

SYNDICALISM ACT IS TRAP

I. W. W. TO BE PROSECUTED UNDER STATE LAW.

Men Found Active in Wobbly Propaganda to Get Limit of Penalties, Attorney Announces.

All I. W. W. cases in which the evidence of violation of the espionage act is slight, or in which federal prosecution fails to secure conviction, will be prosecuted in the state courts under the criminal syndicalism act of the last legislature, announced Joseph L. Hammersly, deputy district attorney, yesterday, following a conference with Barnett Goldstein, assistant United States attorney.

The first evidence will be placed before the Multnomah grand jury Monday morning, all other matters coming before that body giving precedence to the I. W. W. It is not yet known how many cases will be taken up in the first batch to be considered.

"The syndicalism act will reach many of these curs who cannot be touched by the federal law," explained Hammersly yesterday, "and we intend to fight the I. W. W. all the way down the line. All we demand is proof of membership in the wobbly organization and we will do our utmost to get convictions."

Conviction under the syndicalism act makes the offender liable to from one to ten years in the penitentiary or a fine of \$1000, or both. The limit will be recommended for all men found active in I. W. W. propaganda, says Hammersly, and fairly stiff sentences for those who can be convicted of nothing more than membership in the revolutionary organization.

"Under the espionage act, it is necessary for some overt act to be shown before a prosecution can be successful," explained Hammersly yesterday. "We are not bound so strictly in the state courts under the syndicalism law, as we are required only to prove membership in an organization which teaches and advocates destruction of property and suggests violent or un-

lawful means to effect political or industrial ends."

The act passed by the last legislature under which the I. W. W. will be prosecuted was framed for such a purpose as it is to be used. Among those who fall within the penalties it provides are: "Any person who becomes a member of any society which teaches, advocates, or affirmatively suggests the doctrine of criminal syndicalism, sabotage, or the necessity, propriety, or expediency of doing any act of physical violence, or the commission of any crime or unlawful act as a means of accomplishing or effecting any industrial or political ends, change or revolution, or for profit."