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RAILWAY AUDIT & INSPECTION COMPANY, INC.

RAILWAY EXCHANGE BUILDING

OLIVE TO LOCUST—SIXTH TO SEVENTH

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GENERAL MANAGER

TELEPHONE
OLIVE 5897

F. W. STOCKMAR, DISTRICT MANAGER

SUBJECT

ST. LOUIS, MO.

April 21st, 1921.

Mr. C. E. White, Manager,
Fulton Bag & Cotton Mills,
Saint Louis, Missouri.

Dear Mr. White: Personal & Confidential.

It has come to our notice that the International Association of Machinists has organized a private detective agency called the ACTIVE DETECTIVE AGENCY, with office at 299 Broadway, New York, N. Y. Their license number, issued by the Comptroller of the State of New York, is 895, and expires on January 4, 1925. Therefore, this Company must have started in business about January of 1920, as these licenses are usually for five years.

The officers are as follows:

President-----L. J. Lafermine,
Secretary-----Sam Resen,
Treasurer-----Sam Senate.

Recently this Agency has been advertising in papers for men employed in detective service. They get these men into their office and question them as to what companies they worked for, and how they did their work, etc., pretending to interview them for the purpose of seeing whether they would make good employes; as a matter of fact, they have been trying to gain all the information they can, as to what plants they worked in, what companies they worked for, in order to use this propaganda among the unions; also, to expose the methods of agencies and individual operatives, if they can do so.

We understand it is the purpose of this Bureau to try to get some of their employes into every agency in the United States in order to get a line on the methods, and if possible, to gain the names of a good many of the clients of such agencies, in companies which employ their own individual secret work, or in the Employers Associations which handle their own special work, It is the object of this International to place their men everywhere, to keep a line on everything going on in the united states. They have even gone so far as to put a number of men into plants

pretending they were non-union men -- especially where a company has been on a strike -- in order to spread propaganda among the workmen, and have them become dissatisfied with their positions.

If the Machinists make a success of this, other Internationals will take it up along the same line. Therefore, every manufacturer should certainly endeavor to keep abreast of the times by employing a service of our nature in order to find out whether such people are in his plant and whether there is any agitation or propaganda being spread by these people in order to make the employes dissatisfied, which seems to have caused so much of the unrest today. Of course, we realize that reduction in wages is part of the cause of unrest, as well as other issues, such as the open shop movement. But it is just such issues of this character which could be explained thoroughly to the workmen if a man were placed in the plant as an ordinary workman, but who would present the employer's side.

In the event you call on us for service, I must ask that you please remember that our Operative (man or woman) realizes that the permanency of their own position, increase in salary rate, or advancement to a more important or higher position, are determinable by the employee through his integrity of purpose and application toward increasing the value of his service to the Company and its client by the very simple, yet vital, formula, viz:-

Loyalty, Civility, Honesty, Industry,
Thrift, Tact, and Initiative, in the
capacity employed.

Once again thanking you for your kindly consideration of our Company and Service to date, and assuring you at all times of the close personal co-operation on the part of the undersigned, I beg to remain,

Yours very truly,

RAILWAY AUDIT & INSPECTION COMPANY.

By


District Manager.

FWS:AM.