

SIX MASKED MEN LYNCH FRANK H. LITTLE, LEADER OF I. W. W.

His Body Found Early This Morning Hanging From Milwaukee Railroad Trestle

VICTIM OF VIGILANTES MADE SEDITIOUS SPEECHES OPENLY SINCE HIS ARRIVAL IN BUTTE

Called United States Soldiers "Uncle Sam's Scabs in Uniform"—Came Here From Arizona Where He Was Prominent In I. W. W. Work—Was Chairman of the General Executive Board of National Organization—Haywood Notified of Outrage and Sends Reply—Masked Men Hurry Him in Automobile to Place of Execution on Outskirts of City—Authorities Start Investigation

Frank H. Little, William D. Haywood's right-hand man in the west and chairman of the general executive committee of the I. W. W. national organization, was lynched by six masked men early this morning. Shortly after 3 o'clock Little was taken from his room in the Steele block, on North Wyoming street, adjoining Finn hall, forced while still in his underwear to enter an automobile and driven off at high speed to the Milwaukee railroad trestle near the Centennial brewery on the outskirts of the city. There, after a desperate struggle, a rope was placed about his neck and he was thrown from the bridge. His death must have been instantaneous, as his neck was broken. In red letters on a card pinned to Little's underclothing was a warning to others, signed by "Vigilantes."

The authorities have taken first steps to make a thorough investigation into the murder. Little's associates in Butte claim to know the identity of five of the men who participated in the outrage. The officers have made no arrests, but are following every possible clue. Little had made many seditious speeches and only recently at a mass meeting at the ball park declared that United States soldiers were "Uncle Sam's scabs in uniform." On occasions in Butte he had denounced the administration and declared that his organization would make it so hot for the government that it could not send troops to France. No later than last Friday night he urged the miners to defy the city authorities and declared that the United States constitution was a mere piece of paper that might be torn up.

Immediately after the identification of the body of Little, members of the I. W. W. in Butte began to telegraph appeals for aid. William D. Haywood, secretary of the national organization, was notified. Other telegrams were sent to Arizona, where Little was especially well known. Later on replies were received from Haywood in which it was understood that the whole resources of the organization would be devoted to finding and punishing the lynchers and to protecting other members of the I. W. W. in Butte, if such protection was found necessary.

How They Found Him.

The raid on Little's room had been thoroughly planned. Six masked men drove up to the front of the hotel at five minutes after three. One stood upon the sidewalk in front of the rooming house. The others entered the house. Not a word was spoken and a command given. Everything worked by seeming prearrangement. The men even seemed to have selected the room in which Little was supposed to sleep. Without a word of instruction to each other, they quickly broke into room number 39 on the ground floor. A flashlight was thrown into the room. The men seemed surprised to find the room unoccupied.



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It Was a Mistake.

"A mistake somewhere," she heard the men say as they searched the adjoining room. Then she heard the men move to the door of her room. The door was pushed slightly open. Mrs. Byrne jumped to the door and held it.

Ask for Little.

"Where is Frank Little?" he repeated. "He is in room number 32," answered Mrs. Byrne. The men quickly ran down the hall, tried to open the door to 32 and then gave it a kick that broke the lock of the door. They entered the room. Mrs. Byrne had closed her door and started to dress. She believed that police officers had arrested Little, but she could not understand why they should be in such a hurry that they broke down the doors.

Made No Outcry.

Little had only his underclothes on when taken from his room in the Steele block. He is not known to have made any outcry or demanded any explanation. It is presumed that a towel from his room was left there by the landlady being missed.

Sign of Vigilantes.

The figures "3-7-77" are the old sign of the vigilantes in Montana. The custom of the vigilantes was to send

two warnings to a marked man, the third and last warning being written in red. The warnings were usually numbered as "first warning," "second warning" and "last warning." The use of letters appended to the warnings is not known to have a precedent in vigilante history. The letters and warning were written by a fair penman, a man who made legible and careful characters. It was written with some idea as to form of preparing a placard.

Crowd is Tense.

Before 8 o'clock this morning a tense group of men, most of them wearing the Metal Mine Workers' union buttons, had gathered about the Finlander hall and the Steele block on North Wyoming street. There was but little loud talk among the men of the hanging.

What Was Found.

Few effects were found in Little's room. A few dollars in silver and currency were taken in charge by the coroner and also a suit case containing I. W. W. literature and membership books. Little had letters in his grip from I. W. W. organizers of the country. Most of his own I. W. W. literature was dated at Bisbee, Ariz., from which point he had received many letters since coming to Butte. Letters from Haywood and other prominent I. W. W. men were in his suit case. Telegrams informing him of the illness and death of his mother in Perkins, Okla., on June 5, also were kept by the man. A letter from that place is signed, "Your brother, William Little." Another brother, "Hank," is in Seattle and is known as an agitator there.

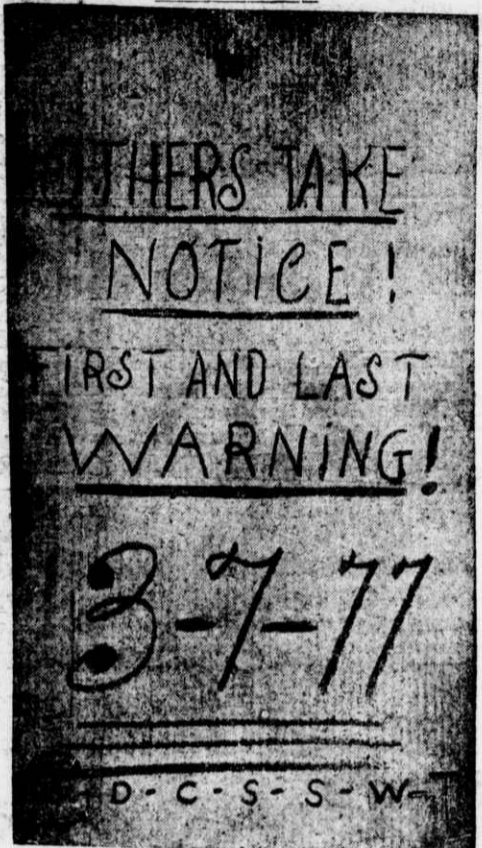
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PLACARD PLACED UPON LITTLE'S DEAD BODY



The so-called vigilante placard found upon Little's dead body is typical of the vigilante signs of frontier days in Montana. Many of the old vigilante warnings carried the numbers "3-7-77" while others carried the numbers found on the Little card, "3-7-77." The above is a somewhat reduced photograph of the warning and notice found on Little. The letters at the bottom of the card are not explained by any vigilante precedent, but the coincidence is pointed out that the six letters total the number of men supposed to have taken part in the hanging. The large letters and figures are written on the brown pasteboard card with red crayon. The last line of seven letters is printed with a lead pencil.

MURDERERS OF LITTLE TO BE RUN DOWN, SAY THE U. S. AND LOCAL OFFICERS

Affair Denounced by District Attorney and the County Prosecutor. Coroner Takes Steps to Make Thorough Inquiry Into the Outrage. Officers Have Few Clues on Which to Work.

United States and local authorities are outspoken in their denunciation of the murder of Frank H. Little, who was lynched by six masked men in Butte this morning. All agree that the men responsible for the outrage must be run down and prosecuted. "It is the most unwise thing that has happened in Butte," said United States District Attorney B. K. Wheeler this morning in discussing the Little affair. "The men who perpetrated the affair should be brought to justice."

HAYWOOD DEEPLY MOVED BY NEWS OF THE TRAGEDY

Chicago, Aug. 1.—Frank Little had been identified with the I. W. W. since 1906. His home was Fresno, Cal. He was 38 years old and single. Word of his death was received with emotion by W. D. Haywood, secretary of the national organization of the I. W. W. "Frank Little was an earnest, active advocate of the interests of the working classes," said Mr. Haywood. "I cannot begin to say how deeply I regret his death. He was well known, not only to Industrial Workers of the World, but to working classes generally throughout the west."

Pays Tribute to Memory of Mob's Victim—Well-Known Leader.

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NATION WIDE PROHIBITION TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE STATES, VOTES THE SENATE

Resolution Adopted By the Senators This Afternoon By a Vote of Sixty-five to Twenty

States Must Be Asked to Ratify the Amendment Within Six Years—Harding Amendment Is Adopted—The House Must Still Act on the Resolution—Myers of Montana Supports Resolution—Kenyon and Cummins Favor It.

Washington, Aug. 1.—A resolution for submission to the states of a prohibition amendment to the federal constitution was adopted late today by the senate. The vote was 65 to 20, eight more than the necessary two-thirds. As adopted the resolution contains a provision that the states must be asked to ratify the amendment within six years. The house still must act on the resolution.

STATE'S QUOTA RAISED UNDER A NEW RULING

Provost Marshal Says Additional 10 Per Cent is Necessary.

Washington, Aug. 1.—It is learned here that Montana will be required to send 3,459 men to the national army camps instead of 7,872, its original quota. Provost Marshal General Crowder rules now that 10 per cent additional men must be sent to cover exemptions after training begins.

The announcement that Montana will have to furnish even another thousand men for the national army comes as an unexpected order to the state officials. Already the quota of Montana is far too high, state officials have declared, since the basis of registration and not the population of the state was used in determining the quota of this state. Montana, by virtue of the registration, is given an estimated population of nearly 1,900,000 people, a number far in excess of the actual number.

AGREEMENT IS SIGNED STRIKE VIRTUALLY ENDS

Seattle, Aug. 1.—The agreement between the Puget Sound Traction, Light and Power company and its 1,600 motormen and conductors, looking to the settlement of the street car strike that began more than two weeks ago, was signed by the company shortly before noon. It will be submitted to mass meetings of the striking street car men in Seattle and Tacoma at 2 o'clock this afternoon. It is expected that the agreement will be ratified unanimously and it is possible that cars will be running in both cities tonight. The 500 strikebreakers brought to Seattle chiefly from New York and who were never used will be returned to their homes.

HE FILLED JAILS OF FRESNO HOW F. H. LITTLE OPERATED

Organized Campaign in California Seven Years Ago. Took an Active Part in the Labor Troubles in Arizona. Organized Strike at Bisbee. Fresno, Cal., Aug. 1.—Frank H. Little, the I. W. W. organizer, who was lynched at Butte early this morning, lived in Fresno until seven years ago, when he became a national officer of the Industrial Workers of the World. According to the local police, Little organized and led the "free speech campaign" in Fresno in 1910, when several hundred I. W. W. members were arrested for violating a city ordinance. The jail was filled to overflowing

Senators opposing the resolution: Democrats — Broussard, Culberson, Gerry, Hardwick, Hitchcock, Husting, James, Lewis, Phelan, Pomorene, Reed and Underwood. Total 12. Republicans — Brandegee, Calder, France, Lodge, Penrose, Wadsworth, Warren and Weeks. Total 8. Total against 20. Senator Harding's amendment was adopted by a vote of 56 to 23. Senator Kenyon, supporting the resolution, said: "Why do we prohibit the boys in the army and navy from having booze and insist that those who remain at home shall have it? When they are willing to die for us should we not be willing to go dry for them? Are we willing to sacrifice everything in the country to win the war except beer? Why waste labor needed to win the war to make beer?"

Myers for it. Senators Myers and Cummins both spoke in support of the resolution. Senator Curtis said he favored the Harding amendment to limit the time in which the amendment could be submitted to the states to six years. The Harding amendment was rejected by a vote of 62 to 4. Senators Broussard, Hardwick, Harding and Reed supporting it. The Harding amendment was to prohibit the purchase and use of liquor as well as its manufacture and sale.

Senator Stone's amendment providing for compensation by the government for damages to property growing out of the enforcement of the prohibition amendment was rejected 59 to 31.

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