

Spring to the Rescue of the Kidnapped Men!

(April 25, 1911)

The workers of all the country should spring to the rescue of the three kidnapped and deported union men. It is an outrage the enormity of which cannot be expressed in words. It is an attack upon organized labor which must be swiftly resented with all the power of the labor movement of the United States.

The McNamara brothers and McManigal were not given a ghost of a chance to legally resist extradition. They were arrested in secret and spirited away by corporation detectives in flagrant violation of their constitutional rights.

In the case of John J. McNamara, secretary of the Iron Workers, the requisition was honored in private by the governor, who has always posed as a friend of the working class, the victim being arrested in secret by corporation bloodhounds and whisked out of town and beyond the state boundary as swiftly as a waiting automobile could deliver the *prey* to and express train bound for the Pacific coast, where the pirates who swore they would wipe out organized labor are eagerly waiting to convict him with perjured evidence and pronounce his doom.

The secret arrest, forcible abduction, and secret incarceration of James W. McNamara and Ortie McManigal are even more outrageous in the violation of their constitutional rights.

If they had all been mad beasts they could not have been more brutally outraged by these hounds of hell, whose only incentive in tracking these victims is the blood money furnished by the gang of corporation brigands who kidnap and murder men who interfere with their piracy.

When Taylor, ex-governor of Kentucky, the capitalist politician, was a fugitive here in Indiana, under indictment for murder and \$100,000 on his head, the governor absolutely refused to honor the requisition and deliver him to the Kentucky authorities. But it did not take the governor five seconds to deliver a workingman to the jackals of capitalism in a state two thousand miles distant.

When he signed the requisition in private that the arrest might be made in secret, he knew that McNamara would be robbed of his legal right to show cause why he should not be extradited, but McNamara was only a workingman and the governor eagerly delivered him up to his corporation executioners. Had he been the vilest murderer he would still

have had the right to make his legal defense, of which the governor's infamous act deprived him.

Governor Marshall is one of the prominent candidates for presidency of the United States.

Every workingman in the state and nation should hiss his name and point at him the finger of scorn and contempt. In his subserviency to corporate power, his eagerness to lick the boots of his masters, he merits the execration of all organized labor.

The Socialist Party must be at the head and front of the movement to rescue these intended victims. The very method of their capture and deportation stamps them as innocent men and condemns the kidnapping scoundrels who expect to profit by their execution.

Let the bugle cry of revolt be sounded to the working class of the United States. These outraged union men are our brethren and we are going to rescue them from the clutches of their would-be murderers at whatever cost.

Every possible means must be employed to stir the workers and incite them to raise the standard of revolt. This is war upon organized labor, upon us all, and we mean to fight. If there is red blood in the revolutionary movement now is the time to show it.

The matter of the innocence or guilt of the accused is not involved. They have been kidnapped — stolen bodily from their homes, families, and friends, brutally outraged in defiance not only of their legal rights but of the commonest decencies to which even the lowest criminals are entitled, and this is our grievance; and upon this issue we make our appeal to the working class and the nation.

The cause of these union men is our cause. If they can be kidnapped and murdered by corporation pirates, in connivance with their official hirelings, no man is secure.

We mean war upon the kidnapping of workingmen, and if need be it will be a war to the death. Upon that issue the corporation robbers of the Pacific coast and of the whole country can have any kind of fight they want — and the sooner it comes the better.

Now is the time for the labor movement of the United States to prove its mettle. If it does not fight with every atom of its energy to rescue these kidnapped union men its cravenness and cowardice will encourage still further outrages on the part of those who are seeking to destroy it.

Arouse, ye workingmen and women throughout the land and cry out in revolt against this monstrous crime upon the working class. Let such a

tempest of popular indignation sweep from coast to coast as to put an end to the kidnapping of workingmen by criminal corporations forever.¹

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¹ A footnote published below this article indicates that “the above statement on ‘The Second Moyer, Haywood, Pettibone Case’ was telegraphed to the *Daily Socialist* by Eugene V. Debs from his home in Terre Haute, Indiana.”