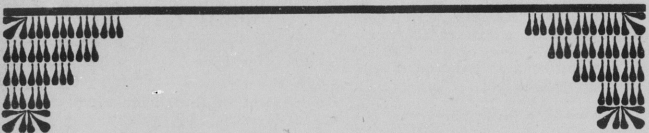


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ROT FROM COAL RUN. How Lying, Ignorant Correspondents Help to Deceive Their Own Organization.

United Mine Worker Correspondents Hide the True Situation from Their Official Organs—Read the Following Letter and Judge for Yourself. COAL RUN, PA., July 18, 1904. EDITOR MINE WORKERS' JOURNAL:

A few lines from this place to let the brothers know how we are getting along. We are now in the eighth month of our strike. We are still holding our own at this place. There has not one of our men went to work. We have had four Slavs to go scabbing. They were expelled from our local, 2478. They have a few scabs at Salisbury. They are the lowest down cattle that I ever saw. They are natives of the place where they were born scabbing. There was a fire at Merchants No. 3 mine on last Tuesday night. It burned up Noah's Ark. All indications point that it was burned for the insurance that was on it. It was something like the attempt to blow up Meagher tippie—done by the hired thugs of the company, that they call deputy sheriff's. The guards are the only ones that cause any trouble, for they are drunk all of the time. There were three of them riding all around here on the night of the fire trying to incite a riot, but they did not have the sand to stand a riot, all they were doing was to try to scare some women, but the women made them ashamed of themselves. There has been thirteen more of our men and boys attached, to be brought before the most corrupt judge that ever disgraced a judge's bench. Colorado does not exceed this county in corruption. We have one man that was sued for assault and battery that was not allowed to present his side of the case at all, but was bound over to court. He was at home at the time and could have proved it by at least five men and three women. They have about 28 Italians working Merchants No. 2 and about 32 American Italians at Merchants No. 1, and about 18 or 19 of the same kind at Chapmans. Those men that are working never did anything else but scab in time of trouble in this region, so you see we are not afraid of losing our cause. They are not doing any good. From a careful calculation of what it is costing the company to produce a ton of coal they will soon get tired of their scab coal and the price it is costing them. Every ton of coal costs at least 75 cents per ton more than they get for it in the market. There is only a few weeks more till the coal trade will be better in this section of the country, then the companies will be glad to get miners, for there is but 150 practical miners scabbing in the Meyersdale region all told, so there is no question but that we will win our strike in the end. There is not a miner in this region that has not got from one to three injunctions and at least 100 men have been attached and an attachment means from \$25 to \$75, and maybe you get anywhere from three days to one month in jail. The judge asks the company what the fine shall be, also the jail sentence. The five Slavs that went to work were always looked upon as scabbits, as they call them. The miners are confident that they will win in the end. There are men in this dis-

trict that are willing to strike for two years for the union. The coal companies make no bones about saying that it is only the union they are fighting and not the price. I think with the assistance of the national we will come off victorious in the early fall. A few words for our noble officers for the good work they are doing. If one of our officers was ever abused by the press, the hired tool of the coal companies, our Brothers E. S. McCullough, and Wm. Morgan have been led on by a couple of the most damnably corrupt newspapers ever published. A few words for our worthy Brother John Blumneck, our Polish brother. Since he came to this section last January he has worked hard and faithful. He has only lost six men. That shows what good work he is doing. Our officers could not do any more than they have done. Brother Salmond and Brother Smith are not with us at present. They also worked while here. Brother F. J. Dunn, district president; District Secretary-Treasurer W. J. Ford—they are busy as bees attending to their duties. There are no drones among any of the officers in this end of the field. DIXIE.

For genuine "tommyrot," the Coal Run letter takes the cake. We have reproduced it just as it appeared in the United Mine Workers' Journal, of Indianapolis, July 21st. "Dixie's" letter is nothing but a big batch of untruths stated in badly bungled English, and it will no doubt furnish lots of amusement for a great many of our readers. The poor fool that wrote that letter evidently craves cheap notoriety, and to get it he seems to think he must resort to all manner of misrepresentation, just as the strike leaders and organizers of this region have been doing all along. Let us review some of his rot.

Dixie—"We are still holding our own at this place." Comment—Your own is very little in this strike, and it requires no holding. A whole lot of other men are holding down good jobs, and a nice string of loaded cars is shipped out of Coal Run every day. Dixie knows it, too, and that's what hurts.

Dixie—"There has not one of our men went to work." Comment—Then why do you say in the very next sentence that four of your Slavs returned to work and were expelled from union No. 2478? You contradict your own words, and a whole lot more of you would return to work if you could only induce the operators to give you work.

Dixie—"They have a few scabs at Salisbury. They are the lowest down cattle that I ever saw." Comment—You have evidently never looked into a mirror, but you ought to know that you are only an ignorant, bellowing calf, just the same. You ought to know that much by instinct.

Dixie—"There was a fire at Merchants No. 3 mine. It burned up Noah's Ark. All indications point that it was burned for the insurance." Comment—If you are brought into court to prove your assertions, you will fail, and then you will get the penalty you deserve. It's dollars to doughnuts that if it is ever found out who set the Merchants Coal Company's block of houses fire, it will prove to be one or more members of the U. M. W. of A.

Dixie—"The guards are the only ones that cause any trouble, for they are drunk all of the time. There were three of them riding all around here on the night of the fire trying to incite a riot." Comment—A bigger lie than that statement couldn't be crowded into that many lines, and Dixie knows it. While the building was burning, a lot of strikers were gloating and rejoicing over it, which is sufficient proof that they do not think the company hired some one to burn the building down for the insurance.

Dixie—"There has been thirteen more of our men and boys attached, to be brought before the most corrupt judge that ever disgraced a judge's bench. Colorado does not exceed this county in corruption." Comment—No law-abiding citizen of this county has anything to fear from the judge you refer to. Judge Kooser has only warned a lot of the strikers that they must not violate the law. The injunctions do not in any way interfere with any of the lawful rights of the strikers. The court concedes that they have a right to strike whenever they please, and as long as they please; but they are restrained and enjoined not to interfere with those who desire to work, and the strikers are also warned against trespassing on the premises of the coal companies, attempting to destroy their property, etc. The thugs who depend on violence and outlawry to win their strikes, are the

only people howling against the injunctions. The injunctions have had a wholesome effect, and had injunctions been asked for at Boswell before the riot at that place, no blood would have been spilled. Dixie is quite right when he says that Colorado does not exceed this county for corruption. What we need here is a "bull pen" and a citizens' alliance, as they have in Colorado, to take care of Dixie and other corruptionists of his stripe, for they are dangerously corrupt.

Dixie—"We have one man that was sued for assault and battery that was not allowed to present his side of the case at all, but was bound over to court."

Comment—Dixie, you are as ignorant as a hog. Your fool letter exposes your ignorance all the way through, and especially is this the case in your mention of the assault and battery case. Four your enlightenment we will inform you that a justice of the peace has no jurisdiction in this state over cases of assault and battery. The court alone can try such cases, and all a justice of the peace can do in cases of that nature is to hear the plaintiff's side and send the case to court, if, in his judgment, the plaintiff, produces sufficient sworn testimony to make it look reasonable that he has been assaulted. The justices do only what the law and their oaths require of them, and in assault and battery cases they perform about the same function as a grand jury, which body, as all men of ordinary intelligence know, hear only the plaintiff's side, but let the court and the petit jury decide the case after hearing the testimony on both sides in open court. Dixie would know this if he were anything but an ignorant ass.

Dixie—"From a careful calculation of what it is costing the company to produce a ton of coal they will soon get tired of their scab coal and the price it is costing them. Every ton of coal costs at least 75 cents per ton more than they get for it in the market."

Comment—A more absurd and ridiculous statement than that we have never seen in print. Go bag your soft head, you poor, benighted fool! Talk about a "careful calculation!" Wouldn't you be a peach of a thing to select for a careful calculator? It is impossible to make a silk handkerchief of a sow's ear, but it is just as impossible for an ignoramus like you to make a careful calculation about anything, except, perhaps, the number of drunks you could get out of a gallon of whisky. The operators in this coal region are not such fools as to sell coal for less than cost of production. That's why they refuse to let fools of the Dixie stripe run their mines. The coal companies never had better miners at work than right now. Men that make as high as \$100 and more in two weeks, must surely know how to dig coal.

We could go on and dissect many more of Dixie's fool utterances, but as we have published his letter in full, and his utterances are so thin that even children will see the flimsiness thereof, we will refrain from making any further comment. Dixie has shown to the world that he is nothing but a poor fool, and the publication of such rot only makes it the harder for the strikers to win their battle. It also makes Dixie and the United Mine Workers' Journal liable to suits for criminal libel.

SUICIDE PREVENTED.

The startling announcement that a preventive of suicide has been discovered will interest many. A run down system, or dependency invariably precede suicide and something has been found that will prevent that condition which makes suicide likely. At the first thought of self destruction take Electric Bitters. It being a great tonic and nerve will strengthen the nerves and build up the system. It's also a great Stomach, Liver and Kidney regulator. Only 50c. Satisfaction guaranteed by E. H. Miller, Druggist. 9-1

The miners' officials of the Meyersdale region have been making speeches abusing the local papers, and the latter now have their innings. It is an unequal contest between the idle wind that passeth by and the cold types that imprint themselves upon the memory. —Connellsville Courier.

The New York Herald's straw vote will likely be discontinued. It was undertaken in the hope that the result would show a large preponderance of opinion in favor of Parker, but the Herald has been compelled to report just the opposite. The vote was taken among employees of the dry goods district of New York City, says the Johnstown Tribune.

When Jackass McCullough started to Bray at the miners' meeting recently

held at Meyersdale, he soon became violent, and it is said that he got so wrathful before he got done denouncing THE STAR that he tied himself in a double bow knot several times and bit several big pieces out of his gigantic ears. But he still has several square feet of ear left.

Grit, a trashy story paper published at Williamsport, Pa., has lately been publishing some great lies concerning the mining situation in this region. The lying articles have been contributed by United Mine Worker officials, and the writers did not confine themselves to facts, knowing that it wouldn't be to the interest of the labor leaders to have facts spread before their deluded followers. Grit is an ideal medium through which to "bamfoolize" the ignorant element among the miners, for it is a paper that caters to that class of people. The paper publishes some respectable news matter, but in the main it is made up of trashy literature, the kind that appeals to the ignorant classes. Its patronage comes principally from the ignorant classes, and for that reason Grit publishes mining news to suit its patrons, and to do that it must omit the real facts.

There isn't one strike in forty that the strikers don't strike to the country and take work from the regular hands that work on farms, and they generally work for less money. Others will go and pick the handy berries that belong to the farmer's wives and children, and carry them away and appropriate them to their own use, which under the law is stealing. Others will go and trespass, hunting and fishing, on the property of the farmers. They take the bread from the mouths of those to whom it belongs, then when they return home and see some working in their berry patch, or shooting their squirrels, they begin to cry scab! scab! and make a terrible ado. There is a saying, never repealed, that it is a poor rule that won't work both ways. If you don't want scabs, don't be scabby. We would not be at all surprised to learn that some strikers from the Mechanic street glass factory are working at some non-union man's job somewhere. The Bible says: "Be not among strikers." —Cumberland Courier.

In speaking of Organizers McCullough and Morgan, the Meyersdale Republican, last week, said: "Did they offer one word of truthful encouragement to the striking miner who is so blindly following them? No indeed. Did they offer any argument in proof of William Morgan's profane assertion that the Republican and Star were printing damnable lies in regard to him and the organization he represents? No indeed, they did not. The mere assertion of a man like Morgan is no evidence to convict. He asked, who is this man Bishop, and answered his own query by the reply that the same echo came back, who is he? Well, we will tell him who we are not. We are no violator of the laws of this land, and we have never laid in a West Virginia jail, as he has. Neither were we ever driven out of any community or had our teeth knocked down our throat for interfering in other people's affairs, as he has. We have never been intoxicated in our life. Neither have we been taken through the main streets of Meyersdale in broad daylight in a beastly state of intoxication and pnt to bed by our companions. These are a few of the things in which we differ from this parasite upon the miner's cause, William Morgan."

Old Lou Smith seems to think that he is not shown the respect his age entitles him to at the hands of THE STAR and the Meyersdale Republican. We are indeed sorry that we can not show the old fool the respect that we always have for sensible and decent men of his age, but the fault is his, not ours. Old Lou had a shady reputation when he struck Somerset county, many years ago, and he has never outlived it. From the very start he seemed continually bent on "doing" other people or dragging them down to his own low level. In decency he has not improved with age, as most men do, but has gone from bad to worse. He has no standing in the community where he resides, and everything he advocates comes to grief. The people you can hear praising his paper the most are the ignorant, the low, the vicious and criminal classes. "Lucifer" don't try to compare yourself with such grand and able old men as Depew, Hoar, Grow and others that you have named. We know that a man is no older than he feels, but we also know that there is a whole lot of truth in the old saying that "there is no fool like an old fool." You are merely an old fool, and when you were young you were a young fool. A fool is all that you have ever been.