent increase in wages



voluntarily accorded by the United States Steel Corporation this year to enable its employes to meet the added cost of living."

The Duluth Herald, P. 1, col. 6; Dec. 15, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 215; Local, Dec. 15, 1916  
Old Tribune Building, May 19, 1939:

A banner head across Page 1 reads:

"THREE IWW PLEAD GUILTY TO MANSLAUGHTER"

Then the following subheads in smaller type:

"MEN HELD FOR MYRON MURDER ALLOWED TO FACE MINOR CHARGE"

"SENTENCED TO TERMS OF NOT TO EXCEED TWENTY YEARS IN STILLWATER PRISON;  
TWO OTHERS DISCHARGED"

"THREE REMAINING PRISONERS GIVEN THEIR FREEDOM, CASES BEING CONTINUED  
UNTIL NEXT TERM OF COURT"

"Three of the eight persons indicted for the murder of Deputy Sheriff James C. Myron, during the strike trouble at Biwabik on July 3 last, appeared before Judge Cant in district court this morning and pleaded guilty to charges of manslaughter in the first degree.

"They were each sentenced to terms of not more than twenty years at Stillwater.

"The murder charge against two others, one a woman, was dismissed and the defendants were given their freedom.

"In the three remaining cases, which are those pending against the I.W.W. agitators, Carlo Tresca, Sam Scarlet and Joe Schmidt, continuances were ordered. The three men were given their freedom in the meantime.

"The court did not require that any bail should be given.

"The prisoners who pleaded guilty in the first degree were:

"Philip Masonovich, 35; Joe Cernogorcevich, 37, and Joe Nicknich, 22.

"They admitted having been at the Masonovich home on July 3 when Myron was killed and to have taken part in the disturbance.

"Mrs. Philip Masonovich, mother of five, who was arrested by her husband, and Joseph Cernogorcevich, were released. Mrs. Masonovich has been out on bail since her last baby born. Cernogorcevich has been in jail.

"County Attorney Warren E. Greene stated the facts available were not sufficient



to warrant a conviction and asked the court for a dismissal.

"The cases against Tresca, Scarlett and Schmidt, it is understood, will be continued indefinitely. There is some speculation as to whether the cases will ever be tried.

"The I.W.W. agitators were not directly charged with the Myron murder. They were accused of having incited murders in connection with the recent strike. The prosecution holds them accountable for the Myron murder although they were miles away at the time it occurred.

"The defendants, with the exception of Mrs. Philip Masonovich, who is at Biwabik with her children, were all in court this morning....

"In sentencing the prisoners Judge Cant stated that Judge Hughes of Hibbing, who had been handling the cases, had consented to the disposition of the cases.

"'You should try to be good, faithful orderly men while in confinement,' said the court to the three prisoners who were sent to the state's prison, 'You should make up your minds to take your punishment like men and start right and keep out of trouble when you come out.'"

Clayton A. Videen  
May 23, 1939

1916 STRIKE CONTINUED

The Duluth Herald, page 2, col. 2; July 11, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 80. July 11, 1916  
Consulted at Old Tribune Building, Before May 1, 1939

A single col. head, in large type, on page 2, says:

"NO EFFECT ON ORE SHIPPING"

There are two sub-heads as follows:

"MINING COMPANIES MAKING BIG RECORDS DESPITE THE STRIKE"

"MORE THAN 1,000 MINERS HAVE LEFT FOR HARVEST FIELDS"

"That the miners on the Mesaba range stand absolutely no show of winning their strike is the opinion of Edward Freeman, village attorney of Chisholm and former well known baseball pitcher who performed with some of the best semi-pro teams in the country. Mr. Freeman was in Duluth on legal business last evening, and, during the course of a conversation dealing with conditions in the ore fields, said:

"The mines right now, when the strike is at its height, are shipping more ore than they did when all of the men were working. This ore is being taken from the large stock piles that were thrown up during the closed season of navigation and from the open pit mines which have been working right along, day and night, just the same as in ordinary years. Few men are now working in the underground properties, which always furnish most of the employment for miners. In the great open pit mines of the Mesaba, which are the largest in the world, steam shovels are being kept busy day and night loading all of the trains that can be sent in.

"You can see from this that the mining companies are feeling no great hardship from the strike--it's the miners who are suffering and who will continue to feel the pangs of want during the long winter that will come in a few months. Business men of Chisholm state that more than 1,000 miners, who were willing to work but were prevented from doing so through fear of threats made by the I.W.W. leaders, have left the Mesaba and gone elsewhere, many to the harvest fields of North and South Dakota. A prominent meat market proprietor of Chisholm told me yesterday that nearly all of the mining boarding houses are as free of boarders as a dog is of feathers. Even some of the men

who owned their homes in Chisholm have left.

"While I do not know definitely just what plans the various large mining companies have framed, I understand they may not try to reopen their underground mines even if the strike is called off. They are now mining more ore than they can ship and with the great shortage of labor that is sure to follow the exodus of so many miners the heads of the various properties feel that it might prove a waste of money and effort."

The Duluth Herald, Page 5, col. 3; July 11, 1916

Vol. 34, No. 80. July 11, 1916

Consulted at Old Tribune Building; Before May 1, 1939:

\* A Duluth I.W.W. organizer was arrested downtown and charged with spitting on the side walk. The charge was later changed to disorderly conduct. It was again changed a few hours later, this time as assault, it being alleged that he struck a man in a bar room fight.

"An emergency ordinance prohibiting the distribution of handbills within the city limits for the 'preservation of public peace, health and safety' was passed yesterday at the meeting of the city council. The aim of the ordinance is to curb the activities of the I.W.W. agitators and prevent undue disturbance at labor centers. The ordinance reads as follows:

"The City of Duluth does ordain, That no person shall throw or distribute, or cause to be thrown or distributed, any circular, poster or handbill in or about any of the streets, avenues, parks, public places or buildings within the City of Duluth.

"A fine of \$100 or a term not exceeding eighty-five days in jail will be imposed for a conviction of a violation of this ordinance, which takes effect immediately."

"While the text of the ordinance does not touch upon the I.W.W. situation, the result might be effective in the present situation. Assistant City Attorney McHugh admits the situation is a difficult one to handle.

"We would not take away any person's constitutional liberties," said Mr. McHugh, "but at the same time we would protect life and property and take over every legitimate step possible in preventing violence or rioting."

The Duluth Herald, Page 11, col. 2; July 11, 1916

Vol. 34, No. 80. St. Paul, Minn., July 11, 1916

Consulted at Old Tribune Building, before May 1, 1939:



"St. Paul, Minn., July 11--Threats to take the life of Minnesota's governor and to dynamite the capital have been made within the past week by sympathizers with the Mesaba range strike. As a result precautions have been taken to protect both Governor Burnquist and the property of the state.

"The governor does not regard the matter as serious, although he admits that threats have been made and precautions have been taken to guard his life and the capitol.

"All day and night July 4, Detective W.A. Barnes from the Rondo police station was on guard at the capitol, and it was feared that the men who had made the threats, or their aids, might take advantage of the holiday to blow up the building. Every person who approached the structure on Independence day was closely scrutinized by the detective.

"Two days later, by special request of Governor Burnquist, George L. Hoage, the governor's messenger, was commissioned as a special policeman with power to arrest any suspicious looking person who might come into the executive offices.

"The threats came to the governor's offices, both by direct and indirect means, it is believed, although the governor declined to make public what the threats were.

"The first intimation that it would be well to be on guard came from the governor's confidential agents, who are watching the strike on the Mesaba range, it is reported. When the governor issued his orders to the sheriff's force on the range to arrest the strikers who caused disturbances, some of the miners became greatly incensed, it is said.

"Fears of police and state officials became increased by announcement from Chicago that more I.W.W. agitators had been sent to Minnesota, some of whom, Chicago police reported, are desperate characters.

"Police Chief John J. O'Connor and George Wells, chief of detectives, refuse to discuss the threats."

The Duluth Herald, Page 11, col.3; July 11, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 80. July 11, 1916  
Consulted at Old Tribune Building, Before May 1, 1939:

"Sheriff John R. Meining today made an official report to the county board of the murder of Deputy Sheriff James C. Myron... The sheriff stated that Mr. Myron had

been employed as a deputy since June 8 at a compensation of \$3 a day.... Mr. Meining also gave notice to the board of the appointment of seventy-nine special deputies because of the miners' strike on the range."

The Duluth Herald, Page 2, col. 1, July 12, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 81; July 12, 1916  
Consulted at Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:

"Strike trouble on the Mesaba iron range has landed twenty-eight men in jail to date.

"Of this number 12 are held on charges of first degree murder, and the remainder for assault, trespass and other minor charges.

"Most of the men under arrest on charges of murder are I.W.W. agitators, and are accused of having incited their followers to violence and bloodshed.

"The cases against the I.W.W. agitators and others in connection with strike trouble will be presented to the grand jury which will convene on the fourth Tuesday in August."

The Duluth Herald, Page 17, col. 1; July 12, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 81; July 12, 1916  
Consulted at Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:

A news story about Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, and her picture appears on page 17. There is a half-column story under the following headline:

"ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN SAYS SHE IS HERE NOT AGITATE BUT TO INVESTIGATE"

The first four paragraphs are devoted to ridiculing the labor leader, voicing her denial that the range strikers are anarchists, and her denial that she did not come to Minnesota to agitate. Concerning conditions in the mines, she is quoted as saying:

"Miners on the Mesaba range are not getting enough money for the hazardous work they do. The mine owners will tell you that they are paying from \$3.50 to \$4 a day. This is true as regards some few miners who are favorites with the captains, and who are thus allowed to work in the soft ore which is easily mined. They are called pace-makers, and when the underpaid miners complain they are referred to the records of the pets who have been easy picking.

"The Oliver Iron Mining company and all the independent concerns are taking millions of dollars worth of ore from Minnesota and it seems to me they should be willing to leave just a little of their enormous profits here among the working men and busi-



ness houses. The miners at Scranton and, in fact, in every part of the country, are getting better pay than the Minnesota miners...."

The Duluth Herald, P. 17, col. 4; July 12, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 81; July 12, 1916  
Consulted at Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:

On the same page is a news item which states that Mayor Michael Boylan, of Virginia, praises Sheriff Meining for his "'rare good judgment'" in dealing with the strike situation. Boylan states that the strike is hurting the Virginia merchants to the tune of \$5,000 a day. Boylan accuses the I.W.W. of using violent methods in obtaining its ends.

The Duluth Herald, P. 17, col. 4; July 12, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 81; July 12, 1916  
Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:

Another news item states that John A. Keyes, attorney, complains that Waino Wesman and Leo Stark, charged with murder in the first degree for the killing of Deputy Myron, are being held in jail without cause. The attorney maintains "that they are innocent of any offense."

The Duluth Herald, P. 19, col. 1; July 12, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 81; July 12, 1916  
Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:

On the Iron Range page, page 19, are several news items to the effect that the miners are rapidly returning to work. According to news dispatches, three mines in the Hibbing district are working to such an extent that the strike in progress is not even being noticed; the Biwabik open pit mine is working; more and more men are reported to be going to work in the Virginia region.

Mayor Boylan took offense at the action of Governor Burnquist's "representatives," who, he said, consulted only the mine superintendents, and not the miners, in regards to the strike.

A conference which was to have been held between miners, mining officials, and civic men, at Virginia, was postponed because "mine operators had not responded to requests for a conference."

The Duluth Herald, P. 21, col. 1; July 14, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 83; Virginia, July 14, 1916  
Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:

(The issue of Thurs., July 13, seems to be lost, for it is not included in the bound volume.)



On the Iron Range page are the following headlines:

"SHERIFF REPORTS LITTLE DOING IN STRIKE ZONE"

The story, bearing a Virginia dateline, says that Sheriff Meining reports everything is quiet, while the strike headquarters give out a report that the situation, so far as they are concerned, is satisfactory to them.

Two men were arrested at Buhl for interfering with men going to work and for interfering with an officer while making an arrest.

The Duluth Herald, P. 21, Col. 2; July 14, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 83; Virginia, July 14, 1916  
Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:

Another story, bearing a Virginia dateline, says that the strike is gradually dying; it is reported that a fund of \$30,000 has been raised to help the miners continue their strike; that new "agitators" have appeared on the Mesaba and are mingling among the men; that picketing "has practically been abandoned, and it is a fact that hundreds of men are still on strike...and are making no efforts to return to work."

Tony Rosontich, of Eveleth, was bound over to the grand jury and his bail fixed at \$300. He was charged with assaulting Special officer Schoening.

Many so-called "citizens'" committees in various Mesaba range towns send special letters to Governor Burnquist commending him for his stand in the strike situation.

The Duluth Herald, P. 3, col. ; July 15, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 84; July 15, 1916  
Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:

On page 3 is a single column story about Keyes and a statement submitted by him to the editor of the Herald. Keyes accuses the press of making false statements concerning the strike situation. Summarizing the strike situation he says: "'The miners first went out at the St. James mine near Aurora, Minn., on account, as they claim, of unfair conditions in the mines, on the first few days in 1916.'" (Then follows the story, identical with the one I copied out of The Labor World--CAV.)

The Duluth Herald, P. 29, col. 1; July 15, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 84; Nashwauk, Minn.; July 15, 1916

Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:

A story bearing the dateline of Nashwauk says that 20 Austrians, Finns, and Italians were arrested this morning for picketing. They were taken to the Grand Rapids jail.

Though things were generally quiet on the Mesaba, sheriff's men were busy investigating wild rumors of shootings and flagging down ore trains with red flares.

The Duluth Herald, P. 29, col. 2; July 15, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 84; Mountain Iron, July 15, 1916  
Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:

A story says that the Mountain Iron Commercial Club adopted a resolution upholding Governor Burnquist.

The Duluth Herald, P. 15; July 17, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 85; Virginia, July 17, 1916  
Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:

The only news of any importance appears in the Iron Range section, page 15, says that that loss of money due to the strike is \$2,000,000, which includes wages that would have been paid to the miners. The remainder of the loss was to the steel corporation and to St. Louis county, both of whom placed many extra men on guard duty. It is estimated officially that there are 2,000 men on police duty in the Mesaba region.

Six men were fined \$50 each in Virginia court for unlawful assemblage.

The Duluth Herald, P. 15, col. 1; July 18, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 86; Virginia, Minn., July 18, 1916  
Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:

A headline in the Range news section says:

#### "STRIKE NEWS QUITE SCARCE"

The story reports that quiet exists on the Mesaba Range but that all the strike leaders are being closely watched, including Keyes, attorney for the strikers. Keyes stepped into a cab in front of his hotel, and a detective approached the driver and asked him where Keyes was going. "'That is none of your business,'" replied the driver. The Herald reports "Incidents of that kind are not uncommon."

A news dispatch from Eveleth says that all the mines in that region are working with "regular or slightly reduced forces," while strike conditions at Hibbing are "almost forgotten." The mine guards, finding the time on their hands rather heavy, are building fortifications at some of the mines. Rock piles, behind which they can hide in case of "attack" by strikers, have been made. An armored car has been built by placing boiler sheathing on the end of a flat car. Many of the mines have installed powerful searchlights that "sweep the countryside for a long distance in every direction. The opinion is freely expressed that some of the efforts of the mine guards at fortifications



are fully as terrifying to the men desiring to return to work as are the threats of the I.W.W. sympathizers....several independent properties, it is declared, have declined to allow them to be constructed on their properties."

The Duluth Herald, P. 9, col. 1; July 19, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 87; no dateline  
Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:

This issue carried an article by John Keyes, attorney for the striking miners, in its "open court" department. Mr. Keyes tells us that Lindquist, Governor Burnquist's representative, requested a secret interview with Keyes and his associates. The interview was granted, the facts were presented to Mr. Lindquist, and he left, again pledging the miners' representatives to secrecy. Shortly afterwards, according to Keyes, strike leaders were seized and jailed.

The Duluth Herald, P. 19, col. 1; July 19, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 87; Aurora, Minn., July 19, 1916  
Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:

A two column headline in the Iron Range section says.

"AURORA PICKETS DISPERSED WHILE BOTHERING HUDSON MEN"

The story goes that these pickets, headed by women "threw stones and gravel" at miners in the Hudson mine. One man, Louis Novak, was arrested.

The Duluth Herald, P. 19, col.1; July 19, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 87; Chisholm, July 19, 1916  
Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:

A Chisholm striker was sentenced to 90 days for intimidation, without option of fine.... Things were quiet in the Mesaba district.... At Hibbing, two deputies "engaged in a free-for-all battle" between themselves; they were parted by other deputies.

The Duluth Herald, Thurs., July 20, 1916--There is nothing in this issue worth writing about.

The Duluth Herald, P. 11, col. 2; July 20, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 88; no dateline  
Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:

The thirteen miners and members of the I.W.W., charged with the murder of deputy Myron, received a preliminary hearing today before Judge Smaller. The hearing is expected to last three or four days, and all aspects of the case are likely to be aired. The courtroom was crowded.

The Duluth Herald, P. 11, col. 3; July 20, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 88; no dateline  
Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:



A story bearing a Two Harbors dateline states the Duluth and Iron Range property is being destroyed. Cutting air couplings seems to be a popular pastime. A Finnish woman was arrested.

The Duluth Herald, P. 16, col. 1; July 21, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 89; July 21, 1916  
Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:

In a news dispatch, Pentecost Mitchell, vice president of Oliver Iron Mining company, states that the miners never made any official demands upon the steel officials. (In the light of former news dispatches, appearing even in the same paper, this statement is not true---CAV.)

The Duluth Herald, Mon., July 24, 1916--There was little in this issue, except the customary stories of picketing and arrests for such.

The Duluth Herald, Tues., July 25, 1916 and Wed., July 26, 1916---No strike news worth while in these issues.

The Duluth Herald, P. 15, col. 1; July 27, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 94; July 27, 1916  
Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:

The trial of the men charged with the murder of Deputy Myron continues. In reporting the trial, the Herald spared no words in painting a black picture of Scarlet and Tresca. Many things were aired, but there was nothing about the actual murder of Deputy Myron.

The Duluth Herald, P. 15; col. 1; July 27, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 94; July 27, 1916  
Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:

A Gilbert woman was arrested for throwing eggs at miners.... Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, who made a speech at Hibbing, was ridiculed in the press.... The strike situation is fairly quiet, according to the press.

The Duluth Herald, P. 16, col. 2; July 28, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 95; July 28, 1916  
Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:

Ten of the strikers are held for the murder of Deputy Myron, while four were set free. Tresca and Sam Scaret are among those still held over. Those held over must await a grand jury action, which will be held at Virginia.

The Duluth Herald, P. 16, col. 1; July 28, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 95; Virginia, Minn., July 28, 1916  
Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:

Virginia strikers march, "escorted" by ten deputy sheriffs carrying rifles. The band, which led the parade, had to quit playing because it was "too noisy."

The Duluth Herald, Sat., July 29, 1916; Monday, July 31, 1916; Tuesday, August 1, 1916--There was no pertinent strike news in any of these issues.

The Duluth Herald, p. 17, col. 1; Aug. 2, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 99; Hibbing, Minn., Aug. 2, 1916  
Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:

Deputy Sheriff Peter Wring was struck on the head by a rock at the Kitzville location, near Hibbing, during a small riot. Men and women threw eggs, pepper and rocks. No arrests have been made yet, but it is reported that the man who threw the rock which struck Wring has been identified and it is expected that he will be arrested some time today. The report does not say how badly the sheriff was actually injured, if at all.

The Duluth Herald, Thurs., Aug. 3, 1916 and Friday, Aug. 4, 1916--There is no pertinent strike news in these issues.

The Duluth Herald, P. 16, col. 1; Aug. 5, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 102; Gilbert, Minn., Aug. 5, 1916  
Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:

Men going to work at the Corsica mine this morning were "harrassed" by about 60 men and women strike pickets. The pickets pounced on the men and uttered "vile curses," but according to news reports, the miners paid no attention to the pickets, continuing on their way to the mine.

The Duluth Herald, P. 16, col. 1; August 5, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 102; Virginia, Minn., Aug. 5, 1916  
Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:

Eight shots were fired into a boarding house at Kinney, reports the Herald, three sizes of bullets being used. No arrests have yet been made, but it is expected some one will be arrested later in the day....two Eveleth women were fined ten dollars each for throwing eggs at non-striking miners.... A Finn, Jacob Sernn, was fined \$7.50 for using abusive language on a public street.

The Duluth Herald, P. 19, col. 2; August 7, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 103; Crosby, Minn., Aug. 7, 1916  
Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:

This issue of the Herald carries a short dispatch to the effect that the Croft mine at Crosby, on the Cuyuna Range, is closed because of labor difficulties. Led by the I.W.W., the miners are asking \$3.00 per day for working in the dry places and \$3.50

for working in the wet places. The dispatch does not say how many hours a day the men are putting in, or how much per day they are being paid now.

The Duluth Herald, P. 19, col. 1; August 7, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 103; Hibbing, Minn., Aug. 7, 1916  
Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:

A man named Joseph Blavo was arrested and charged with second degree assault as the man who allegedly threw the rock which struck Deputy Wring; there is still nothing said concerning Wring's injury. Blavo's bond was fixed at \$750.

The Duluth Herald, Tues., Aug. 8, 1916; Wed., Aug. 9, 1916; Thurs., Aug. 10, 1916--  
There was no strike news worth mentioning in these three issues.

The Duluth Herald, P. 21, col. 3; Aug. 11, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 107; Virginia, Minn., Aug. 11, 1916  
Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:

There is a story in this issue about Alice Arcola, how she hit an officer's hand, and that she got a sentence of 60 days or a fine of \$102.50 for it. The dispatch does not say that she bit the officer in defense when he clutched her breast, leaving black and blue marks on her body. Three other strikers were held on \$300 bail each, while several others--who are accused of shouting and spitting at miners--will face the judge this afternoon. The dispatch goes on to enumerate the "violent" deeds of the strikers, and in praise of the imported mine guards.

The Duluth Herald, P. 21, col. 3; August 11, 1916  
Vol. 34, No. 107; Crosby, Aug. 11, 1916  
Old Tribune Building; before May 1, 1939:

Several strikers in the Crosby district were arrested.



Clayton A. Videen  
April 17, 1939

1916 STRIKE (cont.)

Duluth Herald, Monday, July 3, 1916:

"Virginia, Minn., July 3--That 10 days of two weeks will see the restoration of industrial peace in the strike section of the iron range country is the general opinion of disinterested people and that the iron miners have lost their strike is generally conceded. That is realization is dawning upon them is apparent in the admissions that the strike has been badly handled and that it was never properly organized.

"One hundred pickets turned out this morning to picket various mines. Their activities were undertaken quietly and without demonstration.

"Frank Russell, I.W.W. worker, was jailed by police for undue activity. Frank  
\* Dawson, photographer for the International News Association, was ordered to leave the city by noon or submit to arrest. Dawson is a newspaper man who has been, at the request of the leaders, sending out accounts of the strike to the labor and Socialist press, but is not affiliated with the I.W.W. He declined to obey the sheriff's order.

"Men are applying for work at mines operating this morning. They were turned away.

"I do not believe; said one superintendent, 'the time has come to take men back. We shall wait until conditions are more settled.'

"The situations at the mines is unchanged. Operators view the general conditions more optimistically. Miners are not showing the enthusiasm of a week ago and ranks of strikers are depleted by the exodus to other fields and general apathy to the cause.

"Elizabeth Gurley Flynn is expected to arrive on the range during the week with other leaders.

"A brakeman on an ore train, being unable to throw a switch on the main line of the Iron Range road at the Hill approach was said to have found five sticks of dynamite in the frog where the tracks branch off into the Alberta and Norman Mines. The dynamite was said to be in the possession of Roadmaster Owens, but the latter denies it. Carlo Tresco, the strike leader arrested late Saturday, gave \$300 bail, furnished by Sam Scarlett Sunday afternoon, and was released by Judge Carey. He is charged with unlawful assembly and inciting riot.

"Last night strike leaders wired the following to Governor J.A.A. Burnquist at St. Paul.

"'You instructed sheriff to disarm mines, peaceful citizens.'

"'We submit herewith gross violation of personal liberty of miners and ask you to remove all mine guards from within city limits of mining towns. Otherwise, our miners will be instructed to defend themselves by constitutional rights.'

"'Seven mine guards forcibly entered home of strikers at Gilbert Friday night June 30, 1916, with drawn guns. They threatened strikers if they do not return to work. They snatched a baby from the arms of its mother and brutalized it.'

"'The clear facts in our possession are ready to be submitted to your representatives.'

"'George Andreytchine was imprisoned twenty-four hours in Itasca County without a charge being placed against him. Inquiry was futile. Are we in Russia?'

"' (signed) Sam Scarlett, Carlo Tresca, F. Rusel, Joe Gilday, L. Ha Lareen, V. Wesaman, S. Atovioni, M. Shustrick, J.S. Siltis.'

"So far as known no answer had been received up to noon.

"When Carlo Tresca was arrested last night he tore up a letter. Tonight police searched for and found the missing parts, giving Tresca instructions from William D. Haywood, leader of the strikers."

"Biwabik, Minn., July 3--David Owens, local roadmaster of the Iron Range, credited with having in his possession five sticks of dynamite reported found by a brakeman of an ore train in what is called the Hill switch of the Iron Range road, tightly packed in a frog, where the tracks branch off to the Alberta and Norman Mines at Virginia denied the story today. 'There is no truth in the report,' he declared, 'make it as strong as you want to.'"

"Conditions here today appear normal. While few, if any, men are working in underground mines loading from stockpiles at the Bangor and the Belgrade mines continues uninterrupted and the normal amount of ore is being shipped from the district. The same condition is reported over the balance of the Eastern Mesaba. If anything, there is a slight increase in the picketing going on here, but this does not appear to affect shipping operations very much."

This comes from Nashwauk:



\* "Sheriff Gunderson, assisted by 100 deputies, met the Great Northern passenger train Saturday night and caused the arrest of two strike leaders, who were immediately taken to the county jail at Grand Rapids. Some strikers are taken from the train, were marched uptown under guns and told to return to Keewatin. A meeting of local strike agitators at the Finnish hall Sunday night ended in a vote to strike. About 400 deputies and all the special police are here patrolling the mines. All the mines were short-handed this morning. No violence has as yet been started."

"Ely, Minn., July 3--I.W.W. agitators who came here to stir up trouble among the mines, will get summary treatment and be hustled out of town according to local officials. The city police department added ten more men today and Oliver police added eight. Jacob Harbela and Mike Zavarionosof, alias Demeture, two of the agitators who struck here early yesterday and began circulating dodgers calling for a meeting to be held last night to organize men into the I.W.W., were arrested. The first named, when arraigned before Judge Schafer today, was released, the other was fined \$5 and costs, which he paid. Both were ordered out of town and the authorities believe they will be able to head off any strike agitation here, as the men working appear to be satisfied. A third agitator arrested was also released."

"Hibbing, Minn., July 3--Local people are hopeful that a meeting planned here tonight of the range, village and city officials, mining men, miners and others, to try to bring about a settlement, may bear fruit and put an end to the unfortunate conditions now prevailing on the range.

"Striking miners at Carson Lake yesterday afternoon caused the only disturbance of any consequence in the Hibbing district. Joseph Vernich and John Severia, better known as 'Big John' were arrested, the former charged with creating a disturbance and the latter on a charge of carrying weapons and inciting riot. The sheriff's office was notified that Severia was carrying a loaded rifle and was taking a defiant attitude toward the deputies stationed at the Carson Lake location.

"Receiving orders to arrest Severia the deputies raided a shack where Severia lives. In the battle that followed, Severia, who is a powerful man, gave the officers a hard tussle, but he was finally placed under arrest.



"In the evening Deputy Sheriff Wring took his prisoner to the village jail in Hibbing. Twenty deputies with rifles kept a crowd back with rifles that threatened at any minute to attempt the rescue of their countrymen. Searching the home, the deputies found a loaded 38 rifle, a shotgun, two knives and a long club with the letters I.W.W. painted in green upon it.

"The deputies took the small arsenal back to Hibbing with them. Last evening the location was guarded by numerous deputies, who were on their guard for an outbreak.

"Joseph Vernich was arrested yesterday morning by guards when he refused to move on when ordered by the officers to do so. Crowds of I.W.W. sympathizers who attempted to congregate in the postoffice at the Leetonia location were ordered to move on. There were no meetings at Workers hall last night, and no parades were held yesterday afternoon. Mining men are of the opinion that after the meeting this evening the I.W.W. leaders will be seeking new fields...."

"Eveleth, Minn., July 3--Mayor J.S. Saari has received the following letter requesting that Oliver Mine guards be removed:

"To the Mayor of Eveleth: Dear Sir--We, the striking miners, earnestly request that you use your best officers in removing the mining company guards from the streets of Eveleth. We, the miners, wish to conduct a peaceful strike, but we find we are being attacked on the streets by mining company guards.

"If you cannot comply with the request, please state so, as we will then proceed to arm ourselves (which is our constitutional right) and defend ourselves, our wives and children, even though our lives be lost in the effort.

"We refuse to accept any responsibility or any consequences in the event you do not remove the company guards from the city.

"Trusting that you can settle this matter immediately, we are, yours very truly,

"The Miners' Union of Eveleth...."

According to a news dispatch, union organizers are still unsuccessful in their efforts to get the Two Harbors dock workers to strike. The properties are heavily guarded by armed men and no strangers are permitted near the iron ore property.

Duluth Herald, July 4, 1916:

A 3-col. head near the bottom of the front page is as follows:

"DEPUTY MYRON AND BYSTANDER KILLED AND DEPUTY SCHUBISKY HURT WHILE SERVING  
WARRANTS"

Then the following sub-head in slightly smaller type:

POPULAR MAN IS VICTIM OF LAWLESSNESS"

Another sub-head in smaller type:

"THOMAS LADVALA, BYSTANDER SLAIN BY STRAY BULLET"

"James C. Myron, one of the best known and most popular men in Duluth, was killed last evening at Biwabik by a bullet fired by a striking miner inflamed against law and order by the anarchistic doctrines of the I.W.W. men who are just now making the range a place where peacefully inclined people can not safely reside.

"Deputy Sheriff Edward Schubisky was struck over the head by a woman who took part in the melée, and knocked to the ground. Lying there probably saved his life.

"Thomas Ladvala of Biwabik, who peddled soft drinks about the streets, was hit and killed by a stray bullet. He had no part in the fight.

"The riot occurred when Deputies Schubisky, Myron and others approached a house containing striking miners to serve warrants. The woman, Mrs. Philip Morsonovitch, wife of one of the strikers, started the riot by rushing out and knocking Deputy Schubisky down with a pole. Then the shooting began.

"That Duluth was shocked at the news of the shooting of J.C. ('Jimmie') Myron is giving it conservatively. Few men in Duluth were better known and perhaps none were more popular. That he should come to his death by a bullet of a fanatic seems ill-fitting for a man to whom and with whom all mankind were friends.

"Making the circumstances surrounding his death even more tragic is the fact that his two sons, R.C. Myron of Duluth and Earl W. Myron of International Falls, have enlisted for services on the Mexican border, and were with the Duluth battalion of the third Minnesota regiment when notified of the tragic end of their father, at an early hour this morning. They arrived home this afternoon at 2:50, having been granted a leave of absence to be with their mother during at least a portion of the great grief that has assailed her.

"R.C. Myron was a member of the Militia and went with his company when the call to arms came. The younger son, Earl, came from International Falls to enlist, and did



so, much against the will of his mother. Whether or not she had a premonition that she would need him is doubtful, but she was much opposed to giving her two boys to the service at this time, even though the second one might go at a second call. Earl, however, enthused, and believing it the duty of every able-bodied man to offer himself to the service of the nation when it looked like war, would not be brooked, and enrolled with the Duluth contingent.

"Whether one of the sons can be released from the oath he has taken to serve the United States as a soldier is a question, but it would appear that if ever woman needed the support of a son, Mrs. Myron does now and from now on. She is robbed of her husband, killed while opposing the nation's enemies within the country, while the boys have enrolled to fight, if need be, the enemies from without.

"When the news of the shooting came last night, Donald A. Cameron and John G. Ross, two prominent Scotsmen of Duluth, were asked to break the news to the stricken woman. Mr. Cameron called her up to see if she had learned anything...she had not....

"....Mr. Cameron and Mr. Ross went out to Lakeside, to the Myron home. However, before they got there some overly-anxious or curious person had told her the news over the telephone and the two men found Mrs. Myron in a condition verging on collapse. They then began trying to reach the sons at Camp Bobleter, using the telegraph and telephone. At an early hour this morning, they succeeded....

"No arrangements can be made for a funeral yet, for it is not known just when the body can be brought to Duluth from Biwabik. The coroner's inquest must be disposed of before the remains can be sent....

"'Jimmie' Myron was a native of Dufton, near Aberdeen, Scotland, born there June 16, 1857. He was not a member of the Clan Stewart of Duluth, as many supposed.... He came to Sherbrooke, Quebec, Canada in 1873 and remained there until 1880 when he came West to St. Paul. Two years later he was married....for a time lived in St. Cloud. In 1905 the Myrons came to Duluth....served for a time as city assessor...."

On page 3 there are portrait pictures of James C. Myron and Edward Schubisky.

"Biwabik, Minn., July 4---Biwabik is quiet today after the most sensational experience in its history late Monday, when officers seeking to serve a warrant for blindpiggings in one of the locations battled with blindpiggers, strikers and others,



resulting in the death of a deputy sheriff and a citizen who had been pressed into service by the officers, and the wounding of several others. The battle was fought outside and in a building in the Chicago location shortly before 5 p.m. Monday. The officers were armed with revolvers while others used not only pistols but clubs and some say rifles. The scene of the battle today looks like a slaughter house, the floor and walls being spattered with blood and bullet marks.

"There came near being a lynching here after the accused were arrested and brought to the city lockup. The jail is near the hospital in which some of the wounded were being treated, and the crowd surged back and forth, while the air was full of threats. Swarms of Deputy Sheriffs took the men alleged to have done the killing, also a woman implicated, to Virginia, where they were locked up. Coroner Bray will hold an inquest over the dead, probably today in Seeley's morgue, where the bodies were taken.

"When the excitement broke last evening, it is said the saloon keepers voluntarily closed their places, and all are closed today. Mayor Golathorpe called off the Fourth of July celebration, and there will be no gatherings of any sort permitted until the excitement cools off. The village swarms with deputy sheriffs and special police, alert for any who seek to cause a disturbance.

"The net result of yesterday afternoon's clash is:

"Dead:

"James C. Myron, married, of Duluth, deputy sheriff, shot through neck.

\* "Thomas Ladvalla of Biwabik, 'pop' man, single, aged 35, who was passing when the fighting started and lost his life trying to aid the officers.

"The wounded:

"Deputy Sheriff Ed Schubisky of Duluth, seriously wounded, is in Nenont hospital at Virginia.

"Joe Orlandich, Joseph Cernoger, Philip Marsonovich and Joe Meeklich, all accused of firing on the officers, more or less wounded and later taken to the Virginia jail to prevent lynching excepting, who was shot twice through the thigh and is in a local hospital.

"Deputy Sheriff Schubisky accompanied by Deputy Sheriffs Myron and Ed Hoffman and special mine guard Nick Dillon, went to the house in the Chicago location to serve the

blind pig warrant on John Orlandich and Philip Marsonovich. Schubisky was first and as he approached the door it is said Mrs. Philip Marsonovich, armed with a long pole, barred the way and struck him, knocking him to the ground, his gun falling from him. Then the other men in the house appeared with weapons and firing became general, Myron being killed by a bullet through the neck. Ladvalla, who was passing, rushed to the aid of the officers and was shot through the body. Schubisky, Dillon and Hoffman returned the fire and an awful fusillade resulted.

"Chief of Police William O'Hara of Biwabik, aided by deputies, police and others, rushed to the Chicago location as the smoke of battle was clearing away and arrested Orlandich, Marsonovich, Orgoger and Meekich, the latter being so badly wounded he was taken to the hospital whither Schubisky had also been removed. Mrs. Marsonovich was also arrested when the officers got down town with the accused men. A great mob formed and surged about the hospital and the jail and made many threats of lynching the accused. Then it was that the deputies spirited the accused away to Virginia. It was said today that Nick Dillon, who is a special for the Pickands-Mather Company, has been unusually distasteful to the strikers and that his presence along with the other officers who went to serve the blind pig warrant is believed to have inflamed the men who put up a fight rather than be arrested on a pigging charge....

"Parties who came in from the Chicago location, where the battle raged declared today the house was a shambles, with blood and bullet holes through walls, doors and windows. That more officers were not killed in view of the fact it is stated there were rifles used by the people in the house is considered remarkable."

"Hibbing, Minn., July 4--A meeting of the village councils of the range, with Mayor Power presiding, went into executive session last night and was held behind closed doors. No newspaper men were allowed and a guard kept everyone nearing the meeting hall away. No mining men, or representatives of the I.W.W. or working men were at the meeting.

"It could not be learned what was transacted outside the fact that the members of the different councils devised a means of bringing the strike to an end. No details were given out."

"Virginia, Minn., July 4--Carlo Tresca, F.H. Little, and J. Gilday, I.W.W. organizers;



Joe Cernogortovich, John Orlandich, Phil Marsonovich and Joseph Neekich, held on a charge of murder, first degree, on instructions of County Attorney Warren E. Greene to Sheriff Meining for participation in the battle between deputy sheriffs and others at the Chicago location near Biwabik yesterday evening when officers went to serve warrants charging Neekich and Marsonovich with blindpiggings, coercion and unlawful assemblage for undue activity as pickets, were taken to Duluth on a special train this morning under a heavy guard of deputy sheriffs. The train left Virginia shortly after 6 o'clock. The men were removed for fear of demonstration on the part of strikers and pursuant to orders from the county attorney. No street crowds gathered, however, and there was nothing to indicate the strikers intended to storm the jail, as rumored about the city.

"There was a miners' union meeting at the Socialist opera house this morning. Leaders refused to give out statements. The Socialist picnic is planned for the North side this afternoon. Local strike leaders may speak.

"W.D. Dawson, in charge of the strikers' publicity bureau, characterized the arrest of Tresca, Little and Gilday as kidnapping. They declared it was a move that would win the strike for the men and would result in the strike being amply financed from outside sources. Other leaders declared a new corps of I.W.W. organizers is on the way to the city to take charge of the situation.

"Sheriff Meining is at Biwabik this morning. Fifty new deputies were sworn in to service today. The sheriff is at all times in close touch with the situation. Orders are given to suppress all meetings in Socialist halls on the range, to arrest all strike leaders and prevent public demonstrations of every nature by strikers.

"Edward Schubinsky, the deputy sheriff of Duluth, badly beaten up in the fight at the Chicago location, Biwabik, is resting easily at the Lemont hospital. He is out of danger. He was badly cut about the head and body.

"No Virginia mines were working today. They are expected to resume operations tomorrow with increased forces."

"Hibbing, Minn., July 4--There is practically nothing doing here today in the way of strike news. The mines are all closed and consequently there are no attempts at picketing. Up to noon there had been no meetings of miners or strikers and so far as



is known none is planned.

"John Severda, arrested by deputies of the Sheriff's office at Carson Lake Sunday evening on the charge of inciting riot was committed to jail yesterday by Judge Brady in default of \$750 bail. His hearing was set for July 10.

"Joseph Bernich, arrested at Carson lake Sunday morning on disorderly conduct was committed to jail on default of \$150 bail and his hearing was set for next Thursday morning at 10 o'clock.

"Harry Faber White and Attorney Keyes, representing the I.W.W., appeared before Judge Thomas Brady on Monday afternoon and asked that the cash bail of George Eiloff, arrested on a charge of exciting riot, be changed to a property bail. The two bondsmen for whom the I.W.W. attorneys asked for a hearing so as to determine their ability to furnish a property bail furnished amusement and brought out some interesting testimony.

"Dominic Today said he was fifty years old and said he had been working for the Laura mine for seven years and in that time had saved sufficient money to purchase a home at 410 McKinley street.

"'Why are you not working now?' asked Judge Brady. 'I am afraid to work. I am afraid some one will kill me if I do,' replied the would-be bondsman.

"'Are you married?' asked Attorney White. 'Yes, six times,' replied Today. It was explained that Today was a little perplexed as to the question and that he meant six children instead.

"The I.W.W. leaders in the courtroom who attempted to aid the witness in questions directed at him, were advised by Judge Brady that he would order the informers from the courtroom and would fine them for contempt of court.

"Judge Brady took the question of an exchange of bail under advisement.

"Armed deputies ready for any emergency which may occur have the Hibbing-Chisholm district well guarded against any attempts of the I.W.W. leaders to incite riot.

"That a certain building on Third avenue near the scene of the riot last Thursday evening, where several Oliver deputies and Chief of Police Teller were seriously injured by knives in the hands of I.W.W. sympathizers was a miniature arsenal where guns and rifles were ready for instant action comes to light with a search of the building yesterday.

"The building in question was located near the pit and it was the claim of deputies that up over the place of business were men, awaiting the signal for the starting of the shooting to blaze away, at the armed guards.

"The building is being closely watched and in the event of further trouble in that neighborhood will be guarded by deputies.

"The Hibbing district enjoyed a quiet Monday. Popular opinion is so strong against the I.W.W. here that the community is willing to take steps at any time to place the men who utter inflammatory statements behind the bars."

"Eveleth, Minn., July 4--Although there is tense feeling here due to the strike and general regret because members of Company F,M,N,G., were not here to take part in the usual parade, the Fourth is being observed with quite a display. The parade was considered a good one under the circumstances, with prizes offered for the best decorated automobiles. There were also patriotic exercises, followed by athletic stunts and various sports."

"Hibbing, Minn., July 4--The Fourth of July parade held here this morning was smaller than usual, due to the fact that local conditions are rather distracting and because of the strike and because the militia boys were not on hand to take part...."

I.W.W. strike leaders, Gilday, Tresca and Little, who were arrested yesterday in connection with instigating riots on the Mesaba range were brought here this morning in a special train.... In the same train were four of the many striking miners who were injured in the riot that took place in Biwabik yesterday.... All of the strikers were badly beaten about the head and body.... The injured men are being cared for by Duluth physicians, and when able, will be taken into court, charged with rioting." The following boxed item told about the injuries to the four men.

"Joe Nuenkich, two bullet holes in thigh.

"Joe Crosojoninich, pounded about head.

"John Olandich scalp and body wounds.

"Philip Maronich, scalp wounds and bruised about body."

At an Americanization meeting held in Duluth, at the Armory, O.J. Larson "rapped the I.W.W. agitators, who are misinterpreting the fundamental principles of this government....Mr. Larson spoke briefly on the iron range conditions, saying, 'men have no



right to influence by intimidation.'"

Duluth Herald, Wed., July 5, 1916:

The following 2-col. head appears in the Iron Range Section, p. 18.

"SCARLET AND SCHMIDT ARE TAKEN ON MURDER CHARGE"

And the following sub-heads:

"HANDCUFFED TOGETHER, STRIKE LEADERS ARE EN ROUTE TO JAIL IN DULUTH"

"BELIEVED IN VIRGINIA MANY MORE STRIKE LEADERS WILL BE ARRESTED"

"SHERIFF MEINING BELIEVES STRIKE TROUBLE PRACTICALLY OVER"

"Virginia, Minn., July <sup>5</sup> 4--W.D. Scarlet, the acknowledged first lieutenant of William D. Haywood in conducting the strike on the Mesaba range, walked into the arms of the city police this morning and was promptly arrested on a charge of murder in the first degree.

"Scarlet was accompanied by 'Fellow Worker' Leo Schmidt, Polish leader of the strike, who was also arrested and jailed on the same charge. Scarlet is believed to have been in hiding for the past 36 hours and was probably secreted at the home of some miner. His appearance at the city hall this morning with Schmidt was necessary in lieu of the forfeiture of bail in the sum of \$300 put up when arrested last week with Schmidt, on a charge of riot. Scarlet and Schmidt were ignorant of the charge of murder against them until in the custody of Sheriff Meining. They refused to discuss the strike further than to declare the arrest of the leaders would have the effect of 'solidifying it.' They also declined to say whether Haywood, Elizabeth Curley Flynn or other I.W.W. propagandists would take their places on the range. They declared the strike was now in the hands of the international organization and would not be neglected.

"Scarlet and Schmidt handcuffed together were taken to Duluth on the noon Missabe passenger train. The police and deputy sheriffs are scouring the city with warrants for the arrests of other strike leaders, and it is believed every strike leader will be jailed before tonight. Sheriff Meining heaved a sigh of relief this morning when reports from all sections of the strike indicated improved conditions. The sheriff spent 48 hours without rest. He returned last night from a personal survey of the entire strike scene and was out of bed at 4 a.m. to direct the efforts of deputies going to prevent picketing.



"Only two attempts of picketing were reported on the entire range today at Biwabik and in the Chisholm district. The activities of pickets were quickly suppressed without violence. The sheriff at present is required to police a territory covering more than seventy square miles, ten towns and villages and thirty mining locations and faces a big task. It is generally admitted that he has the situation well in hand. Cases of carbines and police revolvers arrived at the sheriff's range headquarters this morning. All deputies were armed. All are cautioned to maintain cool judgement but to enforce the law at all hazards. A consignment of police clubs was received this morning, 'made in Duluth,' the entire supply in Duluth and range cities had been exhausted.

"Newspaper men were denied admission to the strike headquarters this morning at a meeting of miners in progress. The hall was well filled and frequent outbursts of applause greeted the speakers, exhorting the men. The condition in the mines is unchanged. A few more men applied for work this morning, but the greater number of independent workmen terrorized by the bloodshed of the past ten days, remain at their homes and make no attempt to go to the mines or to attend strikers' meetings.

"'We are prepared for any eventuality,' said Sheriff Meining this morning. 'I believe the strike is practically over, but am not prepared to predict that we will not have further trouble with individuals. We are prepared for it.' The sheriff expressed gratification over the arrest of Scarlet and Schmidt and other leaders. Ed Schubisky, who was injured at Biwabik, is resting easily, and is out of danger."

"Biwabik, Minn., July 5--Dr. C.W. Bray, deputy coroner, will commence an inquest at 2 p.m. into the death of Deputy Sheriff James Myron of Duluth, killed here last Monday in the fight at the Chicago location. County Attorney Greene, E.L. Boyle, his assistant, and many other officers are coming from Virginia to be on hand for the inquest in the village hall. Humane Officer John G. Ross is here from Duluth to take Myron's body to Duluth.

"It was quiet here yesterday and the same can be said today up to 1 p.m., nothing having developed since the terrible occurrence in the Chicago location Monday evening, when Myron and another were killed in the battle with strikers and others. The Bangor and Belgrade mines are both shipping ore today. There is said to be no picketing in this part of the range.

"Yardmaster David Owens of the Iron Range road said there were no new developments in regard to the dynamite found in the switch frog to the Norman mine in Virginia. He said the dynamite was pulverized, mixed with sand, and not in sticks as reported. The case is being probed, but so far as known those working on the case are without clues."

"Hibbing, Minn., July 5--There were no developments in the strike situation here this morning. The open pits are working, but there appears to be little picketing. The strong arm of the law is lessening the liberties heretofore extended strike agitators. Chief Dwyer of the police is quoted as saying there will be no more public gatherings of pickets around mines, although it is not presumed he will object to miners meeting in their hall. Not an arrest was made here yesterday or this morning and no leaders are here. Mining men say more men are being put to work. Former Mayor Pasich of Buhl, arrested for making alleged derogatory statements against deputy sheriffs as a result of the Biwabik tragedy, was not arraigned before Judge Brady yesterday as reported. He was brought here to jail by Deputy Wring and later released. It is understood the charge will not be pressed, not here at least."

"Eveleth, Minn., July 5--Replying to the letter from miners asking that Oliver police be kept from the streets of the city, Mayor Jacob S. Saari said he is powerless to interfere, as the officers are deputy sheriffs. The Mayor in his letter to Eveleth Miners' Union No. 409 says:

"Gentlemen--I beg to acknowledge receipt of your communication, the contents of which I have carefully noted.

"I believe that there are in this city a number of men who have been deputized by the sheriff of St. Louis County. They are officers of the county, sworn in to enforce the laws of the city and state. I have no power of authority to remove them from the streets of the city of Eveleth.

"As Mayor of Eveleth, I have sworn to enforce the laws of the city, state and nation. This I intend to do without fear or favor. I shall see to it that all violations of the law shall be punished. Strikers shall have the right to prosecute their efforts in every lawful manner without unlawful interference by anyone. On the other hand, all unlawful acts, whether by strikers or others, shall be prosecuted and those committing them held to strict accountability for their unlawful conduct.



"The people of our city are confronted by an exceedingly unfortunate and deplorable condition. As Mayor of the city and as an individual, I hold it my duty to do everything within my power to restore harmony and protect the lives and property of all our citizens. This cannot be accomplished without the cooperation of all concerned, strikers and non-strikers included, as no action that I shall take will be without full consideration, so ought the conduct of all be without undue haste and with full appreciation of the rights of others and the consequences of their acts. Let us not be hasty. Let us all act with the ultimate object, the good of all, as our guiding principle.

"Assuring you of an impartial, yet firm, enforcement of the law in the city of Eveleth to the full extent of my power, I am yours very truly,

"J.S. Saari,

"Mayor"

"Buhl, Minn., July 5--Following the Fourth, work has been resumed in the open mines here as follows: Kinney, D.& I., Swallow and Hopkins and Republic Iron and Steel. No undergrounds are working. There has been no picketing here and few evidences of labor troubles. The only untoward incident was the firing of the Dean mine pumphouse Monday evening, presumably by strike agitators. It hindered work for a part of the day until the damage was repaired. The building was a small one."

"Aurora, Minn., July 5--Sam Laish was convicted of coercion in justice court here yesterday afternoon and sentenced to sixty days in the county jail. Laish was arrested on complaint of John Shubina, who stated that Laish had threatened to lock him and his brother boarders in Shubina's house, tip it over and burn the house if they did not cease working at the Fowler mine.

"This was the first arrest locally, although there have been numerous reports of picketing and threats. Many men who were threatened evidently feared to make a complaint. The trial was largely attended, the courtroom being filled with striking members. Good order prevailed."

Chisholm, Minn., July 5--With a total of sixty men returning to work this morning at the various mining properties of the district, and absolutely no evidence of any picketing or disorder, the I.W.W. agitation as far as Chisholm is concerned, appears to be at an end. The Chester mine reports the largest increase in its underground force,



five gangs of miners returning to work there.

"All steam shovels in the Chisholm district are operating with full crews and the scheduled output will be maintained or bettered as it has been during the last ten days.

"One thousand nine hundred forty-five cars of iron ore were shipped from the Oliver mines alone last week, an increase of 400 cars over schedule. No meetings, parades or demonstrations of any kind occurred to mar the quiet of the Fourth, and no crowds congregated on the streets. By order of the police no fire works were allowed to be placed on sale and the Fourth here was the most quiet on record."

"The body of James C. Myron of this city, deputy sheriff who was killed...will be brought tonight to Duluth.... No definite arrangements for the funeral have been completed as yet."

The editorial page displayed a long editorial denouncing the I.W.W. The article stated that the I.W.W. organizers were invading the field of human rights, said they regarded the constitution as "a scrap of paper." The editorial said further concerning the organizers. "They prey upon ignorance and prejudice, and fatten on unemployment, idle industries, destruction of property and wives and children in want."

"Police details guarded the county jail last night against possible attempts on the part of I.W.W. sympathizers to rescue Carlo Tresca, F.H. Little, and Joseph Gilday, leaders of the gang which has been responsible for rioting and disorder in the iron range strike zone, and who are held on a charge of murder by order of the county attorney.

"Fear of a demonstration was responsible for the precaution. V.A. Dash, chief deputy in the office of Sheriff Meining, who is in personal charge of affairs here in Duluth while Mr. Meining is on the ranges, received a telephone message about 10 o'clock last evening from the police to the effect that a mob of agitators were headed for the jail, and to lock everything up tight and be prepared.

"Ten minutes later Mr. Dash saw a company of about 300 men, said to be mostly Finnish Socialists, marching four abreast along Third Street towards the jail. The men, however, turned at Sixth avenue east, and went into Turner hall, where a meeting was staged. Deputy Dash telephoned the police station, notifying them of the presence of the men in the neighborhood and the sergeant in charge at headquarters dispatched

several men to the jail.

"After the meeting had been concluded the crowd disbanded.... The police stopped any reference to the strike situation or to take up a collection for the good of the order."

Duluth Herald, Thurs., July 6, 1916:

"Judge Cutting, in municipal court this morning, denied Attorney John A. Keyes' motion for dismissal of the case against the striking miners brought down from the Mesaba range and charged with first-degree murder in connection with the death of Deputy Sheriff James C. Myron Monday night.

"Six of the men who have been arrested and held at the county jail were brought before Judge Cutting in municipal court this morning.

"Attorney Keyes moved that the charges against the men be dismissed and that they be freed on the ground that legal means were not taken to arrest them. He claims that no warrants were served by the sheriffs who arrested the men.

"The examination for all six of the men was set for July 21 at 10 a.m. Eighteen men held on first-degree murder charges are now in the county jail. Several more will be brought into municipal court this afternoon and a date set for their examination. If, in the court examination, the court officials think there is sufficient ground for a trial of the prisoners, they will be bound over to the grand jury, which convenes in September.

"Those who were brought up this morning are: Frank A. Little, 38, born in Illinois; Carlo Tresca, 37, editor of an I.W.W. paper, born in Italy; Joseph Gilday, 23, I.W.W. and reporter organizer, born in Pennsylvania; John Orlandich, 27; Philip Mesonovich, 35; and Joe Cermogarpovick, mine workers."

"Virginia, Minn., July 6--Indications that the strike is at an end so far as its demonstrative phases are concerned continue to accumulate today. Reports received at Sheriff Meining's headquarters from the entire zone this morning indicated there was no activity by pickets at any point on the range at the charge of shifts this morning. Some additional men were reported applying for work at such mines as are being operated. There is a general disposition among operators to let the situation drift for the present, but the first of next week, it is believed, will witness a resumption of work at many



properties now idle.

"John Koivu, prominent in the strike of 1907 as secretary of the range units of the Western Federation of Miners, appears to be at the head of strike activities at present. The men are making no statements. The attendance at meetings is small and little attempt is made apparently to get meetings on a scale of those attempted earlier in the trouble.

"Twenty additional deputies were sworn in by Sheriff Meining this morning and assigned to duty in the Chisholm and Hibbing districts. The sheriff considers the situation in the best shape of any time in the past two weeks, but fears there will be spasmodic outbreaks of violence fostered by individuals."

"Virginia, Minn., July 6--With their ranks depleted by the departure of hundreds of men to other industrial fields, where there is industrial peace; with their leaders in the county jail at Duluth facing charges of murder in the first degree, preferred at the direction of the county attorney's office, and with armed guards patrolling every mine where any attempt at operation is being carried on, the condition is considered far from being reassuring by the striking miners.

"Beyond the arrest of Leaders W.D. Scarlet, Leo Schmidt and 'Fellow Worker' Ahlgren and the coroner's inquest at Biwabik over the bodies of James C. Myron and Thomas Ladvalla....there were few important developments in the strike situation yesterday.

"Sheriff John R. Meining with his special deputies, his regular deputies and the deputies in the service of the various mining concerns is now at the head of an army of 800 men and is directing all their activities. Every man under the sheriff's direction was armed last night. Carbines, high powered police revolvers, and rioting clubs are in the hands of the deputies. Every man has a firearm. Cases of rifles and firearms have been arriving on the range for the past ten days consigned to the various mining companies. In some instances the smaller concerns have not armed their mine guards, but it was authoritatively stated that every mine guard and every deputy sheriff on duty last night was armed. Sheriff Meining completed a second personal survey of the range last night. At its conclusion he announced that the situation for the day was satisfactory and that while it is his belief that the strike is broken there will be no relaxing of the redoubled vigilance of the past few days until it is finally established



there is no further danger of violence. 'Keep cool, but act promptly, vigorously and positively to prevent violations of the law and accord full protection to the property interests and all private interests and all private individuals,' is the sheriff's instructions to his deputies.

"While it is generally conceded that the strike is broken there is general speculation as to when the mines will attempt to resume work. On the Eastern Mesaba, in the territory between Virginia and Aurora the situation is unchanged during the past two weeks.

"At the headquarters of the strikers it was given out that there would be a meeting of the general strike committee today, which was expected to call a conference of mining officials, range city and village officials and Sheriff Meining to discuss means of amicably settling the strike. Mining men maintained their attitude that they would not take part in any conference with the I.W.W. They decline to believe that any conference arranged at this time would be without its influence and take the position that for this reason a conference cannot be considered. Available city officials stated they would attend such a conference. Over the city sentiment for a conference or any action that would tend to adjust the present differences miners and mine operators is growing.

"Gust Lindquist, personal representative of Governor Burnquist on the range secretly since one week ago Monday, was said to have departed yesterday for St. Paul. Lindquist maintained an incognito while in Virginia and did not approach any of the city officials and the striking miners of their representative. Sympathizers of striking miners severely criticized his attitude. He was never available to interviewers but with representatives of the operators was in close touch with the situation.

"In this territory, the major portion of the mines are in the hands of independent operators, who have generally pursued a conservative policy since the beginning of the strike. From most of these properties come reports that men are daily applying for work, but the operators are not ready to resume activities, as long as there is reason to believe that such a course might precipitate new violence. Their attitude is one of 'Watchful waiting.' Many of the independents would have preferred to have the mines closed down generally until the labor trouble had expended itself of its own volition.

None of them are giving out any statements of when they will attempt to resume.

"In the Virginia district the Oliver Iron Mining Company continues to operate some of its properties. In this district it has never been subjected to a complete close down. It is daily turning men away from its mines who seek employment.

"Elizabeth Gurley Flynn is expected to arrive on the range and take charge of the strike for the miners. However, anxiety was expressed last night as to whether she might not be apprehended in Duluth before her arrival in this city. 'Gurley Flynn has won many a strike that was lost,' is the way one of the strikers put it last night. 'She can put new life into this situation.' However, with Sheriff Meining maintaining his present activity and with the emphatic orders from Governor Burnquist, it is not impossible that Gurley Flynn may never reach the Mesaba range."

"Hibbing, Minn., July 6--Deputy Sheriff Lockhart today arrested John Westanen of Hibbing on the charge of first degree murder in connection with the Biwabik killing and he was sent to Duluth.... He was locked up in jail, and the Missabe train left for Duluth when he was taken aboard. Westanen has lived and worked here several years and joined the I.W.W. movement early in the game.

"There were no disturbances here this morning so far as could be learned at 1 p.m. There is an absence of picketing and much of the excitement during the first days of the strike appears to have subsided. Seventy more men were added to the Mahoning pit today. Sixty men went back to work yesterday with the promise that they would be given protection to and from their homes.... With the orders of Police Chief Dwyer that no more unlawful assemblage would be allowed on the streets, local citizens are of the opinion that the strike is about ended."

"Two Harbors, Minn., July 6--Unable to induce the local Iron Range dock laborers to strike, the I.W.W. agitators who have been festering the city for the past week, have given up the idea as a bad job and have left. Although several meetings were held at various times with ore dock men, their 'line of talk' apparently did not take well with the men and they went back to work each day, entirely ignoring the pleadings and demands of the I.W.W. Business was never better on the Iron Range railroad than at present...."

Duluth Herald, Friday, July 7, 1916:



A 2-col. head on page 21, in the Iron Range section, says:

"MESABA RANGE TROUBLE APPEARS ABOUT ENDED"

"Hibbing, Minn., July 7--The miners strike on this range is over or some one is fooling.

"There appears to be a lack of all the tense feeling that has prevailed in this section for several weeks. The arrest of the ringleaders on murder charges is believed by some to have cooled the ardor of the more belligerent while the steady exodus of active miners from the strike region has also played an important part in restoring sober sense. While it is true there are many rumors Haywood is sending more strike leaders here to take the places of those in jail on murder charges nothing assured along that line is apparent here today.

"Only one case of picketing was reported to the police up to 2 p.m. today. No miners were on the streets and only business meetings are being conducted at Workers' hall.

"Extra deputies from Duluth arrived this morning to take charge of the strike situation."

"Hibbing, Minn., July 7--Up to noon today there had been no strike development in the Hibbing district, the situation being favorable for a speedy settlement of all troubles as many contend the backbone of the strike has been broken.

"It is estimated that at least 1,000 good miners have left this district, preferring to seek work elsewhere rather than confront present local conditions.

"Lack of local strike leaders due to the arrest of several of the ringleaders on a murder charge resulted in Paul De Santo, secretary of the local branch, wiring W.D. Haywood at Chicago last night to the effect that all the leaders had been jailed; that free speech had been muzzled and to send more speakers. Haywood is said to have responded that new leaders are coming and urged organizers be appointed from among the strikers.

"Many of the underground mines have closed down and some of them may not reopen this year.

"The Hibbing police have had little to contend with against picketing and the strikers have obeyed Chief Dwyer's orders to 'keep moving.'

"Hundreds of the local miners have left for the Michigan Copper country where conditions are at their best.

"There are less idle men on the streets than in weeks, either indicating that the men have gone back to work or are tired of congregating on the streets and are ready to go back to work."

"Three mining men claimed that they expected full forces back at work soon. There has been no picketing and no inflammatory speeches at the Workers' hall the past two days.

"The I.W.W. leaders appear to realize that their methods have not won popular sympathy and that their propaganda has made them enemies.

"Adolph Sonaglia, Hibbing citizen and owner of a business place near the Sellers pit, resents the insinuation made that over his place of business was a small arsenal ready for action if the melee near the pit a week ago had assumed larger proportions.

"'I am an American citizen,' said Sonaglia, 'and I believe in law and order. If there were guns up over my place of business in the hands of two strikers who boarded there, it was not to my knowledge.'

"'I am not in accord with the I.W.W., and have not taken a part in this strike in one way or the other,' stated Sonaglia to a reporter."

"Virginia, Minn., July 7--Something like normal conditions returned to the strike zone yesterday. A summing up of the day's developments at Sheriff Meinings office last night disclosed that only at one place on the range had the striking miners attempted any demonstration. It is said that about 100 had attended a miners' meeting at Buhl. There was no picketing reported from any point on the range. Sheriff Meining was well pleased with the general situation last night and declared he was in every way better equipped and better able to handle the strike situation than at any time since it began.

"The real test of whether the strike is broken will come next week, when properties which have been closed for some time may attempt to reopen. It is generally conceded that no move toward this end will be started this week. Operators are confident the men remaining on the range will welcome the opportunity to return to their posts and are certain when it is presented they will avail themselves of it in large numbers.

"The general committee of Miners' unions met here yesterday and arranged a con-



ference with city officials of the range and county officials and mining operators today. Mining officials will not participate, but Mayor Power of Hibbing, Mayor Saari of Eveleth, and Mayor Boylan of Virginia, who were appointed a committee with power to act at a meeting held in Hibbing last week, are expected to attend. 'I am playing no favorites in this situation,' said the sheriff. 'Everybody must observe the law. If I am invited, I shall attend the conference of the men.' Today's conference is expected to get under way shortly after 2 o'clock this afternoon. What it will accomplish is problematical. A probable outcome is believed to be that the mining companies will be asked to confer with the men, apart from I.W.W. influences. Whether such a course will meet with the consideration of the operators has not been indicated."

"Hibbing, Minn., July 7--It developed today that when the representative of Governor Burnquist was on the range looking into strike conditions, he called on Mayor Victor Power, but just what developed from the meeting is not known."

"Virginia, Minn., July 7--Interest in Virginia today centers on a conference which has been called by strikers to attempt to reach a settlement of the strike, and to which municipal and county officials and mine operators have been invited to confer with miners who have worked here.

"An attempt was made at picketing this morning, but the pickets were dispersed by the police without arrests or trouble. More men are working today, the strike situation is the most favorable for several weeks."

Duluth Herald, Sat., July 8, 1916:

The Iron Range department carries the following 2-col. head in large type:

#### "FRANKLIN HOUSE WRECKED BY BIG CHARGE OF DYNAMITE"

"Virginia, Minn., July 8--That Angelo Menana threatened to dynamite his house if he persisted working at the Norman mine, was the statement of Tom Kobiach to Chief of Police Grace of the Franklin location this morning.

"Menana was arrested by Grace at 3 o'clock this morning, walking about the Franklin location, where the home of Kobiach was dynamited. The house was badly wrecked. No members of the Kobiach family, his wife and three small children, were injured.

"Menana will be arraigned before Judge Carey today and will undoubtedly be held to the grand jury on a charge of incendiarism. Seven sticks of dynamite were placed

in the Kobiach residence by prying open the door. Kobiach conducts a boarding house where seven miners who have not stopped working during the strike, reside. Others of the men are alleged to have been threatened.

"Reports received at the Sheriff's office this morning indicate that the strike situation is little changed over the range."

"Chisholm, Minn., July 8--Picketing broke out here again this morning and a mob of over 200 which assembled on Oak street from Central to Second avenue challenged and intimidated men going to and from work. No violence was shown, although several threats were made. Local police were rushed to the scene, but no arrests were made and the mob dispersed shortly after the arrival of the police.

"Men affiliated with the strike movement here state that a concerted effort will be made on Monday to stop all operations at all the mines and violence is expected. Mining operators state they are fully prepared for all emergencies and all men necessary for the operations of the active properties are housed on mining property.

"A meeting of miners held here last night, which was well attended and at which none but miners and I.W.W. sympathizers were allowed admission, the majority are said to have gone on record with a resolution to abandon the strike if they could return to work."

"Hibbing, Minn., July 8--The strike appears to be over as far as the Hibbing district is concerned.

"Yesterday every open pit mine in the Hibbing-Chisholm district was working with greatly increased forces and men are applying for jobs in many underground mines. None of the underground mines will place any extra men until the strike situation is more settled.

"No parades were held yesterday and it is learned that the county authorities will not allow any assemblage in any of the Socialist halls on the range.

"A little picketing in Kittzville was the only disturbance of yesterday, but this did not amount to anything which would give the police trouble."

A news item reported that there was little danger of a strike at Two Harbors.

"The Iron Range Company is continuing to watch their properties by placing special deputies at the most conspicuous places, but thus far they have not encountered any



trouble."

The Bennett mine, near Keewatin, is open again. The men going to and from work are being carefully guarded.

The following 1-col. head is found in the Iron Range Department, in large type:

"LINDQUIST IS SCORED"

And the following sub-heads in smaller type:

"VIRGINIA MEETING PANS GOVERNOR'S REPRESENTATIVE ON MESABA RANGE"

"RESOLUTIONS ARE ADOPTED CENSURING VISITOR FOR IGNORING MINERS"

"Virginia, Minn., July 8--Gus Lindquist, personal representative of Governor Burnquist, who spent ten days on the Mesaba range observing conditions in the strike zone, was severely grilled at the conference of miners, county officials and officials of range municipalities held at the Socialist opera yesterday afternoon, called by the general strike committee of the miners. The meeting unanimously passed a resolution condemning Lindquist's course in neglecting to confer with the miners or with the officials of range villages as un-American and unfair to the citizens of the Mesaba range and ordered a copy of it forwarded to Governor Burnquist.

"During Lindquist's visit to the range he maintained an incognito, and avoided interviewers.

\* "The resolutions follow:

"'At a meeting of the representatives of officials of the different municipalities of the Mesaba range and committees of the striking miners of the different mines on said range at Virginia, Minn., on July 7, 1916, the following resolution was adopted.

"'Resolved, that we, the representatives of all the municipalities on the Mesaba iron range, and committees representing miners from every community, hereby denounce the action of the governor's representative, Mr. Lindquist, on his visit to the Mesaba iron range to investigate conditions as a result of the strike, in ignoring the officials of the municipalities and also ignoring the miners. We regard this action as un-American and absolutely unfair to the citizens of the Mesaba range.

"'Resolved further, that a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Burnquist.'

"It was moved by Fluvio Pettinelli, and seconded by Tony Shragal, that the resolution be adopted. The motion carried.

"Both sides interested in the strike of range iron miners are marking time at present. There were few attempts at picketing yesterday and no violence reported at any point on the range. It is rumored that beginning Monday morning a general effort will be made to resume operations at the mines. Operators, however, do not authorize the statement.

"One result of yesterday's conference was the passage of a resolution seeking a conference with the mining operators with a view to ending the strike amicably. Mining men available last night declared their belief it would not be granted. They said they had nothing to arbitrate and nothing to confer about.

"Seventy miners, representing all the mines on strike attended the conference yesterday. Rupert Swinnerton represented the village of Hibbing, Commissioner Murray represented Mayor Saari of Eveleth, Mayor Boylan was personally present and Recorder Ellsworth of Buhl. St. Louis county was represented by County Attorney Greene. Mayor Boylan of Virginia was elected to preside. The resolution grilling Lindquist, passed by a vive voce vote, was introduced by Trustee Swinnerton of Hibbing. The conferees were pledged to secrecy regarding some of the facts laid before them by the strike committee and would give out little regarding the deliberations of the meeting last night.

"During the meeting Mayor Boylan of Virginia suggested to the representatives of the Miners to go back to work pending efforts to arbitrate the difficulty but his offer was declined by the miners."

"Hibbing, Minn., July 8--Eli Monovich, Steven Dronjak, Ralphel Petti and Dongro Saliavtori, I.W.W. agitators, were yesterday bound over to the grand jury, the first three on charges of rioting and assault in the first degree, and the last one on the charge of inciting riot in the Sellers pit, by Judge Thomas Brady in municipal court.

"Harry Faber White, attorney for Monovich, Dronjak and Petti, waived examination on the charge of assault in the first degree and they were bound over to the grand jury, which will meet in Virginia Aug. 23, without bail.

"They were taken to Duluth today. Saliavtori, who was tried on a charge of rioting, was bound over to the grand jury on \$1,000 bail and his inability to furnish bondsmen means that he will accompany the other 'fellow workers' to the County Jail in Duluth.



"Maurice Clark, alleged to have been attacked by the strikers as he was carrying a dinner pail to work was the first witness.

"Clark testified that the strikers pushed him off the sidewalk, that he lost his dinner pail and that when he remonstrated he was hit over the head.

"Officer Fred Stevens testified to Fette, saying, 'No Americans would be allowed to go to work and that the strikers had picked out the Oliver police chief, Martin Teller, as the man they 'would get.' Hans Hansen, another Hibbing police officer, gave similar evidence.

"E.F. Reimer, a deputy, swore he watched the fight and how Saliavtori and other prisoners, herded men together to get them ready for picketing.

"V.H. Ellis, Indian agent who was near the scene of the battle, testified seeing Dronjak with a knife and pointed him out to police, who later arrested him.

"Richard Giffin, who was approaching the pit, told how he noticed Clark attacked by Fette and others and how he rushed to the young man's assistance.

"Martin Teller, wounded Oliver police chief, stated how he was helping to make an arrest, when Dronjak, with a knife, approached him. Teller did not think Dronjak had a weapon and imagined the latter was using his fist. Then he put up his arms to protect himself and stated that he felt the cut of a knife in his abdomen and when he was hit in the neck and shoulder he sank to his knees near an automobile.

"Other witnesses testified to the threats made by Fette, the carrying of a knife by Monovich and the general demeanor of the striking I.W.W. men."

Duluth Herald, Mon., July 10, 1916:

"Biwabik, July 10--A crowd of strikers, accompanied by women and children, estimated at about 200 in number, passed through here shortly after noon today. They carried the stars and stripes, but no red flags. They went through here in good order and created no disturbances. The marchers left Gilbert this morning and swelled in ranks as they swept along. It was first announced that they would stop here and hold a meet, but as the village officers have allowed no public meetings here, the marchers did not stop, but went on toward Aurora, where it was said they would have a meeting.

"Sheriff Meining and several auto loads of deputy sheriffs trailed behind the column here, then preceded the marchers to Aurora to see that there is no breach of

peace. It was in Aurora that the labor trouble started, and just what the outcome of the gathering will be, if held here, is being watched with interest.... Some more men went to work today in the Genoa pit near Sparta, while a few underground men went to work here. It is understood that new men went to work at the Franklin near Virginia."

Virginia, Minn., July 10--Reports from all sections of the Mesaba range received at the office of Sheriff Meining up to noon today indicated the strike situation is little changed. The operators reported some men going to work in the mines. No attempts at picketing were reported here this morning.

"Strike headquarters in Virginia denied the report that men were going to work in the mines in large numbers. 'Some men are going to work,' said one man, 'but the strike is stronger than ever. The men have not lost. They will stick to the end, if it is a year from now!.... The operators declare they will countenance no movement to settle the strikes that are originated by the I.W.W. Miners....'"

"Hibbing, Minn., July 10--The expected labor disturbances in the Hibbing district failed to materialize this morning. Picketing was carried out to some extent at the Buffalo engine house near the Buffalo pit, the men being warned from going to work by I.W.W. pickets....

"A crowd of I.W.W.'s, near the Finnish Workers' hall, gathered about the building this morning but there was nothing to indicate that a meeting was held. Deputies from the sheriff's office made a tour of the mines in the Hibbing district this morning and then rushed away in automobiles to Hibbing and Aurora, where there was much picketing going on...."

"Buhl, Minn., July 10--Efforts at picketing and intimidating miners seeking to work in the Dean open pit mine here this morning failed as deputy sheriffs drove off the gang and thirty or forty miners were able to go into the pit and work.

"Sunday afternoon about 200 strikers gathered at the Dean pit and all sorts of threats were made but deputies drove the crowd away. The Dean, Kinney and Swallow and Hopkins open pits are working with reduced forces. The presence of many deputies about the mine workings here is believed to have cowed the strike agitators to a certain extent and little trouble is expected."



"Virginia, Minn., July 10--Judge Carey late Saturday held Angelo Menano without bail pending the hearing July 13 on the charge of dynamiting the home of Tom Kobiach in the Franklin location. According to a statement alleged to have been made by Kobiach to the police, he was approached by Menano, who wanted him to go out with the rest of the strikers. When Kobiach refused, it is claimed, threats of the use of dynamite were made."

"Chisholm, Minn., July 10--There was a decided decrease of pickets posted this morning at the approaches to the various mines, not more than fifty men assembling, and they offered no demonstration of any kind...."

I.W.W. organizers reappeared in Two Harbors yesterday, where meetings were held in an effort to gain sympathy for the striking miners on the ranges. The news then states that they were unsuccessful.

1916 STRIKE

The Duluth Herald, Monday, June 5, 1916:

This issue has the following headline, in large print, on page 16 (a single col. head):

"GET MINERS NOT TO WORK"

"Aurora, Minn., June 5--Striking miners march to the Miller Mine this morning and induced the day shift not to go to work. They state that they will visit the other mines when the next shifts are due to start work and induce all the men they can to quit work pending settlement.

"The saloons have been closed and the brewery agencies have been notified to stop deliveries to the location. There seems to be some difference of opinion among the men on the strike question. Many of the married men would like to work. Business men will hold a meeting tonight to discuss the question.

"The miners at the St. James mine are still on strike here, although the company has made efforts to deal fairly with the men. When the men went on strike they claimed they were earning less than the average \$2 a day. It has been learned, however, that the company was paying a minimum wage of \$2.90 per day to all miners for the month of May. Supt. O.J. Ethier, who has charge of the property, has announced to the men that the company would give them contracts for mining and would pay a minimum wage of \$2.90 to all the miners. This means that all the miners would receive at least \$2.90 per day, and those who earned more would get it. The men have refused this proposition and insist on a straight wage of \$3.00 per day, regardless of the amount of ore mined.

"The officers of the St. James have shown a willingness to discuss the wage situation with the men freely, but the men will listen to no other proposals than the one they have made. The St. James mine was opened recently after being idle for about eight years. The mine, when developed, will be a large one, employing in the neighborhood of 300 men. At the time of the strike over 100 men were employed. The surface men are not affected by the strike, only the miners are going out."

The Duluth Herald, Thursday, June 8, 1916:

This issue carried a story on page 16, in the Iron Range section to the effect



that the strike may be settled, even though miners in other mines in the vicinity of Aurora were striking in sympathy. Several hundred men in this district are idle, but so far they have been orderly. The men want \$3.00 per day for 8 hours' work and union recognition. "By marching to the other mines and urging the men to quit through sympathy the St. James men have tied up this district completely."

The Duluth Herald, Fri., June 9, 1916:

Aurora business men met with mining officials yesterday afternoon in an attempt to get the strike settled. Their efforts were fruitless, except that they were successful in getting the miners to put their demands into writing. The men want \$3.00 a day to work in dry places and \$3.50 a day to work in wet places. In addition, the men want an 8-hour day, which the paper states they have had for over a year; payday twice a month; go to and from work on company time; no night work on Saturday night; "Under the present conditions the men work until 11 o'clock Saturday night."

A party of strikers, estimated to number 250, marched in Virginia today. They were thought to be bound for Biwabik to induce working miners to go on strike. The party was intercepted and fourteen of the ringleaders were arrested and driven to jail in automobiles.

Duluth Herald, Sat., June 10, 1916:

This issue of the Herald reported that the strike situation was quiet; the Mohawk mine may be worked again Monday, and that many men are leaving the Aurora district to seek work elsewhere.

Duluth Herald, Wed., June 14, 1916:

A single col. head in the Iron Range section (p. 23) of this issue says: "I.W.W. AGITATORS GET NO SYMPATHY," while a smaller sub-head reads, "EFFORTS TO START TROUBLE IN VIRGINIA DISTRICT UNSUCCESSFUL." The news item states that there are numerous efforts on the part of the Industrial workers of the World to intimidate miners are unsuccessful, and "I.W.W. Representatives are having difficulty getting a foothold in this vicinity. The miners in the Virginia area continued to go about their work, their only dissatisfaction being their sympathy with the strikers of the St. James Mine at Aurora.

A parade was held at Aurora last night. Marching were 110 men and 36 women.

Duluth Herald, Wed., June 15, 1916:

This issue carried the following single-col. head in large print:

"I.W.W. MEN ARE ACTIVE"

and the following sub-heads:

"W.D. HAYWOOD AND OTHER AGITATORS SEEKING TO FOMENT  
LABOR TROUBLES"

"STREET PARADE AND MEETINGS AT VIRGINIA RESULT IN  
CLOSING SALOONS"

"Virginia, June 15--Virginia is today the center of the greatest activity on the part of organizers of the Industrial Workers of the World, who for the past two weeks have been fomenting dissatisfaction among the miners of the eastern Mesaba range. Organizers of the I.W.W., under one Scarlett, staged a parade with more than 400 men in line at 8 o'clock last night, addressed an audience composed for the most part of laboring men that filled the Socialist opera house and announced that William D. Haywood, formerly prominent in the Western Federation of Miners organization, now general secretary-treasurer of the I.W.W., would address a mass meeting at the Socialist opera house....

"Until last night's meeting the general disposition in this city had not been to take the strike seriously. However, with practically every mine between this city and Old Mesaba affected and the majority of undergrounds practically closed first estimates of the seriousness of the situation are being revised....

"The first open demonstration in this city occurred at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon when 329 striking miners from the Aurora and Biwabik district marched into the city from Eveleth. They bore the United States flag and the banner of the I.W.W. with the legend, 'One Big Union,' at the head of the parade.... Several women were in the march, including a bride of two days.... Several addresses were made at the Socialist opera house and a parade announced for 8 o'clock last evening....

"Four hundred men were in the line of march last night." A Socialist band marched in the van and the parade was viewed by a large crowd.... The liquor dealers were instructed to close.

"William D. Haywood arrived on the range yesterday afternoon at Biwabik. He announced his headquarters at the business place of the Finnish Cooperative Mercantile company and called up operators and told them he was here to take charge of the strike



and was in a position to settle it. Haywood's request for a conference was ignored."

Striking miners marched in Eveleth. Miners going to work were assaulted and had their dinner pails taken away from them. "Several strikers and miners were injured, but the miners were able to go to work." Sheriff Meining and a force of deputies were on hand. "Men reported to to I.W.W. agitators presided at a meeting" in the Urania hall at Eveleth.

A box-story reported the Virginia situation as tense.

Duluth Herald, Friday, June 16, 1916:

This issue carried the following 2-col. head in large type in the Iron Range section (page 27):

"ORDERED FROM VIRGINIA; AGITATORS ARE DEFIANT"

Under the above head, were the following sub-heads: "'TAKE THAT PAPER BACK TO CITIZENS' COMMITTEE,' DECLARES LEADER" and "ATTEMPT OF I.W.W. TO PARADE MAY CAUSE TROUBLE."

"Virginia, June 16--At noon today there is small evidence of the spreading of the strike called in the iron mines of the Virginia district last night by the I.W.W. Supt. Godfrey of the Oliver Iron Mining Company reported that practically full forces were working at the Oliver properties. Slightly decreased forces were reported at work in the independent mines. Dispassionate opinion is that the strike movement has passed its zenith and from this time on will lose momentum."

The strikers are scheduled to parade at 2 o'clock this afternoon, but Chief of Police Gately has forbidden it. Scarlett said, in a reply to a resolution adopted by a citizens' mass meeting last night, "'Take that scrap of paper back to the citizens' committee, and tell them the 3,000 miners of Virginia have nothing to say about that.'" About 250 members of the I.W.W. met behind closed doors this morning.

More than 1,000 Virginia citizens met last night. The police were asked to act.

Scarlett advocated a peaceful strike, saying, "'You don't need to do anything but keep your hands in your pockets.'"

Duluth Herald, Saturday, June 17, 1916:

This issue carried the following 2-col. head on page 19, in the Iron Range section:

"PEACEFUL PARADE FOR SUNDAY IS PERMITTED"

The following sub-heads appeared: "VIRGINIA OFFICERS TO PERMIT PARADE THROUGH CITY TO AURORA PICNIC" and "SITUATION BELIEVED IMPROVED; EFFORTS AT CONFERENCE BEING MADE."

In the force of grim deputy sheriffs and their rifles, 500 strikers decided to postpone their parade, which was to have been held last evening. "One of the biggest night crowds of the season was to be seen downtown (at Virginia) at 10:30 p.m."

Duluth Herald, Mon., June 19, 1916:

This issue reported that the situation at Virginia is fairly quiet, Oliver mines working full force, independent mines losing a few men. Said it was rumored that "all underground mines may close."

Francis Keyes arrived at Virginia to defend several miners arrested several days ago for parading near the Elba location. They were charged with disturbing the peace. The defendants number a dozen, half of whom were Finns.

Virginia spent a quiet Sunday.

Scarlett spoke at a miners' meeting at the Workers' hall in Hibbing last night. He declared that now is an ideal time to strike, since men are scarce.

Duluth Herald, Tues., June 20, 1916:

This issue reports from Virginia: "Industrial workers of the world for the time being have apparently transferred their activities from the Virginia to the Hibbing district. All was quiet at the mines this morning. Several properties have closed, while others are working with crippled forces. The operators are confident that the men will resume their posts...."

"Elizabeth Curley Flynn and other propogandists prominent in I.W.W. work have been summoned to the range, and it is declared every man prominent in the movement will be here in a week.

"One arrest was made this morning for picketing unlawfully.

"Strike leader Scarlett is quoted as saying that a general strike all over the range will be called next Sunday when a meeting will be held at Hibbing, if permitted. Scarlett also says the W.D. Haywood, reported to have been on the range, will surely be here and will address the meeting at Hibbing. This is an admission that Haywood has not been on the range as reported...."



W.J. Olcott said that the mines must be shut down if agitators persist in stirring up trouble.

Duluth Herald, Wed., June 21, 1916:

A double-col. head, on page 16, in the Iron Range Department, read as follows:

"AGITATORS TRYING TO GET OUT HIBBING MEN"

"Hibbing, June 21--All the local mines are working here today as usual and there appears to be no change in the situation despite efforts of agitators to stir up trouble and discontent in this section. About 500 attended the meeting held last night at the Workers' hall at which addresses were made by Carl Tresco, Schmidt, and other I.W.W. agitators in Italian, English and other languages. Many attending the meeting left before it was over despite repeated calls by Scarlett to 'Keep your seats.' One speaker in English urged the men to strike. The vote was apparently carried by about 60 per cent rising, the balance keeping their seats. It looked as though agitators were 'planted' about the hall and jumping up urged others to do likewise.

"Another meeting is to be held at 2 o'clock this afternoon when it is expected another effort will be made to get a favorable strike vote.

"Andy Chine, alias George Eiloff, one of the I.W.W. agitators, said today he had sent a wire to William Haywood in Chicago that a strike had been called here and urging Haywood to come. This Eiloff 'mixed it' yesterday afternoon with Chief George Teller of the Oliver police, when it is said he was thrown out of the latter's office after calling to make some sort of demand.

"The Oliver company reports all men working this morning in the pits and underground. While people are naturally nervous over the outlook there is a general feeling that the menace will soon pass and that the men employed in the various mines, who appear to be in every way satisfied, will not voluntarily strike."

"Virginia, June 21--It is so quiet here today a stranger would never guess a strike involving many miners was in progress. Only a handful of men attended the I.W.W. meeting this morning, presided over by Carl Tresco.

"For the first time since the strike was declared, pickets were not in evidence when the shifts changed at the local mines this morning. Operators declared that many men who have absented themselves returned to work in the mines this morning. Strike

leaders declared the situation was unchanged from yesterday.

"Sheriff Meining is now at the head of a force of 300 deputies on the range. Additional men are being sworn in hourly. Deputies patrol the properties where a strike is declared and are at the instant disposition of the sheriff's office in Virginia. The strikers and the majority of the strike leaders have evidently transferred their activities to Hibbing and this city will probably get a respite from the excitement of the past week, for several days, at least.

"A big demonstration at Hibbing Sunday is being liberally advertised among the miners in this and other districts.

"In general local mine conditions are declared to be satisfactory in view of the events which have transpired since the I.W.W. propagandists came marching into town a week ago today. The Franklin and Victoria mines are closed. The Norman has been hard hit by the strike. The Commodore continues to operate with a depleted force. The Lincoln underground is still working, but its force is considerably curtailed. Slight change has occurred at any of the other properties.

"Sheriff Meining, who has been on the range ever since the trouble started and is in close touch with the situation, is of the opinion that it is not more aggravated. Some additional deputies have been taken into service and all the properties are being fully protected.

"Wives of the striking miners yesterday entered the lists as pickets. They stopped miners on their way to work and in some instances seized their dinner pails. They were successful in turning back some men. Oliver policemen arrested an Italian woman on the north side who was alleged to be acting as a picket. She gave two of them a stiff fight before she was controlled, although the officers did not care to exercise any more than was necessary.

"Other pickets and striking miners seized upon the incident to spread inflammatory statements. Mrs. Frank Liberatti visited Sheriff Meining's office at the courthouse and Sheriff Meining listened interestedly while she was induced to tell an amazing story. It was investigated, and new angles developed which placed its truth in question. It was typical, however, of the tactics that are being used throughout the strike-



stricken towns of the iron range and is substantially as follows:

"Mrs. Liberatti told the sheriff and newspaper correspondents that her husband had worked at the Alpena mine for about 2 months at the wages for the last month he worked were \$1.21 a day. He left his position May 27 to go to work at the Lincoln mine, where Mrs. Liberatti said the conditions were better.

"Here is the record of Frank Liberatti as shown by the payrolls of the Alpena mine covering the month of May. He worked three days on company account at \$2.90 a day. He worked five days contract at \$1.31 $\frac{1}{2}$ . He worked fourteen days at \$4.12, one day at \$3.54, and one day at \$3.23. He worked a total of 21 days at the Alpena mine. His total contract wages were \$71.04 and his average wages per day were \$3.38.

"A conference of mining operators prominent on the eastern end of the range was held in Virginia yesterday. Operators attending it would give out nothing when it was adjourned, further than that there had been a conference concerning the strike situation.... Businessmen who have investigated have reached the conclusion that efforts to secure a settlement at this time are out of question. The mining companies will not treat with the I.W.W."

A Hibbing detective was attacked by strikers this afternoon. The detective is employed by the D.M. & N. railroad. "King (the detective) had grabbed a red flag from a striker when he was set upon, his gun taken and his coat cut by a knife. He arrested his assailant when the crowd closed in and took him away." He was assisted by a policeman.

Duluth Herald, Thurs., June 22, 1916:

In this issue the following 5-col. head in large type, page 1, is as follows:

"PITCHED BATTLE BETWEEN STRIKERS AND THE OLIVER POLICE  
AT VIRGINIA"

Then a slightly smaller sub-head:

"JOHN ALAR, STRIKER, SHOT DEAD AND TWO MEN ARE WOUNDED."

This is followed by two more sub-heads in smaller type:

"WOMAN, ARMED WITH WINCHESTER RIFLE, SAID TO HAVE FIRED  
SEVERAL SHOTS STARTING THE BATTLE"

"STRIKING MINERS CLAIM TROUBLE WAS BY OLIVER POLICE---  
WHO SHOT ALAR NOT KNOWN"

"Virginia, June 22--In a pitched battle between striking miners and between twenty or thirty Oliver Iron Mining Company policemen on the north side of this city at 5:30 this morning, John Alar, a striker, was killed. Vincent Elias, grocery proprietor, was shot through the thigh and an unknown miner was shot through the left shoulder. Intense excitement prevails over the city.

"Stories of North side residents and police officers of the Oliver Iron Mining Company are widely at variance concerning the starting of the trouble.

"John Alar, fighting with a Winchester rifle, fell dead on a vacant lot at the rear of his home. He was shot through the wrist, the abdomen and through the left jaw. When Alar fell there was a general cessation of hostilities; who fired the shot that caused his death is not known. There was a general melee a woman said to be Mrs. Nick Rosandich, armed with a rifle, Alar, and Oliver policemen participated.

"Alar is married and has a family of three children. His body was removed and taken to the undertaking parlors H.H. Gilespeie to be prepared for burial.

"Sheriff Meining with a force of deputies, arrived at the scene of the battle after the firing had ceased. There were hot words between the sheriff and David F. Foley, Chief of Police.

"'Foley, why didn't you notify me of this?' said the sheriff. 'I couldn't locate you,' said Foley. 'That is not true,' said Meining. 'It's strange to me that you can find this man King and are unable to locate me.'

"King is the special agent of President McGonagle of the D.M. & N., and the man who yesterday was involved in a fight with strikers while they were parading at Hibbing.

"'I am sheriff of this county and I am through with you,' were Meining's parting words to Foley.

"D.C. Reid, squatters' agent for the Oliver Iron Mining Company, tells the following story of the battle:

"'I was just taking my automobile out of the garage when I saw about a hundred men marching through the streets on the north side. I notified headquarters at once. The men had apparently come from the strike headquarters and were marching two abreast. They announced that they (turn to page 16) were going to throw a line of pickets out and prevent men from going to work in the mines. Piles of broken bricks and stones



had been gathered together on the street corners. There was an altercation between the men and the officers..... A woman came out on the porch of a nearby house, and fired several shots with a Winchester. This man Alar came out armed and began shooting at the officers, firing four shots. Then there was a melee of shots, and the crowd dispersed.'

"Steve Peppeljack, one of the proprietors of a North side grocery, tells the following story:

"I arose this morning about 5:30 and walked down to the corner of Seventh Street and Third Avenue. I saw men coming up in small groups, several in a group. There were about ten Oliver policemen present. After about five minutes they were joined by ten or fifteen more Oliver policemen. The officers started in to disperse the mob.....'

"The shooting started after that and there was so much confusion that I am unable to state exactly what happened.'

"Chief of the Oliver police, David F. Foley, who was on the ground early, said that the first shot was fired by a woman, said to be Mrs. Nick Rosendich. He is swearing out a complaint for her arrest. The woman pointed her rifle at Foley and discharged it. The bullet went wide of the mark. 'Boys, for God's sake, don't shoot that woman,' Foley cried out to his deputies. Foley was engaged in the melee and narrowly escaped a vicious blow on the head with a brick in the hands of one of the strikers.

"Vincent Elias, storekeeper, was wounded while standing in front of his store. In bed at his home at 8 o'clock this morning, just after his wound had been dressed by Dr. Schiele, Elias declared the Oliver police had started the trouble.....

"The third man wounded in the battle has not been identified. He walked to the McIntyre hospital where his wounds were dressed. He did not give his name and went to his home on Pinestreet.

"The coroner's inquest over the body of John Alar will be conducted this afternoon by Deputy Coroner Crowe. The feeling on the North side among the foreign miners living near the scene of this morning's battle is intense. Extra police are on duty. Excited people gathered at the residences and grocery stores in the residence district and

discussed the shooting. Many men working in the mines up to this time declare they will not return, as they fear violence.

"Frenzied addresses were made by strike leaders to an audience of 500 miners at the Socialist opera house this morning. The strikers were urged to arm themselves to protect their homes. Local hardware store have been warned by the city authorities not to sell guns and ammunition to anyone.

"The miners have retained legal counsel. A sworn statement of sixteen declares that the crowd gathered upon the common near Seventh street and Third Avenue North and were set upon by the Oliver police. The story of the officers is directly opposite. They declare the shooting was started by strike sympathizers.

"In the face of a resolution of the city council that no more parades will be allowed, the miners union this morning voted to parade in the streets of Virginia tomorrow at 10 o'clock. The authorities declare that the parade will be stopped.

"Depleted forces are working at the mines in the Virginia district today. All the Oliver properties are working. Miners declare warrants will be sought for Oliver police on a charge of murder."

The case of 11 strikers, arrested for parading, is being argued in Virginia, Judge Carey presiding. The men claim they were given permission to parade, and then arrested when they tried.

Almost seven hundred strikers marched in a parade at Hibbing this morning. A United States flag headed the parade and there were no red flags in evidence. However, banners were carried, two of which were inscribed: "This town is not ruled by steel trust. Gunmen beware; keep away." and "one big union; one big enemy. Citizens, we want your sympathy."

A news dispatch from Chisholm states that agitators are trying to organize the I.W.W. in that town. Businessmen met, and although they did not draw up any formal resolution, they agreed that they would do all they could to keep the I.W.W. out of town. They decided to "do business of a strictly cash basis" in the event of a strike. "Soap box oratory" is to be prohibited.

Duluth Herald, Fri., June 23, 1916:

The following box story appears on page 24, in the Iron Range Department:



"At 11:30 a.m., following a meeting of miners at the Socialist opera house, striking miners executed a coup at the expense of the city authorities who had ordered the parade proposed for today stopped. Marching two abreast and with their women and children with them, they kept to the sidewalk and traversed Chestnut Street and went to the North side to the home of the widow of John Alar. At the head of the procession marched Carlo Tresco. In a handkerchief tied in a knot, he carried a collection for Alar's widow, taken at the miners' meeting this morning, amounting to \$64.75. The procession passed the morgue where the inquest over Alar's body was in progress. Many miners bared their heads in passing the door of the morgue...."

Sheriff Meining and Chief of Oliver police Foley became friends again, with the agreement that the sheriff should have full charge during times when things were very tense.

There was bitter feeling towards the Oliver Iron Mining company police, and Alar's widow, mother of three children, was prostrated with grief.

"...industrial paralysis prevailed throughout the mines in the Virginia district.... All the mines are crippled."

The mines in the Eveleth district are seriously affected by the strike, including such mines as the Fayal, Adams, Leonidas and the Spruce.

Duluth Herald, Sat., June 24, 1916:

A 2-col. head in the Iron Range Dep't. (p. 16) of this issue declared:

"CHISHOLM MINE FORCES CRIPPLED BY PICKETS"

Plus the following sub-heads:

"AGITATORS SUCCEED IN KEEPING ABOUT 50  
PERCENT OF MEN FROM WORKING"

"MINE OPERATORS DECLARE MINES WILL BE  
KEPT RUNNING IN SOME WAY"

"Chisholm, June 24--Pickets stationed on the approaches to the various mines here were successful this morning about 50 percent of the underground miners of the district from going to work and all underground mines with the exception of the Chester and the Myers are working with greatly reduced forces.

"No excitement appears to exist among the men and all seem to indicate their desire to work and are decidedly outspoken in their resentment of the strike movement, but have decided to remain at home and inactive until the strike has blown over. Open pit mines are not affected in the least by the walkout and are operating with full crews this morning.

"Mining officials in the district are not at all worried over the outlook. When questioned this morning on the probable course of action to be taken they all stated that the mines would be kept open and operating even with depleted crews and ample protection afforded to all men who desired to go to work. If a sentiment actually favoring a strike begins to form then the properties will be shut down tight. At police headquarters no trouble is expected and as soon as crowds begin to congregate upon the streets it is announced that the saloons will be closed.

"Extra police are being sworn in and all persons picketing or trying to intimidate men going to work tomorrow or Monday morning will be placed under arrest.

"At a meeting which taxed the capacity of the Chisholm opera house last night and at which the professional agitators of the I.W.W. made use of the steam roller tactics in officially announcing the vote of the men, a strike was declared by Agitator Scarlett to be in effect in the Chisholm district.

"A large number of 'coppers' from Hibbing were imported to pack the meeting and they entered the village at 7 o'clock and marched on the sidewalk to the opera house, where they were given front seats long before the meeting opened. After addresses by several of the agitators, a standing vote on the question of strike was called from the platform. Fully 80 per cent of the occupants of the hall were standing at the time, as there were not enough chairs for them to be seated. Of these who were seated, none but the imported 'coppers' were seen to stand up. However, agitator Scarlett announced a unanimous vote in favor of a strike.

"Miners in various parts of the hall protested against the high-handed tactics employed and called out that the vote was no good and that the majority did not favor and would not consider a strike. Agitator Scarlett would not give them recognition and continued his remarks that all men going to work Saturday morning were 'scabs.'



"The meeting concluded immediately after Scarlett had finished his talk and several street laborers on the municipal payroll filed up to the front of the hall, where they asked for and were given I.W.W. cards. No miners asked for cards.

"When the crowd filed from the hall there were protests heard on every hand from the miners who denounced employed to force the strike on in the local mines and nearly the whole crowd assembled on the sidewalk to wait for the agitators to appear and when they did finally emerge from the building they were taunted with hisses, cat calls and jeers and cries of 'who told you to come to this town,' and 'who told you you were a miner,' and 'get to ----- out of here.' They entered an automobile and drove hurriedly away toward Hibbing.

"Every bona fide miner who was questioned after the meeting, expressed contempt for I.W.W., and announced his intention of remaining at work where conditions are better than ever enjoyed before. This was particularly noticeable among the Finnish miners who were inclined to threaten drastic action toward strike agitators if they made appearance in the vicinity of their work.

"Chief of Police James Leighty stated that from the most pronounced sentiment against strike apparent at the meeting and violent utterances against the agitators that he thought 'the agitators were treading mighty dangerous ground and forcing a sentiment overwhelmingly against them when they entered Chisholm.'

"Hibbing, June 24--The local mining situation as the result of the strike agitation appears unchanged today, men being at work in the underground and open pit mines, with perhaps only a few cases of reduced forces in the former. Up to noon there had been no disturbance, no parade and no meeting. It is hardly expected local men will join in the strike unless intimidated, and the Oliver police are on hand in large numbers to prevent anything of that sort.

"The strikers are orderly and 'kept their hands in their pockets.'

"At the Sellers all men are working. A few threats in the nature of bluffs directed at old employed men who have families and who will not give up their positions have been made, but nothing serious resulted.

"Track laborers at the Sellers pit were informed of the dire things which would happen to them if they insisted on working but no heed was taken of it, as Hibbing

authorities promised that they will protect every man who wants to work.

"Paul Maras, owner of a bus line operating between range towns, said today he will start a \$10,000 suit against the I.W.W. organization for trying to enforce a boycott against his line. Just how he would get service he would not say. Mr. Maras is one of the leading Austrians of this section and has a lot of friends....

"That threats are being made by I.W.W. workers to force men to join their ranks was learned yesterday when an Austrian by birth, now a citizen of the United States, reported at the office of the Oliver Iron Mining Company for his time.

"I do not want a strike,' he stated, 'but an I.W.W. man told me he would see me join the strikers or he would force one to....' Fifteen miners left the Hibbing district today rather than join the I.W.W. The married men are against the strike...."

"Virginia, June 24---The strike situation in the Virginia district affecting every iron mine in this section is apparently unchanged. The usual reports of men returning to work come from the operators and the usual reports of more men coming out are being given out by the strike leaders at the city headquarters."

"Eveleth, June 24---A mass meeting of the miners of this city was held in Urania hall and they unanimously voted a strike, which took effect Thursday morning. The miners were addressed in four nationalities, English, Austrian, Italian and Finn, in which the demands were made clear enough to all.... The vote was unanimously in favor of striking and a strike was declared. Many properties have closed."

A news item from Hibbing states the William Haywood, I.W.W. leader, is scheduled to speak Sunday afternoon at the annual convention of the Finnish Socialists.

A news item from Coleraine states that there has been talk of striking in that district, but that the mines are still operating.

A coroner's jury delivered a verdict that John Alar "came to his death by a bullet fired by person unknown to the jury."

A news item from Virginia says: "Five of the eleven strikers tried before Judge Carey and a jury on charges of unlawful assemblage were convicted last evening.... Those convicted will be sentenced at 2 P.M. today by Judge Carey.... Members of the jury who held out against the conviction are openly declaring about the streets today that the conviction was unwarranted. A bitter fight developed among the jurors.



Attorney Francis Keyes announces the cases will be appealed."

Duluth Herald, Monday, June 26, 1916:

This issue of the paper carried little more than the routine news on the strike.

Many men are leaving the ore fields to find work elsewhere. Scarlett predicts trouble on the ore docks. All the mines in the Chisholm district are working with the exception of the Shenango, an underground mine. More deputies were sworn in at Nashwauk by Deputy Sheriff Tom Riley, bringing the total number of special deputies in that county to 200. Conditions remain relatively unchanged at Hibbing. Practically all of the mines in the Buhl district are closed, and the saloons in that town have been ordered closed. Strike leaders address 6,000 strikers at the Hibbing fairgrounds. Virginia spent a quiet Sunday. The inscription on a banner draping John Alar's bier reads: "Murdered by Oliver gunmen." No trouble is expected at the burial, though feeling is bitter against the company police.

Duluth Herald, Tues., June 27, 1916:

This appeared to be another day of quiet. More miners left the troubled range to find work elsewhere. Boarding cars were placed in some of the open pit mines in the Virginia district, so that working miners would not have to leave the mines. There was additional intimidation of Hibbing miners, according to news dispatches. John Alar was buried.

Duluth Herald, Wed., June 28, 1916:

"Chisholm, June 28--A mob of strikers cowered before a determined stand made by the police department this morning and passively looked on while three of their number were arraigned in municipal court, bound over to the grand jury on charge of assault with intent to do great harm, held without bail, and in charge of Deputy Sheriff Lockhart and Sergeant Letchel were handcuffed and taken to the sheriff's office at Hibbing.

"The three strikers were arrested during a riot at the corner of Oak Street and Central Avenue at 7 o'clock this morning when a mob of 150 assembled with stones and revolvers and endeavored to turn back men going to work. Their only attack was directed against an auto owned by Superintendent Sullivan of the Monroe mine, driven by Willard and containing three workmen which endeavored to run past the mob. The attempt brought

a fusillade of rocks from the mob and as the car drew closer several shots were fired by the strikers.

"Officers Ford R. Grams and Persch swooped down on the mob and placed the three ringleaders under arrest while the others rapidly dispersed. Examination of the car revealed the violence of the assault it withstood. Marks of rocks covered the entire body and several bullet holes, one entering the side of the car but not penetrating clear through where the driver was seated and showed the murderous intent of the mob. There was evidence on the part of the strikers to assemble a mob at the police station and duplicate their act of jail delivery of yesterday. A meeting of the strikers was hurriedly called at the opera house and groups of men started out for the police headquarters but Chief Leighty had posted two men with loaded shot guns at the jail entrance and no loitering in the vicinity was permitted. Strike spirit is on the wane here today, groups of men congregating on the streets and discussing returning to work and those in close touch with the leaders in the strike movement state that their efforts to restrain men from leaving town have been without avail and that depletion in the ranks of idle men has been an effect detrimental to strike progress."

"Virginia, June 28--Quiet prevailed throughout the Virginia strike-stricken iron mining district this morning. There were evidences on every hand that the mining concerns are preparing to take the ore tonnage from the pits and stock piles and the underground mines will remain closed. Work at the Alpena mine continues. The edge of the pit is brilliantly lighted with electric lights and mine guards patrol its border. Boarding cars are being moved to some of the mines and men are kept at work under protection. They eat and sleep in the pit... An evidence that the big tide of strike trouble has passed in this district is the continued exodus of laborers.

"The crowds at the strike meetings are small and uneasiness over unemployment is manifested among idle men. The mining companies are generally preparing to take out ore with steam shovels. Sheriff Meining this morning after hearing reports throughout the strike zone, expressed the belief that the situation was growing better. 'We anticipate some trouble,' said the sheriff, 'but I believe from this time on the strike will wane in the support it receives from the men.'"



"Eveleth, June 28--The strike situation has so improved here that Mayor Saari last evening allowed the saloons, which have been closed, to reopen. The underground mines are considerably crippled, but open pit properties are working as usual.

"At the Leonidas mine of the Oliver Company about thirty boarding cars have been hauled into the pit and are being used by the miners for their quarters. About seven extra policemen have been engaged by the city and mining property is also closely guarded. Little trouble is anticipated at present."

"Virginia, June 28--The proceedings in the trial of Joseph Greeni, Arvie Lathinen, Charles Sepponen, and Arthur Boose, convicted in municipal court after a jury trial lasting three days, of unlawful assemblage, will be reviewed by Judge Martin Hughes of Hibbing.... Keyes, representing the interests of the striking miners, will remain on the range indefinitely."

Duluth Herald, Thurs., June 29, 1916:

According to this issue of the Herald, strike conditions are improving and it is expected that the trouble soon will be over. Many of the mines still are being operated. Both operators and strike leaders are concerned over the large number of men leaving the struck iron range to look elsewhere for work. At Chisholm, idle mine buildings are being boarded up and strong searchlights turned on them as a protection against destruction by the strikers. W.D. Scarlett, the strike leader, was arrested at Virginia for libel, and later released upon furnishing \$300 bail. The libel was caused by the sign "MURDERED BY OLIVER GUNMEN," relating to the killing of Alar. Tresco, too, was arrested, but was released upon furnishing \$300 bail.

Duluth Herald, Fri., June 30, 1916:

A news dispatch on page 2 states that I.W.W. organizers have been trying to force an oredock strike, but so far they have met with failure.

"Virginia, June 30--The strike situation appears unchanged in Virginia at noon. Practically all underground mines are closed. A few pits are working...at the properties working evidences are not lacking of preparations for a long fight. More than 125 mine police are reported in the service of one company. Many are armed with rifles. On the stockpiles where mine guards patrol in some places barricades of stone have been erected."

"Hibbing, June 30--There is an absence of picketing about the open pit mines today following last night's battle fought on the edge of the Sellers' pit, between the village police, some Oliver special police and a crowd of about 200 strikers in which Martin Teller, local chief of the Oliver police, was stabbed four times. Teller....stands a good chance to recover. Teller was cut twice near the right shoulder, once on the neck and once in the abdomen.

"Near the pit were stationed the Oliver special police force under Martin Teller. Along the street were Hibbing policemen. As Maurice Clark, a young man, approached, carrying a dinner pail it was a signal for the pickets to get busy. The strikers crowded in on him and took away his dinner pail. Clark picked up a board on the walk and floored one assailant. The fight then started in earnest. Hibbing police rushed to the scene and attempted to drag young Clark to a place of safety. The police used their clubs and held back the mob, which was showing a fighting spirit using knives and clubs and scantlings nearby to resist the blue coats. In the first attack, Richard Giffen, secretary to the St. Louis county fair, and a special policeman was hit by a club as he attempted to arrest Jalte, which he succeeded in doing.

"Their alleged leader placed in custody the crowd attempted to take him from the officers, and here the Oliver police came to the assistance of the Hibbing police in attempting to subdue the crowd which was in an ugly way and which brandished knives and stones. Chief of Oliver police Teller, and his brother George Teller, were attacked with knives, George Teller received a bad gash across the back of the neck.

"As a result of the fight, besides Jalte, who was placed in custody, the local police arrested Steve Drousing and Edward Manatich as being the ring leaders who incited the crowd into action.

"Steve Drousing was arrested ten minutes after the fight was over. Drousing is accused of being the man who used a knife. Chief of Police Dwyer....captured Drousing.

"Drousing, it is alleged, stole away from the fight when it was over to throw away his weapon, but returned in time to be recognized, it is claimed by officers, as being the man who used the knife. A cut across his hand, it is claimed by officers, makes it certain that he was one of the men wielding weapons. George Eiloff, strike agitator, appeared in the thick of the fight and talked to the men in a foreign tongue. He urged



the men to prevent violence if possible, but it was of no avail, and the crowd did not heed his speech....

"A story last night that the I.W.W. workers would storm the jail to release their fellow workers turned out to be a wild rumor...."

"Eveleth, June 30--Nothing out of the ordinary broke out here before 12:30 today, and beyond the release and rearrest of one of the strike agitators, Anton Roisoinich, who was arrested during Wednesday's melee on the charge of carrying concealed weapons and has since been in jail. He was released this morning by Judge Moylan on \$200 bonds. As he left the courtroom he was rearrested by Oliver police on a charge of assault in the first degree with intent to kill one Joe Schoening, Oliver officer. As this is a more serious charge and if resulting in conviction means a penitentiary term of five years or more, he was not admitted to bail, which will be fixed pretty high, it is expected. Early this afternoon he was still in jail, though John Keyes, attorney for the I.W.W., is expected to secure bail for him. Stockpile loading continues at some of the mines. The underground mines are nearly all closed, but the Adams pit is working with a reduced force...."

"Two Harbors, June 30--Scores of deputy sheriffs swarm around the local docks and other property of the Iron Range railway today to prevent I.W.W. agitators from getting in communication with men employed on the docks and in the yards handling ore, following an abortive effort made late yesterday by an I.W.W. agitator named P.C. Wetter to start something. Wetter went about distributing I.W.W. literature and calling on dock workers to meet tonight to call a strike. Two hours after Wetter began his campaign of discontent he was arrested by Deputy Sheriff Christenson on a charge of trespass...."

"Grand Rapids, June 30--Fifty or more strikers from Hibbing came to Keewatin Thursday morning, held a meeting at noon, and returned in the afternoon. What action was taken is not known, but the county authorities are keeping an eye on the situation, and are prepared to cope with such conditions as may present themselves.... No disturbance or other trouble is looked for in the mines of Itasca County."

"Virginia, June 30--The \$1,000 bail of Arthur Boose, Joseph Greeni, Arvid Lehtonen and Charles Sepponen, the rioters sentenced to ninety-day terms at the county jail, was reduced to \$400 by Judge Hughes at Hibbing to whom appeal was taken. The prisoners

have appealed to the district court and it is expected that their cases will be tried at the Virginia term of court in August. The accused are now in the county jail at Duluth.

Commissioner Silberstein, Duluth, commissioner of public safety, said concerning the I.W.W.: "There is no cause for disturbing the peace and the city government will not tolerate any disorder." Duluth Chief of Police McKercher received instructions to swear in special officers if necessary."

I.W.W. organizers distributed literature at the gates of the steel plant at Gary this morning, but officials say that the men are content and there is no fear of their going out on a strike. Any I.W.W. men who venture on company property will be promptly arrested.

Many miners in the Chisholm district returned to their jobs this morning, according to reports. "There was no disturbance yesterday, either at the mines or in the village. But one arrest was made, Ben Leppi, aged 36, on a charge of carrying concealed weapons. He will be arraigned before Judge Masters today.

There has been some I.W.W. agitation on the Superior ore docks. The Great Northern has enlisted the services of fifteen special police to keep the organizers away. "Men on the docks are said to have refused to listen to any of the agitators and they have met with little success so far."

Duluth Herald, Sat., July 1, 1916:

It might be mentioned here that one reason the strike did not achieve the publicity it probably warranted was that the World War was going on at this time. Though the United States had not yet entered, affairs abroad were given streamer heads on page 1 almost daily. Another factor was the nation-wide hysteria of hate for Mexico, against whom the United States was then fighting. Thus page 1, and much space in the rest of the paper, was taken up with war news and stories allied to war. Many Northern Minnesotans were enlisting in the service, and there were many stories about them, accompanied by pictures.

A 2-col. head on page 4 reads:

"GOVERNOR BACKS MEINING IN MAINTAINING ORDER"

and the two following sub-heads.



"SHERIFF RECEIVES ORDERS TO PREVENT RIOTING ON  
THE RANGE"

"LAW MUST BE ENFORCED; COUNTY ATTORNEY WILL GIVE  
HIS AID"

"Governor J.A.A. Burnquist will stand behind Sheriff John R. Meining in enforcing the law in the range strike zone to the end that rioting may be stopped.

"Shortly after five o'clock last evening, Sheriff Meining received the following telegram from the governor....

"'Arrest forthwith and take before magistrate, preferably in Duluth, all persons who have participated and are participating in riots in your county and make complaints against them.

"'Prevent further breaches of the peace, riots and unlawful assemblies.

"'Use all your powers, including the summoning of posse, for the preservation of life and property.

"'The violation of laws in St. Louis County must be stopped at once.

"'J.A.A. Burnquist,  
"Governor'"

"With the backing of Governor Burnquist and all of the substantial citizens of the range cities, Sheriff Meining will have no difficulty in securing all the deputies he needs to preserve order. Sentiment on the range has become very bitter against the strike agitators, and range citizens stand behind Sheriff Meining in his efforts to preserve order and permit the miners who wish to work to do so without fear of personal violence.

"The governor sent a copy of the telegram to County Attorney Greene and asking the prosecutor to advise Mr. Meining as to his powers in the way of commandeering vehicles, seizing firearms and other weapons with which to arm such citizens as he might call upon to help him put down rioting and public disorder.

"Sheriff Meining will return to the range this afternoon. Word received from there this morning was to the effect that conditions were quiet there today, except at Biwabik and the Stevenson mine."

"Five I.W.W. agitators were arrested last night and one this morning by Chief McKercher and other officers of the Duluth police force. Five were charged with distri-

buting inflammatory literature prejudicial to public order at the Missabe ore docks and the other was held for distributing handbills without a license. The agitators are attempting to start a sympathetic strike at the docks here following the strike of the miners on the range."

A two-col. head in large type in the Iron Range Dep't., page 28, says:

"CHIEF OLIVER OFFICER IS SHOT THROUGH THE HAND"

and then the following sub-heads:

"MAURICE O'DONNELL IS ATTACKED BY FIVE I.W.W.s IN HULL PIT"

"STRIKE LEADER GEORGE EILOFF ARRESTED AT HIBBING FOR INCITING RIOT"

"SHERIFF MEINING AND DEPUTIES PREPARE TO CARRY OUT GOVERNOR'S ORDERS"

"Hibbing, Minn., July 1--Maurice O'Donnell, acting Chief of the Oliver police in the absence of Martin Teller, who is in a hospital seriously wounded as a result of a knife wound, was shot in the hand supposedly by I.W.W. workers in the Hull pit mine last night about 12 o'clock.

"O'Donnell was attacked by five I.W.W. sympathizers, two of whom he recognized. Two men placed guns before him and in brushing away the men, one of them fired, the bullet going through the flesh of his right hand. He was taken to a hospital where the wound was dressed.

"Striking I.W.W. miners on their way home from a meeting at Workers hall created a disturbance in the vicinity of the engine house near the Buffalo open pit mine, firing shots in the air last night.

"Little excitement marked the strike at Hibbing today. George Eiloff, acknowledged leader of the I.W.W. in Hibbing, last night was placed in jail on the charge of inciting a riot and will be given a preliminary hearing this afternoon.

"Eiloff is the acknowledged leader of the I.W.W. in this section of the range and is supposed to have taken an active part in the riot last Thursday evening on the corner of North and Third Avenues, between pickets and local policemen, resulting in four of the ringleaders being placed in custody. Four hundred strikers gathered at the local police station but policemen kept the crowd moving and there was no sign of disorder.



"Friday passed without any incidents that resembled anything of disorders. The majority of the open pit mines were working and there was practically no picketing. The local police kept the crowd moving and allowed no one to congregate in the streets. The I.W.W. held a big meeting last night, which was addressed by Carlo Tresco, a New York newspaperman and Italian leader.

"Salvador Dongo, booked for inciting riot; Ralph Pette, booked for first degree assault and a second charge of riot; Eli Monovich, booked for first degree assault and second charge of inciting riot, will appear before Judge Brady next Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock for their preliminary hearing...."

"Nashwauk, July 1--The first strike demonstration occurred here at 7 o'clock last evening when 200 strikers and 20 wives of strikers marched through the village two abreast from Keewatin and Stevenson. The streets were crowded with curiosity seekers. The procession was led by an American flag. No red flags were displayed and the crowd was peaceful. Two hundred deputies followed them to Finnish hall on First street where they waited until 9 o'clock for speakers to arrive from Hibbing when word was received by telephone that the arrest of a leader had been made and the procession returned to Keewatin. No attempt was made to hamper the mines. All are working full blast this morning. Deputies are patrolling all properties. Another demonstration is expected today."

A box story appeared as follows:

"Hibbing, July 1--George Eiloff, arrested for inciting riot, was released about noon today on \$750 cash bail, furnished....by Carlo Tresco....Eiloff's hearing will be July 7...."

"Virginia, Minn., July 1--Trouble anticipated at the Alpena mine this morning when it was expected I.W.W. pickets would prevent men going to work did not develop. Only a small force of striking miners turned out. A leader is declared to have said after viewing the rock fortresses erected by mine guards during spare moments he would not attempt to storm the property with less than 700 men. Less than twenty attended him and the movement was abandoned.

"Reports received at the sheriff's office here this morning indicate the situation is unchanged. A mob visited the Biwabik open pit this morning and before their threats

and intimidation the steam shovel crew left the pit and abandoned the mine. Additional deputies are going into service this morning.

"At the sheriff's office it was stated that Governor Burnquist's order would be carried out to the letter. The deputies believe the stories of the strikers being generally armed are exaggerated, but will proceed promptly to search men believed to be armed and disarm all carrying weapons.

"Twelve deputy sheriffs arrived last night from Duluth to enter the employ of St. Louis County. They will be assigned to duty today. Sheriff Meining, who has spent practically all of his time on the range since the trouble began, was called to his home in Duluth yesterday on official business, but is expected to return today.

"An evidence that the operators consider the situation more serious than the statements of the past few days would seem to indicate was developed yesterday when an effort was made to have local business men indorse a plan to bring state militia to the range. Business men who have generally taken a neutral attitude on the strike expressed themselves reluctantly. There was a wide difference of opinion, but many failed to see in the situation anything that would warrant the governor in sending militia to this city, while not attempting to assume that such a course might not be wise elsewhere on the ranges.

\* "The sheriff, who has at all times been in close touch with the situation, has a hand-picked force of more than 100 men on duty and it is his boast that there is not a gunman or a thug in the crew. Most of the men are citizens of neighboring range towns and the greater number of them have had experience as police officers. Here the opinion held generally is that the sheriff is amply able to take care of the situation. Mr. Meining has experienced some difficulty in getting deputies but with the arrival of a large crew last night it was felt that this feature of the situation had been overcome.

"So far as the contending parties are involved, the strike situation is apparently deadlocked, but it is known that reports of the past few days of improved conditions at the mines have been somewhat overdrawn. With the exception of one or two properties, where a special effort is being made, none of the mines are producing ore. The ore being moved is taken from accumulated reserves from stockpiles or from open cut properties



with steam shovels. Somewhat less than the normal tonnage is being shipped.

"Rumors of a strike among mine guards were rife last night. There is said to be a wide margin of difference in the salaries being paid to the special deputies. In some cases it is said they are receiving \$5 a day and more while in others the pay is as low as \$3. One company is said to have more than 125 guards on its payrolls. Practically all companies have recently hired men for this duty. Many are reluctant to accept the position and there has been a genuine demand for men to serve as strike deputies. Those working for smaller wages have in some cases resigned from the employment of one concern to go to the employment of another at an increase in salary. The condition has given rise to some dissatisfaction among the men."

"Grand Rapids, Minn., July 1--Sheriff Gunderson returned at midnight last night from Nashwauk and Keewatin and he reported that the strike situation was as good as could be expected. He said that 250 miners from the Mace, Kennedy and Stevenson mines marched to Nashwauk last night and that they turned right around and marched right back again. The strikers learned that the leaders whom they expected to meet at Nashwauk were under arrest at Hibbing.

"A telephone message from Deputy Sheriff Riley this morning said that the situation was still very quiet and peaceable. Mr. Riley asked Mr. Gunderson to bring some more deputy sheriff stars when he went over today. Mr. Gunderson is returning to Nashwauk this afternoon."

"Two Harbors, Minn., July 1--Although an effort was made here yesterday by I.W.W. agitators to get the local Iron Range ore dock men to strike, everything is running as usual this morning and the men on the docks came to work this morning just as though nothing ever happened.

"The night men were all on the job last night, entirely ignoring the pleadings of A.G. McGucken, I.W.W. organizer, who is in charge of the local strike movement and who spoke to a few night ore dock men at the Glen hall at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon. At the afternoon meeting the men did not appear to be greatly impressed with the talk of the speakers and when they were through speaking there was no demonstration of approval, such as has been the case when they talked to some of the iron miners on the range.

"The larger part of the crowd were there more from curiosity than anything else. The same thing was true of the meeting held at 8 o'clock in the evening for the purpose of stirring the day dock men to strike. The hall was packed in the evening, but quite naturally, the majority of the audience was composed of men who are in no way connected with the ore docks. A vote was taken later in the evening but this move meant little, as scores of men not connected with the docks voted for a strike. It is stated, according to those present, that city employes and many others not entitled to vote, composed the majority of those who voted 'yes.'

"It is not expected that the I.W.W. will be able to stir up a strike on the local docks if they stay here all summer. For the most part the men who are employed on the local docks are all steady men who have a family and a home here to take care of, and to realize that a strike would hurt themselves much more than it would injure the steel corporation. They also realize that the I.W.W. is not particularly interested in their case, but merely desires to use them as a tool to press the situation on the ranges. A feature of the developments thus far is the apparent lack of interest and enthusiasm on the part of the dock men who have thus far turned a deaf ear to the pleadings and demands of those who are trying to stir them to strike."

A dispatch from Eveleth said that Anton Roscinditch, first held on a charge of carrying concealed weapons is now held on a first degree assault charge with intent to kill Joe Schoening, Chief Oliver Mining Company deputy.



Duluth, Minnesota  
 July 14, 1939  
 Harold E. Rajala

Sosialisti, page 2, col. 2-3; Mon. Nov. 6, 1916  
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 Item #39

# "HOW THE PRICES OF NECESSITIES ARE INCREASING"

"The prices of necessities are increasing so rapidly that if today is published in newspapers articles mentioning prices of necessities then by the following day will be noticed that the prices are wrong. To illustrate that, for instance on Oct. 21st we wrote in our paper prices of necessities, a few of them were then priced as follows:

Potatoes, bushel	1.00
Eggs, dozen	0.34
Sugar, per 100#	7.15
Butter, one pound	0.36

"On Nov. 3rd the purchase price on those commodities were:

Potatoes, 1 bushel	\$2.20
Eggs, dozen	0.47
Sugar, 100 pds.	8.40
Butter, pound	0.45

"It should be noticed that this increase in prices will not just be temporary, but will remain the same and will still increase too. The price increases do not only affect these commodities for the price increase is general.

"To top this, the price of flour has noticeably increased to that extent that where last week we were able to purchase 100 pounds for \$8.70 which now will be for a hundred pounds, ten dollars. Last year the highest price was, for a hundred pounds, \$5.70.

"What will happen to the working people as a result of the price increases?" It is impossible to cut down on consumption of necessities to stay on par with price increases.

"Now is happening a drastic change in human life. Almost in all families, where only one or two members are working, they have stopped eating three meals a day. A great change has taken place in family food stocks. Pickles

and tomatoes for instance are beginning to be rare in even semi-well-to-do pantries and tables. The fairly well-to-do families are ashamed to admit their poorness and so insist that they do not use those articles because of health.

"Such is the good times which is reported to exist in America. Work struggles which have occurred here during the last two years have definitely been hunger revolts. In this hunger-revolts the workers can again struggle and as a result will gain very bare results and what improvements are gained to make the most of it.

"These bread struggles when born, should have unyielding support of all workers and should have such demands that will result in permanent improvement and changes which will stay.

"At the beginning of a hunger-revolt it is the duty of all working-class people to join together. They should stand strong in their demands until such workers demands are fully won.

"We will not make any settlement with business men or their agents for the working-class has never gained anything by settlement with business men. The only way permanent betterments can be gained is by fighting for them."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 2; Nov. 7, 1916

Vol. 3, no. 262; Eveleth, Minn., Nov. 6

Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; July 12, 1939

Item #40

#### "A WORKER BURNED ALIVE"

"FRANK COSTLEY, A TEAMSTER HAS BURNED ALIVE AT A CAMP BLAZE NEAR EVELETH"

"COSTLEY'S CHARRED BODY WAS TAKEN OUT OF THE CAMP AFTER THE FIRE"

"Eveleth, Minn., Nov. 6--Frank Costley, a 58 year old man has burned to death yesterday when a camp set afire. The fire was at a camp owned by Dan Berg near Half Moon Lake which is about six miles from here.

"It is thought the fire started from a lit match which some other worker at the camp had thrown away on the floor after lighting a lamp."



From Sosialisti, page 3, col. 5; Fri. Nov. 10, 1916  
 Vol. 3, no. 265; Correspondent's columns  
 Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; July 12, 1939  
 Item #41

"KINNEY"

"We have waited for a long time to see news of our region gathered by the correspondents in this region, however to no avail, so I take it upon myself to write a few lines.

"Mining-work, the main industry of this town, is rapidly moving. The steel-trust is trying to make up the dollars which they paid to their gunmen. Now they have a good opportunity to do so for they have got a sufficient number of workers, for they no longer ask for men. I do not know whether there is any bearing to this report however I find it so personally. I have gone tens of times asking for a job and each time was given the same answer 'not today.' It may not be so. It may be because the Mining Co. bosses know that I am active in the Union.

K. Penttila"

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 3; Sat., Nov. 11, 1916  
 Vol. 3, no. 266; Chisholm, Minn., Nov. 10  
 Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; July 13, 1939  
 Item #42

"DYNAMITE STICKS FOUND IN BRUSH PILE"

"Chisholm, Minn., Nov. 10--The Duluth News Tribune reports that when workers were clearing away brushpiles, which were several feet near the 'Tribune Herald' headquarters, a local newspaper, they found 14 sticks of dynamite. As a result of this find an attempt is being made to bring up the idea that during the miners strike the I.W.W. members and agitators had planted the dynamite in the brush pile with intentions of blowing up the newspaper quarters because the Editor Walter Brown had written slander during the time of strike about the I.W.W., its organizers and members.--Apparently the dynamite was planted and intended to be found so that public opinion may be moved to further distress the strikers and I.W.W. organizers who are in jail and to use the information to bring about their conviction."

From Sosialisti, page 1, col. 1; Sat. Nov. 11, 1916  
 Vol. #3, no. 266; Hibbing, Minn., Nov. 10  
 Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; July 13, 1939  
 Item #43

### "STRIKER IS FOUND GUILTY"

#### "THREE STRIKERS ARE BEING CHARGED WITH STONING OLIVER COMPANY GUN-MEN"

"Hibbing, Minn., Nov. 10--Yesterday, here in District court was held a trial for a Joe Blogg named striker who was jailed during the miners' strike. The jury declared him guilty of third degree assault. He was found guilty of throwing a rock at deputy sheriff Peter Wring during the melee between Kittsville gunmen and strikers. The fight happened August 2nd when the mine-company gunmen attacked the strikers when they were on picket duty. Even though many witnesses said Blogg was not among the pickets the jury declared him guilty of third degree assault.

"Yesterday afternoon began a trial against three strikers before Judge Martin Hughes. These three strikers are charged with inflicting injury upon a gun-man squad leader Martin Teller and his brother C. Teller on the 29th day of June, near the Sellers mine, when also began fight when the Oliver Mining Company hounds attacked and beat up on the strikers.

"The defendant's names are Eli Monovich, Steve Dronjak and Raffael Pette. E. Boyle and Richard Funk are the prosecutors, while four I. W. W. attorneys are representing the defendants."

From Sosialisti, page 2, col. 5; Sat. Nov. 11, 1916  
 Vol. 3, no. 266; editorial columns  
 Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; July 13, 1939  
 Item #44

### "KEEWATIN"

"Miners here in Keewatin have been very successful in organization this past summer.-- During the time of strike practically every worker joined in. But during the time of strike many left for other locations, a part of them have returned. New workers have arrived of which most are organized, and those who moved away unorganized now know what to do for they join with



us immediately. There are some here too who do not realize the importance of organization. It is that group of citizens who during the strike created more bad than good, they are too headstrong and will not join the union. But I avow that before many weeks pass in Keewatin you will be forced to do one or the other: join with us or seek unorganized working places elsewhere. Those two alternatives are strict laws of organized workers which they will not break. You are to understand that to the end the trumpets will play.

Union-man"

From Sosialisti, page 2, col. 4; Nov. 16, 1916  
Vol. 3, no. 270; no dateline  
Workers Socialist Publishing Co.; July 13, 1939  
Item #45

"ELY"

"It is very busy here in Ely for the single men are creating a board-house here. At last Sunday's meeting at the workers hall was selected a three man committee whose duty it will be to locate a suitable building for the undertaking. At the same time was planned to operate this boarding house under the same rules as those at the Virginia Co-operative restaurant. So the start is good but in results will be the thanks. This activity began when the local boarding-house proprietors raised the boarding price to \$22 per month.

A correspondent"