

16 Special Report

16-5-10-15a-2

I have been refusing Ben Hammit for several days, and it was his suggestion that he and I expose the official crooks of Local 886 provided we could get something out of it. To test Hammit I refused first on the ground I knew nothing, and on various other grounds, until I satisfied my self as to his purpose, which I am dead sure is to desert, and get assistance as he is now in destitute circumstances. He had me put the situation up to you, as I formerly reported, and I told him, something would be paid, but nothing but a sworn statement would be recognized, and the larger portion of reward, after legal action, had elapsed. His only request is not to be seen at the mill, and for as possible be shielded in court, and I am sure now that the information is of value, and will lead to conspiracy and conviction of the executive Board. Hammit is now on Peters street and I am to see him at 9³⁰ am again. He started to leave even his suit case and clothes are out there and he is prepared to catch a train, and I told him best try again, and he agreed to make the sworn statement, and remain

here if he can get some thing to live
 on. His evidence is this, that he was
 just a few blocks away when Homer
 Sims was struck on the head. That
 in 10 minutes after, he had joined
 the crowd, and Luther Cotton, and Earl
 Hendon told him A.K. Wilson struck
 the blow, and how Simmons followed.
 That later A.K. Wilson told him personally
 he did it, and that Loyd Hawke, L.F.
 Fleming and several others were eye
 witnesses told him of it, and even before
 had it was ordered at the camp, for the
 one getting the first chance to do this
 work. His affidavit is also to cover
 the fact that Mullinax personally
 ordered the engine rock, and give
 the order to W.E. Fleming in Harris
 Gobers store. That Mullinax also
 told of drawing his knife on the
 Jew Merchant at Senelle + Carrall
 street, and other things of value. to
 avoid buying testimony, I told Hammit
 the company was only interested, in protection
 of employes, and would see what Sims
 was willing to do. Last night I roped
 L.F. Fleming, who stated he was an
 eye witness and saw A.K. Wilson hit the

licks that was intended, and premeditated
 on Sims. I would suggest having some
 one who is familiar with the situation
 meeting me and Hammit in some attorney's
 office and drawing out just the
 facts enclosed, in the form of an
 affidavit, and let him appear as Sims
 attorney, but you will fail to
 question vital points, and refer
 to what I told you should he
 fail to answer correctly, as he thinks
 I am to share equally in what
 we can get. Later if necessary we
 can put him in jail as a material
 witness if need be, the idea being to get
 the sworn information. After
 you have considered this I will
 call you by phone about. I am
 Respectfully, 16

as Hammit is prepared to leave
 town, unless he can do something
 I suggest quick action, as I have
 been on things things for some time
 but wanted to get some thing tangible
 Mrs C.B. Smith is in town