

THE PROLETARIAN

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**Industrial Workers
of the World.**

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An Open Letter.

The Japanese Union Headquarters,

921 F Street. Fresno, Cal.

Fellow Workers and Brothers:—

We believe that in your veins the red and hot blood streams; that in your heart the fire of revolt against the present unjust society is burning. A spirit that descends from the cherry blossoms; that is born from fairy Fugi Mountain; a spirit that is not proud of the patriotism of a nation, a spirit to dare to die for justice and liberty in the cause of humanity.

We are however parted from each other by thousands of miles, yet our hearts are beating in unison of one impulse.

We workingmen of the world are being robbed and duped of what we are entitled to by the capitalists of industry and the lords of commerce.

So we hear and see the misery of life; the bitterness of poverty and starvation.

Do we not experience it ourselves? Indeed what would it be worth to live in our age?

"Workers of the World Unite! you have nothing to lose but your chains, and you have a world to gain".

A voice of strong prophecy from the wild, swept the field like a thunder cloud. As its ozone does, so we were revived and inspired. See! there on the horizon yonder, the new aspiration and humanity are raising.

Where do we Japanese workers in this country stand today? We abide in bitterest condition of all—almost unbearable contempt is bestowed upon us. Our rights as humans are denied; the immigration law restrictions are particularly for the Japanese workers, because we are called a yellow detriment to American public. The using of ballot by us has been defied even though we do not wish to chew rotten rags given by American capitalists.

The exclusion completely accomplished, moreover every day of our life, like that of ancient pastoral people who with their cattle followed the water and grass, we wander in this continent east to west and west to east seeking merely the mercy of the exploiting class.

Fellow workers! are you working with a heavy pick, in the dark of a mine or the wilds where the climate is the worst? Pale face, are you working in the store basement without sunshine and breathing the dust of packings? Is your life not menaced in the factory and the mills by accident? You domestic and hotel worker! are you eating the "Oamari" in the corner of the kitchen?

It is so terrible; "consumption" "debility", "exhausted", "killed", "suicide", this is the only fate awaiting you as reward for your sacrifice to a few idiots.

Unless we realize our own interests as a class, we Japanese will soon meet the precipice—precipice of shame and starvation.

We welcome the organization that is known as the "Japanese Workers Union", a strong sign of the awakening of the "inferior race" of America, but we Japanese members of the Industrial Workers of the World urge and invite you to join the Industrial Workers of the World, which organization is the only workers union in America that stands for uniting the world of workers in the interest of the working class alone.

It stands for the Industrial unionism, instead of the craft system of scabbery in the warfare against the employing class.

One Union! One Label! One enemy! is the I. W. W. motto. Organizing workers into one union no matter as to color of skin or difference in flags, the I. W. W. recognizes only one enemy, the capitalists class.

Why should we need stand by a nation, when the Japanese capitalist and official disregards all boundary lines and nations whenever their interests demand it.

This fact was clearly proved during the time of the recent strike of the Japanese plantation workers in the Hawaiian Islands.

Now is the time to leave your old shell to regenerate.

When the Japanese Workers Union affiliate with the I. W. W. as an industrial union or a language branch according to the constitution of the I. W. W., you will feel your power strengthened.

No longer shall we be accused as scabs by the yellow scabbing A. F. L., nor shall we isolate from the labor movement of America.

There is apt to come great fighting in the near future as a result of the recent strike in Hawaii. A victory or a bitter defeat depend on us deciding whether to take part in the world movement of the workers or remaining as a nationality wrangling over petty sentiment.

Fellow Workers:—

Remember we have nothing in common with the army of millions, and the thousands ton battle ships of the Japanese government, never in the past or in the future will they be our friends, they are always an enemy to us and humanity.

There is only one strong weapon left for us that is "Industrial Unionism". Organize the workers into one union against one enemy.

This is what the I. W. W. stands for and advocates.

The I. W. W. is the revolutionary economic organization out of the domain of any political party.

Fellow Workers:—

A Union of Japanese workers 4000 strong! The union is of such influence that no employer can touch it at all. A splendid weekly organ: "The Labor" in which revolutionary methods are taught such as general strike and other direct actions.

Why then should you not come one step forward? The I. W. W. is the only workers organization in America.

Fellow workers:—

The time is rapidly approaching now. The two great hostile armies, namely capitalists class and working class will clash soon in a fierce battle at Waterloo or Sekiga-Hara. A day which will define our fate.

Hear! A sound, slight but distinct calling you forward "Forward", to gain the world into our hand.

"Oh you youths, Western youths", "So impatient, full of action, full of manly pride and Friend-ship" "Plain I see you Western youths. See you tramping with the foremost, Pioneers! oh Pioneers!" (Whitman)

We urgently invite you to affiliate with the I. W. W. Japanese members of I. W. W.

Owing to the great many difficulties which the Japanese language printing has here, it could not be avoided that publication of this Number was greatly delayed.

We shall ask all of you for ardent support of the "PROLETARIAN". Being wage slaves, our financial means are limited, while a great mission confronts us, organizing a "backward race".

If we can secure the cost of printing out of subscriptions, bundle orders and contributions, the publication will be guaranteed.

Full financial report will be printed in next number.

OMO NARU IWU HONBU WA SHIMO NO GOTASHI

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WM. E. TRAUTMANN, General Organizer

The first convention and mass meeting of the Japanese workers union will be held on Aug. 25th at the headquarters Fresno, Cal. The delegates and speakers already appointed, are: S. Uwasa from San Francisco locals, G. Miya Koshi, from Los Angeles and others not yet known.

An agitation trip of T. Takeuchi, organizer of Japanese workers union was a success. He was found surrounded by enthusiastic crowds in every meeting held in union camps. Two locals established in Sacramento districts in effect of his crusade in spite of disruption of Employer's Association, which is composed by Japanese Capitalist.

The Persecutions.

The Persecutions of the Government against Socialism and Anarchism are becoming more and more fiercely.

On that day when the first number of our paper appeared the police soon invaded our office to seize all its copies. They however found only 86 copies, though two thousand copies were printed. As the result, Comrad Soga Kanno, who is a young woman Anarchist and one of our staff, was prosecuted for her writings "breaking social order".

Comrade Uchiyama was arrested by the Yokohama police 25 ult. on the charge concerning the printing of some anarchistic and anti-militarism leaflets. And he is now in the Negishi jail awaiting the day of trial. He is an excellent Buddhist priest, 35 years old.

Two other young comrades, who are type setter and printer, were also fined 10 yen and 2 yen respectively for having secretly made the anarchist-communistic leaflets.

All comrades in Tokio and Yokohama are always followed by detectives or police wherever they go. Our office and other socialistic clubs are watched every day and night by a number of police, and they ask the name of every one who calls upon us.

The translation of Kropotkin's "Law and Authority" is also circulating secretly. The officials are vehemently looking for its translator and printer.

From THE JIYU-SHISO, Tokio

The Hawaiian strike was declared off officially on Aug. 9th, after the stubborn resistance for three months.

There is nothing so ridiculous as the appealing to government by Japanese strikers of Hawaii. The high spirit had been shown until that time, thereafter a bum.

同胞労働者 諸君に檄す

親愛なる同胞労働者諸君

僕等は共に遠く郷國の山河を後にして此北米の大陸に漂浪するものも也。例ふれば以て水草に似たるか東西自ら止る所を知らず、只ウエーチの下に口を糊するもの也。

彼の人種偏狭の裡に座し、加ふに幾度かマーケツトを幾ふ經濟的デプレツションは常に吾等日本人労働者を如何なる地位に下げうちたるかベニツクと稱する怪物は如何に苦しいインプレツションを吾等の頭に與へつゝあるよ。今や常住の地位すらも保持する能はずして、ウエーチは盛に低落しつゝあるにあらざるや、もし今日在北米日本人労働者にして是を自覺しよろしく救ふ所なくば、吾等の前途や知るべし。何れと屈辱の斷涯のみ。

同胞労働者諸君、

吾等は此自覺に添ふて、世界産業労働者組合 (Industrial workers of the world) 日本人支部を各地に組織せん事を宣言し且つ同志に組合に加入し又は支部を設立せん事を希望す。此團結の力によつて吾等の正しい權利を烈しく主張すべし、協同の力によつて吾等の利益を強く擁護せんと欲す。

世界産業労働者組合は北米に於て最も進歩的革命的團體にして、彼の北米職業組合 (American Federation of Labor) が極力日本人を排斥せんとするに代つて「世界の労働者は團結せよ」と叫ぶ。

額に汗するものは總て兄弟也。吾等は單に、國家、人種の上に拘

泥せずして、吾等と共通の苦痛の上に立てる、他國労働者と共に進まん事を期す、即ち吾等の行動や世界労働運動の一部をこゝろつゝある事を公言して誇とするもの也。

同胞労働者諸君、諸君は暗黒の坑道にビツクを振ひつゝあるか、或は煙囪閉し幾ふ荒原に地を耕しつゝあるか、蒼顔、日光を見ざる商店の同胞よ、ペーメントに粉塵を呼吸せるゴミホドキよ、ミル、フクトリーに危険を以て充滿せるチャンパーボキンを手にしつゝあるか、君はキツチン、殘飯を食しつゝあるか、同胞よ。オー慷慨たる兄弟の前途よ、「生理的」「つかれ死」「肺病」「格闘」「惨死」「衰死」之れ即ち兄弟等を鶴首して待てる運命と知しや。此運命こそ諸君に、何物をも齎すにあらず、只數人の米國資本家の宴會を盛にせんが爲めのみ。

同胞労働者諸君、諸君は彼の苦悶のソイに起れる日本労働者ストライキを何ぞ見しか、米國資本家は權力と金力を弄して同胞を壓し去る、誰れか泣かざらん、血と熱に満てる日本男兒のよく忍ぶ能はざる所、郷國、芙蓉爲に耻ぢ、櫻花又咲かざらん、僕等は心に深く期する所なくはあらず。吾等日本労働者は果して大なりや、米國の海岸は移民の閉す所となり日本労働者は一步も入るを許さる也、然り諸君、僕等は實に犬の待遇を満しつゝある也。

同胞労働者諸君、諸君にして一度思ひ考ふる所あらば、よろしく來りて行を共にせよ、吾等は悲慘に代ふるに幸福を求めんとするもの也。敗北を轉じて勝利を齎らんとするもの也。握る手は固くして吾等の力がある資本家の横暴、官憲の壓制何があるらん、吾等の前途は只希望と勝利の地也。

世界産業労働組合
日本人一同

I, W, W. は何か

「世界の労働者同盟せよ、汝の失所は只鐵鎖のみ、而も得る所は全世界也」は I, W, W. 即ち Industrial workers of the world と稱する労働組合の精神を代表した言である。されば會員はあらゆる國民と人種とを含んでゐる。

彼の A. F. of L. (American Federation of Labor) に屬して居る組合が日本人を排斥しなり又は入會料を高して他人を入れなかつたりする所は職業トラストと云ふべきである。此點に於て I, W, W. は一層進歩した革命的労働者の一團體に於ても、一方の A. F. of L. の方では職業の別によつて組合を別々にしてつぎつぎと組合を別々を窺ひ申して居るに引かへて I, W. では名の如く産業組合と稱し産業の別々によつて組合を分けて労働者の方へ非常に便利を與へて居る。

ユニオンと云ふ言は日本人に惡感を與へる、何となれば、嘗てユニオンが日本人排斥の中心であり又日本人はユニオンの爲に折角の職業を失ふ場合となつた、しかし I, W, W. なるユニオンは全く所謂黄色ユニオンと異なるを知る必要がある、I, W, W. の機關新聞なる The Industrial worker が如何にハワイ日本人のストライキに聲援を與へたかを見て貰ふ。

日本人はよく考ふべき時が來た。職業の限られて居る事、待遇の事、排斥の事等だ。ボツトと日本労働者の同盟も出來て來た、ハワイの同胞のストライキの如き喜ばしい現象である、更に考ふべき事は日本人が單に日本人として活動するのではなく世界運動の一部となつてやる事である。

ハワイ事件の時白人排主の方では上野領事を五千弗で買収した而して巡査を用ひて盛んに鎮壓した日本政府では見向きもしない、是で資本家が全く國家や人種を離れて互に握手して居ると云ふ事が明かだ、日本人労働者諸君は宜しく此際國家的人種的考を脱して「世界の運動」に入らん事を切望する、一般労働者の勢力を増して來るの爲である。

別項英文欄に重なる都會の支部の宛名を並べて置いた諸君自身行つて入會の手續をしたまへ又は已に成れる団体もしくは新に團體を作つて日本人支部を作る事の出來る、詳細は本社宛か又は直接本部へ申込み給へ、諸君の就職等の便のみに止まらず、日本人の勢力を發展して行くに諸君に入會の事を切望する。

シカゴ在住の 日本人諸君に

シカゴは、しかにデニバーにつ

いで日本人の入込む所だ、而して日本人が各方面に工場に商店等に働いてる點に於て將來大に發展の地と思はれる、事實當地の日本人は毎月のようにふけて行く。

排斥の聲をそろそろと盛んになつて來た。例の黄色ユニオンの黄色新聞のアメリカンやエキザミナーは日本の惡口をよろこんで大々的に吹聴してゐる。

日本人もオマへと退いては居られぬ。是非とも團體を作つて對抗運動をやる必要がある、而して一方には此團結を通じて就職の便とか、クラブの如きものを作つて連絡をして行く事が出来る、團結と云ふ事に賛成する人多少主義主張の僕と異なるもモモヤマの話をせんとする人、労働運動につき話をせんとする人はフライディの午後高橋式を I, W, W. シカゴ本部に送らば必ずやつて居るハガキをよこせば必ずやつて居る本部には英文日本文の労働運動、社會主義に關する本を備へて置く新刊の日本雜誌も二三を備へて置く是非やつて來たまへ。僕は廣く日本人労働者諸君と交際する事は愉快とする所である、是非とも日本人の團結を要する。

本紙「平民」は四五の世界産業労働者組合の日本人會員に因て經營するものにして、諸君にして本紙を有益也發行繼續せざるべからずと思ふならば一ヶ年分購料料三十五仙を

The Proletarian,
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