

James Eads How: The Rebel Heir Who Rewrote History

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Marc Blanc
Ph.D. candidate, American literature
Washington University in St. Louis
m.blanc@wustl.edu



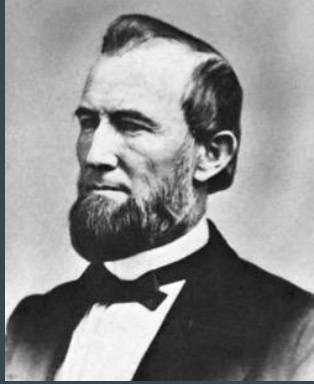
James Eads How

b. 1874, St. Louis, MO

d. 1930, Staunton, VA

James's passport photo, 1921, around age 47. Courtesy of Dave Miller.

The Silverest of Spoons...

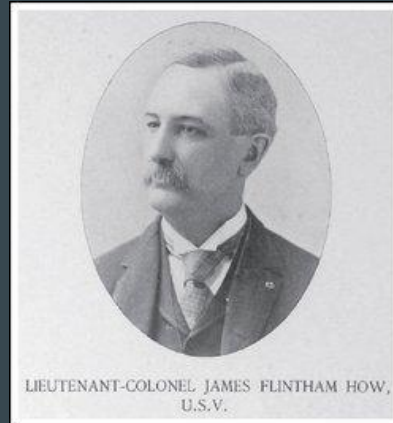


James Buchanan Eads,
grandfather



Martha Dillon Nash,
grandmother, with
young Eliza Ann Eads
(right), mother

James Flintham How,
father





“Master of the Mighty Mississippi, James B. Eads,” by Dan Zettwoch. Displayed at Eads Hall on Washington University’s campus.

Silver spoon... spit out

SCORNS HIS OWN MILLION.

JAMES EADS HOW, FOUNDER OF THE BROTHERHOOD OF DAILY LIFE.

HIS GRANDFATHER WAS THE CELEBRATED ENGINEER—HE HAS TAKEN MONKISH VOWS TO UPLIFT HIS FELLOW MEN—HOW HE PROPOSES TO DO IT.

When all the world is struggling, working and exerting every effort to get rich, a young man, owner in his own right of an estate said to be worth a million, lays it aside to dress in homespun and take his place beside the lowliest of his fellow men. He is a well bred, educated man, delicately nurtured, he to enjoy the best there is in life, and accustomed to it, a college athlete at Harvard, a leading football and baseball player also, a gymnast able to do stunts, to walk on his hands and to perform on a trapeze. Later he was a student at Oxford. He is what a man of brains and sense and strength of mind.

He arrived in this city one day last week from the West, feeling that he had a great task before him and seeking the means to perform it. He announced to a friend that he wanted work. The friend who finds work for hundreds of unfortunates each every year in the forests and quarters in Brooklyn, sought it for him also, but as he does for tramps who want to reform, for sailors who have outgrown their usefulness at sea and for the ritzy of humanity. There was almost nothing the rich man would not do; even a menial place, it was said, would be acceptable to him. He was pronounced somewhat dexterous with his hands, quick at any trade almost, but skilled in none, and ambitious just then to learn how to raise the sick in order that he might be more useful to the lowly in his wanderings.

Imagine the Christ as the great Italian masters have painted him and the reader will get an idea of this man. A great deal more might be said, for his personality's face and physical proportions carry an irresistible suggestion of the Saviour to almost every one who meets him. He is a giant, spare



JAMES EADS HOW.

Profile in the *New-York Tribune*, 03 Sept., 1899.

James B. Eads Mansion, Compton Hill, ca. 1880



Courtesy of Missouri Historical Society

Why Hoboes? The Eads-How Financial Marriage



Why Hoboes? The Birth and Political Significance of the Hobo/“Tramp”



“The strikers further resolved that they wanted no interference from ‘irresponsible parties such as **tramps and roughs**’...”
—quoted in Philip Foner, *The Great Labor Uprising of 1877, 1977*, p. 114

The “Hobo College” Network



“We’ve got to organize these men. But first we’ve got to educate them. Most of them have minds like children, and they don’t know what organization means.” —James Eads How

Courtesy of Chicago Historical Society

'HOBO COLLEGE' HERE PLANNED BY J. E. HOW

"Millionaire Hobo" of St. Louis Will Tell of Intention at Brotherhood Meeting This Afternoon.

James Eads How, St. Louis' "millionaire hobo," has migrated back to his native city after a trip around the world, and will preside this afternoon at a meeting of the International Brotherhood Welfare Association at Brotherhood Hall, 119A North Thirteenth street, where he will tell of his intention to open a "hobo college" in St. Louis.

How is enthusiastic over the project. He says it has been tried out successfully in New York, Chicago, Cincinnati and in the White Chapel district of London.

"I tried to start one in Paris," he said yesterday to a Post-Dispatch reporter, "and probably would have succeeded but for my limited knowledge of French."

How recently has been in Sweden, Switzerland, Alsace-Lorraine and England. He attended a labor congress in Glasgow, and visited "Jack's Place," where the hobos congregate in London's East End. He says that what the seasonal, casual and itinerant workers need now more than anything else is education that will equip them to grapple with the big problems of world reconstruction. The hobo college is just the thing, How says.

When the migratory workers gather at this afternoon's meeting they will be handed doggers bearing the following verse:

Though your task may be a hard one,
And your pleasures few,
The hobo college with open arms
welcomes you.

No longer will you feel the cut of
the master's goad,
As you swing in with the music and
song of the open road.

In Chicago, How says, the college is well under way and is making fine progress. At night classes they teach industrial law, economics, current events, public speaking and English, health and hygiene, and in the afternoons they have lessons in securing citizenship papers, how to apply for work worth while and elementary classes in history.

What the world needs most at this stage, How says, is co-operation between nations and individuals. He thinks the nation that will take advantage of another nation's weakness is worse than the individual who does the same thing.

Industrial problems will be discussed at this afternoon's meeting by Miss Cora D. Harvey of Hinton, Ok., and John X. Kelly, national officers of the International Brotherhood Welfare Association, which was founded by How. There will be free lunch.

*Hobo News, vol. 4,
no. 1, April 1918*

*"'Hobo College' Here Planned by
J.E. How." St. Louis Post-Dispatch, 4
Jan. 1920*

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Published for The International Brotherhood Welfare Association

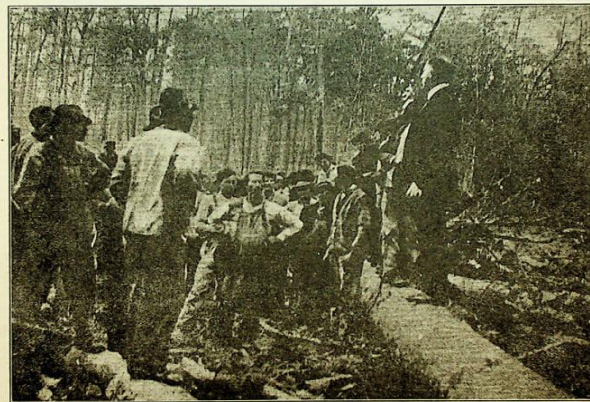
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Teaching the Hoboes

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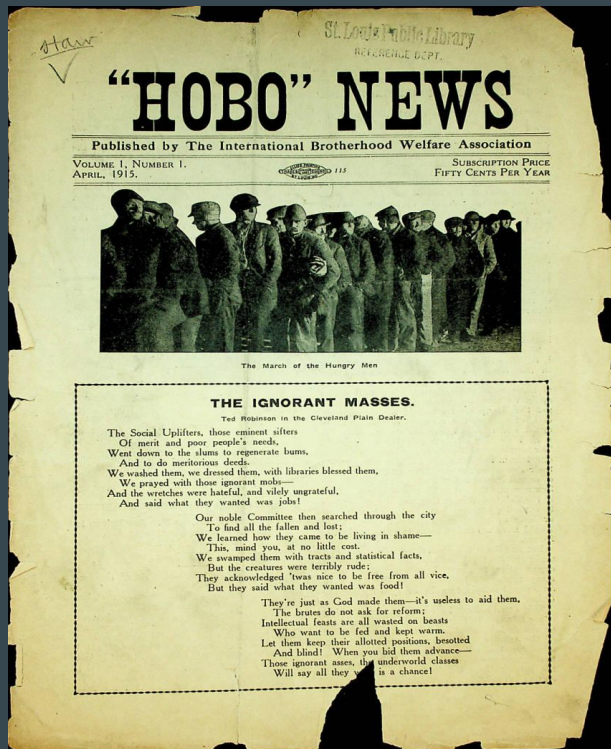


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WEEKLY

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"HOBO" NEWS

Published for The International Brotherhood Welfare Association

Volume 8, Number 1,
October, 1919.



Subscription Price
Fifty Cents Per Year.

ON THE BOWERY According to George Fenton



THE HOBO VERNACULAR

By Bill Quirke

This was partly issued in the August number; in this number it is reprinted with additions. The August edition was limited in number and there were so many inquiries for this catalogue of "Hobo" words and phrases that it is given in full to date on pages 2 and 3.

Ten Cents by Mail

"HOBO" NEWS

3

FADED BOGEY. A negro stool-pigeon.
CHECKER-BOARD CREW. A crew of negroes and white workers.
CROAKER, CROGUS. A Doctor.
BINDLE. A bundle.
TURKEY. A canvas bag to carry clothes, etc.

JUNGLE. An open-air camp where Hobo workers meet and cook their food.

SLUM, MULLIGAN, COMBINATION. Stew of meat, vegetables, thickening, etc.

ODDS AND ENDS. Scrap meat.
PENNSYLVANIA SALVÉ. Apple butter.

TOPPINGS. Pastry or cakes.
SOPPINGS. Gravy.

PUNK AND GUT. Bread and Bologna.
GUMP. A chicken.

HAND-OUT, POKE-OUT, LUMP. Food handed out in a paper cover.

SET-DOWN. Eating at a table.
EXHIBITION MEAL. Fed on the door step or veranda.

FLOP. A night's shelter.
CARRYING THE BANNER. Walking the streets all night.

POUND YOUR EAR. Sleeping.
ON THE HOC. Broke; penniless.

PLINGING THE STEM, MAKING A TOUCH, BATTERING THE MAIN DRAG. Begging for money.

THIN ONES. Dimes.
LIGHT PIECES. Two bits, a quarter, 25 cents.

TRAIN FLIPPING. Train riding.
HITTING THE GRIT. Hiking on foot.

THROW YOUR FEET. Get out and look for work or food or both. Do your own hustling.

THROW YOUR GUTS. Telling everything you know, untrustworthy.
SCRAPE OFF THE PAVEMENT. Get shaved.

PUNK AND PLASTER ROUTE. Among Dutch Pennsylvania farmers.

BUTTERMILK ROUTE. Thru the Pittsburgh district.

DIRTY PLATE ROUTE. Thru the Miller and Lux ranches, California.

PUSHER. A contractor's foreman.
WAGON TRAMPS. Families who travel in wagons thru the harvest country.

YEGGS. Small town itinerant burglars and safe blowers.

SOUP. Liquid explosives used to blow open safes.

LEATHER - HEADS, GRAYBACKS, with UMS. Lice.

IRISH TURKEY. Corned Beef and Cabbage.

MAN CATCHER. Employment Agent.

HONEY DIPPING. Odorless excavating.

MULE, WHITELINE. Corn Alcohol.

SWAMPER. Bar-room flunkie.

STRAW BOSS. Labor foreman.

RANK CATS, SPECK BUMS. The lowest scale in Bum life.

CACKLERS, SPLIT FINGERS. I Office Workers.

SHACKS. Brakemen.

LAMBING. Sheep-herding.

POSSESH. Boy Companion.

SMUDGE. A small brush fire.

BATTLE WAGON. An iron coal car.

MONGEE. Food.

PITTSBURGH FEATHERS. Hard coal.

CON. Consumption.

PACKING MUSTARD. Carrying the hod.

PADDING THE HOOF. Tramping.

ROBBING THE MAIL. Eating the cookies out of the Baker's handout.

NOSE BAG. Lunch in a paper bag.

ALLIGATOR BAIT. Stewed or fried liver.

SHEETS. Newspapers.

TOOT THE RINGER. Ring the Door Bell.

SCOFFING. Eating.

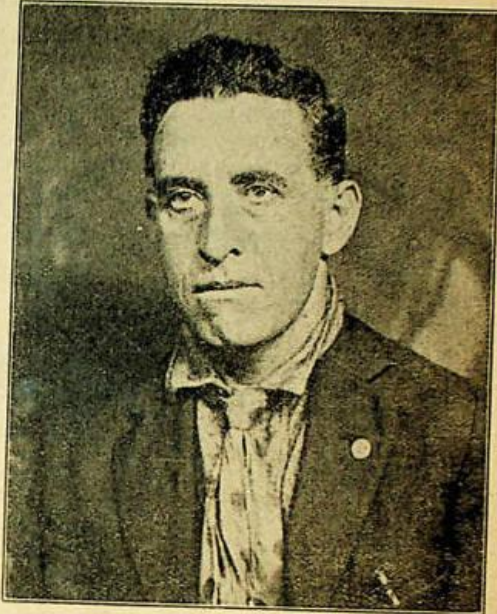
NOTES—Hoboes and Yeggs never mix and jungle up in separate camps.

The Hobo, contrary to belief, leaves no private marks on doors, etc., where he is fed. On prominent places such as waiting-rooms, water tanks, bridges, etc., he leaves his name, date and destination. As he generally has a pal, they keep track of each other when they get separated, like this:

Sunshine Bill
1/8/19
Pigeon Mike B. E. (bound east) 5/4/19.
New York Shorty B. N. (bound north) 5 S.
P. (five days in jail here as suspicious person).

Signed articles in this paper are printed to show the different views of the writers and are not necessarily indorsed by the press committee. It is necessary to know all sides of a question before a just and intelligent decision can be arrived at. If you do not like the views expressed in some of them, write and tell the editor so. We believe in giving everybody a chance.

THE HOBO WRITER



Bill Quirke

“If a gink gets arrested and sentenced to time in the Cally if he has a few dollars or a good Benny, they give him every opportunity to get away from the working gang, so they can appropriate his money or clothes.” —Bill Quirke, 1918

How's Personal Voice

“In this time of transition—of war across the water and labor travail here—men's hearts are tender. Something like a new vision comes to them. They get, here and there, a glimpse of the hideousness of this Commercialism into which the world is plunged. And they see its fruitage in Destitution, Unemployment, and War.

It is an especially good time for our Brotherhood teaching and propaganda against Commercialism, Unemployment and War, and in favor of Co-operation, Brotherhood and Peace.” *Hobo News*, vol. 1, no. 4, July 1915, p. 2.

HUSTLING at THE HUB

A CALL FROM DOWN EAST

BY JAMES EADS HOW, M. D.

In this time of transition—of war across the water and labor travail here—men's hearts are tender. Something like a new vision comes to them. They get, here and there, a glimpse of the hideousness of this Commercialism into which the world is plunged. And they see its fruitage in Destitution, Unemployment and War.

Since it is a time that is psychological and makes folks think, therefore it is an especially good time for our Brotherhood teaching and propaganda against Commercialism, Unemployment and War, and in favor of Co-operation, Brotherhood and Peace.

To take advantage of the times, we have called the important meetings at Boston, on the 3d, 4th and 5th of July. We long to get down to Brotherhood principles and to help the Industrial World jump the chasm and make the Passover from the present loose and chaotic way of doing the world's work to a saner and better way of working together, and distributing the world's wealth.

Therefore, on this account, we are hitting the trail to Boston. How we wish all the Comrades and Brothers and friends could join us and lend a hand. Comrade Cora D. Harvey is also headed hitherward, as well as Secretary Harry H. Johannes of Baltimore, Brother Alexander Law of New York City, National Trustee Will J. Quirke of Philadelphia and many other distinguished personages. We trust these Boston meetings will become historical.

Editor's Note: A full account of these meetings will be printed in the August number. They will be reported for us especially by Will J. Quirke and will be full of thrilling interest. The Association is holding meetings every day in the year and spreading the light of Brotherhood. We will try from now on, to give some reports on them for the benefit of our Comrades in the Jungles who cannot be around to hear for themselves.

Baltimore Busy.

Local Baltimore, through the temporary secretary, Michael Johnson, reports that at their last meeting they passed resolutions to be forwarded to President Wilson to the effect that we protest against the conditions whereby there are thousands of poor and homeless peo-

ple suffering for food; also protesting against the American Government taking steps to prevent a revolution in Mexico. They elected Harry H. Johannes to be a delegate to the Boston Conference. Brother Johannes is the secretary of the new Local and we look for great things from our new baby Local when the times of stress come.

All Aboard.

Local Baltimore also reports that they are going to have an excursion from Baltimore to Tolchester Beach on Wednesday, August 25th. Tickets 25 cents for a round trip. Tolchester is a beautiful summer resort on Chesapeake Bay and all you boys who happen to be in the East, and can find the price are invited to go and have a good old Brotherhood time.

Povertigrams.

By FRANK MALLATT.

Poverty is the Crime of Crimes. Poverty and Capitalism are the modern Siamese twins. Kill one and the other must die.

Poverty is Hell. Abolish poverty and you enter into Heaven.

Poverty turns a decent man into a criminal or a millionaire.

Subscriptions.

We need subscribers for this paper. Fifty cents a year and worth double the money. Send in your subs, Comrades, and treat your friends. It will do them good and you, too.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

This is our **POVERTY EDITION** to be sold up till August 10th. The August number will be issued on that day and tell you all about the Harvest Stiffs. All the boys out in the fields are requested to send their story in to the Editor.

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“HOB” NEWS

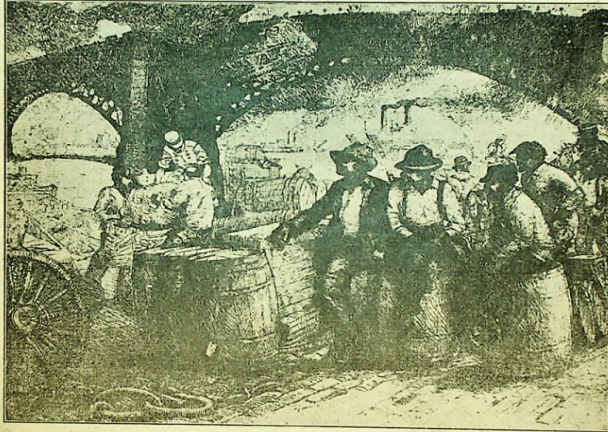
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BOES AT EADS BRIDGE



Happy New Year

All issues of *Hobo News* courtesy of St.
Louis Public Library.

Further reading

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