AFFILIATED WITH THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

AMALGAMATED WOOD-WORKERS

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF AMERICA

GENERAL OFFICE
602-603 GARDEN CITY BLOCK
56 FIFTH AVENUE

THOS. I. KIDD
GENERAL SECRETARY

Musicians

Chicago Jan. 19, 1899.

Mr. Samuel Gompers,
423-425 G St. N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir and Brother:-

Your telegram was received during the meeting of musicians Monday afternoon. The meeting was successful and was addressed by Douglas Wilson, Owen Miller, John Tobin, P. J. Grimes and myself. A committee of five was appointed of which I am Chairman, the other four representing the A. F. of M., the Musicians Union, the Musical Society and the unorganized musicians, respectively. The committee met in my office yesterday afternoon and there was perfect harmony. The representative of the Knights of Labor being as anxious to amalgamate with the others under the A. F. of M as the representative of the latter organization was himself.

The Chicago Tribune sent its musical critic to report the Monday meeting. I inclose his write up. He got everything badly mixed. I never used the word "hod-carrier". Our friend Miller did, however, and Miller's language and mine were ground together. Nor did Tobin use the language credited to him. Miller made a very excellent talk. We have an element to deal with in trying to bring the musicians together that will be a serious obstacle in the way of success, and that is the "artists". They showed their opposition to the proposition looking towards the unification at Monday's meeting.

Under separate cover I mail you Darrow's Oshkosh jury speech at his request. He thinks it the speech

AMALGAMATED WOOD-WORKERS ISSUED BY THE UNION MADE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF AMERICA

of his life. Many copies have been sold particularly in Oshkosh and Chicago. Darrow looks upon it as a valuable economic document, although I have to differ with him in that respect.

Saturday I leave for Oshkosh along with Mr. Darrow to make the preliminary arrangements to sue the Paine Co. for malicious persecution. Darrow will have as co-Council the ex-attorney of the Paine people. The contention of the lawyers is that, as it is, any strike leader can be arrested on a trumped up charge, so as to get him out of the way, but if a precedent can be established whereby the wealthy employers will have to pay dearly for their efforts to get rid of the active spirits during a strike, then they will hesitate a long time before having one arrested.

With best wishes, I am,

Fraternally yours,

Thos. L. Kidd.