

Haywood at the Bar (April 13, 1907)

Thursday, May 9th is the day set for the trial of William D. Haywood at Boise, Idaho. The trial of George A. Pettibone follows next, and that of Charles H. Moyer last. Thus far Gooding has had his way in every particular. The regular trial judge has stepped aside, the change of venue asked for has been denied, and Gooding's assurance that the men would be tried by a judge and at a time and place suitable to him has been verified.

Haywood is to be tried first, and it is well understood that, being the strong central character, the moving spirit of the Federation, he is the one man McParland has been engaged to send to the gallows. For the rest, the mine owners are satisfied that Pettibone shall serve a sentence in the penitentiary and that Moyer shall go free.

That is the *Appeal's* forecast of the frame-up of the conspirators. So long as they get Haywood, the keystone in the arch of the hated Federation, they will be satisfied, and the modified sentences of Moyer and Pettibone will give the proceedings all the outward appearance of fair trials, while settling all doubt as to Haywood's guilt and justifying, in his case, the extreme penalty of the law.

There is quite sufficient evidence that Haywood has been marked as the victim. The original design was to hang them all, but there has been such a howl about it that there had to be some modifications, and these are fully expected to quiet the clamor and appease the mob.

What, now, is to be our attitude, since it appears quite clear that Haywood is marked for sacrificial slaughter? There can be but one answer. We must stand by him to a man and to a finish.

Gooding and his backers have boasted that they have the state militia, that the regular troops are on the ground, and that the latter have been reinforced and equipped with riot guns. It is also stated that Boise will be filled with thugs and gunmen, and it has been freely given out that the first move made by the friends of the defendants would be followed by a massacre.

Admitting all this to be true, what of it? We have no concern in regard to it, not the slightest. Were Boise surrounded by federal forts instead of having but one, our duty would remain the same. The show of force on the

part of the kidnapers simply betrays their cowardice and their guilt, their weakness and their fear, while it does not daunt us to the slightest degree.

Having absolute faith in the innocence of our comrades and in the justice of our cause, we are unafraid and shall stand up like men, at all hazards, in the performance of our duty.

The jury of the working class, the representatives of the organized American hosts, will be in the courtroom when the case is called, and no blood-bought McParland brand of made-to-order evidence shall be allowed to serve the infamous ends of judicial murder.

In the meantime, the working class of the United States must be on the alert for developments and ready to act as emergency may require.

The *Appeal* will be fully installed at Boise when the case is called. The staff will embrace editors, reporters, and cartoonists, and every incident of the trial will be served with all the promptness and efficiency the *Appeal* can command.

The month of May looms large on the horizon, and if ever there was a time to stand staunch and true that time has now come to the working class of America.

Published as "Haywood at Bar" in *Appeal to Reason*, whole no. 593 (April 13, 1907), p. 1.