

FOSTER'S LETTER FROM ROCKPILE

[Wm. E. Foster, correspondent of "The Workingman's Paper," was jailed for no other reason whatever than writing truthful accounts of what the Police are doing to Workingmen in the Outlaw City.—Ed.]

Written from Daily Work, Breaking Rock, with Ball and Chain on His Ankles.

Dr. Titus:

Dear Comrade.—There is a chance to get out a few lines today, but as I have only about ten minutes' notice to write in I will be unable to go into many details.

Thanks ever so much for the proffer of such legal talent as Judge Richardson. I couldn't accept his services for several reasons, of which I asked him to inform you.

First of all, the expense would be too great to be borne by the paper. I just couldn't permit it to get into any greater difficulties on my account.

Then it would be useless, as there is no justice to be had in Spokane. To prepare for an elaborate defense would be but to provoke the authorities to produce a cloud of perjurers.

You don't realize the state of tyranny existing here. Richardson promised to get me out, but I couldn't accept that either, as I don't intend to get out until I can do so honorably.

I need never have gotten in at all if I had promised Pugh and Sullivan to be real good.

I can't take time to tell you of conditions here, but when I get out (if ever) I'll give you some hot stuff.

I asked Judge Richardson to have my case appealed, and he promised to see that it was properly done, and if I am not out before my trial comes up I will defend myself. I have hung about the courtrooms here long enough to know something of how it should be done.

I will frame up a defense that will require the city to perjure several witnesses in order to convict me. I will have to wait until later before I can give you any details of my arrest, etc.

WM. Z. FOSTER.

Editor's Note to Above.—Judge Richardson was requested by the editor of this paper to get Foster out on bonds, to be provided by certain parties named to him. No conditions were thought of or would have been sanctioned. Foster has the undoubted legal right to be liberated on bonds, like any other prisoner not in for the worst felony. Judge Richardson is a corporation lawyer now, though a member of the Socialist Party. "The Workingman's Paper" was unable to advance him any fee, but telegraphed him, "We will pay." He wired back: "Appeal taken. Foster refuses to accept bonds. Letter follows."

No letter ever reached us from the Judge and we judged Foster to be too much determined to make a martyr of himself.

We will soon hear from Foster through Mrs. Hyde and Mrs. Herman, who are to interview Judge Mann, Chief Sullivan and Mayor Pratt with a view to liberating Foster, as well as Korthugen and Holland, all members of the United Wage Workers.