

SPECIAL SPOKANE DESPATCHES

Discipline Excellent

SPOKANE, Sunday, Nov. 14.—The one distinctive feature of this fight, which impresses me at first glance, is the calm, business like determination of the men and the excellent discipline pervading throughout their ranks.

Things are quiet today. No street speaking is the order for Sunday. Tomorrow street speaking will be resumed. The plan is to send out a sacrifice squad daily. Many men are arriving. Two hundred and eighty are in jail, living on bread and water. Eighty of these are in Fort Wright, seventy-five in the abandoned Franklin school house and one hundred and twenty-five in the city jail. Two meetings will be held tonight, one in the city court room and one at I. W. W. headquarters. Elizabeth Gurley Flynn and John M. Work are speakers for both meetings, relieving each other. WM. Z. FOSTER.

Horrible Conditions

SPOKANE, Monday, Nov. 15.—Ten speakers arrested today. Police handled them roughly and were jeered by the bystanders.

Conditions in jails are horrible. In the school house bucket is used for toilet. The place is alive with vermin. The prisoners are refused water to boil their clothes. Windows are broken. No visitors are allowed. No place to sleep except floor. No blankets. Half loaf bread daily. All are suffering with cramps in stomach. Doctor gives them castor oil. Many are very sick, but they are ordered to work on rock pile. Only two so far have accepted this means of release.

Today a six day striker was released, afflicted with bleeding piles. Blood was running down his legs. At first they ordered him to rock pile, then told him to go. He could hardly walk and was refused admission to hospital. He was penniless, but authorities refused to return thirty cents taken from his person when he was arrested, on the plea that he owed for costs.

Socialists have declared boycott on Apple Show.

Public sentiment is strong for strikers. W. Z. FOSTER.

Fifty Trials in Forty-Five Minutes

SPOKANE, Tuesday, Nov. 16.—Ten speakers arrested today.

This afternoon fifty were tried in forty-five minutes, all for "disorderly conduct." Last week Police Judge Mann declared the ordinance against street speaking to be unconstitutional, so all are now charged with "disorderly conduct," though their only offense is speaking on the street.

Of the fifty cases tried today eleven were "continued," four "dismissed," thirty-five sentenced to 30 days on the rock pile, two for second offense fined one hundred dollars in addition to 30 days. Three were sick. Judge Mann tried to make them promise to speak no more. They refused to promise. Then he dismissed them without promise. One who had been insolent to Mann on previous day was ordered to be examined for his sanity. It is easy to get doctors and judges to commit to asylum.

All cases have been appealed to superior court, where they will get jury trials. Bruce Rogers is attorney in charge of cases. W. Z. F.

thirty days in that jail after hearing the reports of the horrible conditions prevailing there. The men, however, face it cheerfully and amid the jokes of their fellow workers they are taken away.

Today three were arrested at one spot, and then the rest decided to give the police a walk before they could have an opportunity to arrest another "rioter." It was amusing to watch the Pinkertons and plain clothes men follow us about. One fellow was jibed so heartily that he shamefacedly turned back and went around the block to head us off so as to be early upon the scene and make a reputation by pulling a rioter.

The methods used by the I. W. W.'s in this fight are of so peaceful a nature and so systematic that the police are afraid of creating any more public sentiment in favor of them by handling the "speakers" very roughly. Once in a while, however, a policeman will show his bravery by giving some unresisting fellow a yank when he takes hold of him. The crowd resent this and with their hissing and jeering drive these obnoxious minions of order half mad with anger.

This afternoon our fourth "speaker" was in a bad plight as the policeman didn't arrive soon enough. He didn't have a word to say, and had to be prompted by some of his more literate brethren who stood on the curb and gave him his speech word by word, sotto voce, with but slight accent on the "sotto." When the policeman did arrive this "speaker" was so pleased that he actually made a couple of steps toward him so as to expedite the matter.

After the afternoon's five speakers had been arrested some of the boys in the crowd called out that there would be no more demonstration today. This is the usual procedure, and the I. W. W. keeps its word by not holding any demonstrations.

At first they held their meetings down in hoboland, but when the police began the clubbing they moved to the business district and public sentiment has saved them largely from this feature. They hold no "street meetings" after 5 p. m., as for obvious reasons they wish plain daylight to shine on the actions of the police in the arrests.

The story in my dispatch tonight is the skeleton of a terrible tale told me by a young Frenchman, an I. W. W., who got out today. He has protruding piles to a bad degree, and when he would sit down he had to be helped up. All the medical attention he got was doses of castor oil. The doctor advised him to go to the rock pile. They reward these traitors by giving them their liberty. So far only two have accepted this chance. This young fellow deposited 30 cents at the station when he was arrested, but they refused to return it to him. He was informed that he had received 30 days and costs, and that his 30 cents had gone to help liquidate the "costs." This young Frenchman showed up at headquarters in a most deplorable condition and one of the fellows took the platform, and after briefly stating the case asked for a collection. There were only a few present and many of them were absolutely penniless, but the crowd responded with \$3.40. It was really thrilling to see such enthusiastic class spirit. These men are determined to win and a victory for them in this fight spells trouble for the employment agencies.

Work's talk fell flat, and the boys are disgusted with his ladylike harangues. He is certainly a wretched talker, one of the very poorest I have heard for some time. He told us all about Lovejoy, Phillips, Garrison, Brown, etc. Gurley Flynn followed him and gave a real live, direct action talk that was very well received.

Duggan has gone to Chicago on business, but of what nature I couldn't learn. W. Z. FOSTER.