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

7

Chicago Aug. 29, 1898.

Mr. Frank Morrison,

423-425 G. St. N. W.,

Washington, D. C.

Rec'd. AUG 31 1898

Dear Sir and Brother:-

Your letter of the 26th inst. is at hand. Many thanks for the receipted bill for $1.00.

About a week ago we succeeded in getting one of the biggest mills in Chicago to sign our nine hour agreement and I have no doubt that others will follow. The Chicago strike was practically lost, but the Carpenters are boycotting the work of non-union mills and this will no doubt turn the defeat into victory. It has in the case of this particular mill at least.

What you read in the papers about me being arrested, getting bail, being rearrestted and taken out of the city to prevent me attending the meeting is practically true, although the statement is somewhat misleading. I was arrested on Saturday August 6th on a conspiracy charge and promptly furnished bail. At night after the county judge had left the city of Oshkosh for the country, I was rearrestted. It was impossible to furnish bail until the Monday morning. The sheriff was very nervous in handling the papers and was evidently worried. He told me that he had no desire to lock me behind the bars and suggested that I go to the country in charge of one of the deputies. It was simply a case of me staying in jail two nights and a day or going out of town and enjoying a certain amount of freedom. I chose the latter. It was apparent that the manufacturers thought that they would prevent me from attending a meeting on the Sunday. As a

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matter of fact no meeting was held that Sunday and the bosses and county officials had their trouble for nothing. On Sunday they circulated the story that I had skipped the town and thought by so doing to demoralize the ranks of the strikers, but the boys would not believe the story and later on on the Sunday heard that I was arrested and as a consequence were quite indignant.

Replying to your query as to where I will be Labor Day, will say that I speak in Terre Haute, Ind.

I do not get the "Ohio Valley Workman", but would be pleased to receive a copy of it, containing the Egger roast. Eggers is a cheap skate anyway and the paper loses considerable dignity in taking any notice of him whatever.

I should like very much to comply with your suggestion to write something for the Federationist, but I am away behind with my books. My bonds have to be renewed by the 20th of this month and my accounts must be straightened up by that time and to add to my troubles, Hattie is going away to-night for a weeks vacation, hence you can see how impossible it is to spare even a little time to prepare a short article for the Federationist.

I am glad that you appreciate the speeches I made in Oshkosh. All of them were extemporanious and made without any preparation whatever and as a consequence are not what they might have been, but they succeeded in raising hell anyway.

By the way, I called up the Wisconsin Central Railroad office by 'phone to-day and find that the fare from Chicago to Winnepeg is $25.70 each way. It will take two nights and a day to make the journey. The sleeper will be $5.00 each way, and then there are meals en route, hotel bills, etc. If I have to pay my own hotel bill and if the Convention lasts for a week, it will cost pretty near $100.00. You can send me

a check for $90. or $100.00 and if I have too much will return difference.

Hattie is tickled to death at you sending her your regards and desires that I should return the compliment in her behalf. With best wishes, I am,

Yours fraternally,

Thos. D. Kidd.