

'WOBBLIES' FREED AND ORDERED FROM CITY

Conclusion of Case Which Has
Been on Trial for Nine Days
Comes Suddenly.

SIXTEEN CASES DROPPED

Agreement Reached by Attorneys
in Municipal Court—Pleas
of Guilty Follow.

Successful clogging of the courts brought freedom for 16 Industrial Workers of the World, arrested in the police raid on I. W. W. headquarters on June 23, before Judge Lanners of the municipal court yesterday.

A boast said to have been made by the "wobblies" shortly after their arrest that they would tie-up the courts for many months unless released was supported in the trial which ended unexpectedly and abruptly yesterday.

John Lieberman, charged with vagrancy under the new Minnesota safety commission ordinance, had been on trial for nine days, and prospects had been that the hearing would continue many days more. Most of the sessions were taken up by lengthy arguments of the defense attorneys, obviously, the police said, with the idea of prolonging the trial.

All Given Freedom.

Shortly after noon Assistant City Attorney Neal and Attorneys Moore and Slonim of the defense reached an agreement to have charges against the 14 men and two women dropped. All of the "reds" except Lieberman were given unconditional liberty, and even Arthur Thorne, secretary of the Duluth I. W. W. local, and William Sullivan were released despite the fact that Municipal Judge Smallwood had sentenced both to the work farm for 85 days each.

All Plead Guilty.

When court convened at 2 o'clock, Attorney Moore announced that the 16 I. W. W. desired to plead guilty. Neal followed with a statement that the prosecution wished to have all of the cases dropped, with the recommendation that Lieberman be given 24 hours to leave the city. Judge Lanners acted accordingly.

Lieberman and James Baker were under two charges, vagrancy and malicious destruction of property. Thorne and Sullivan had been at liberty on bail pending appeal. Their bail money was returned. Frank Watson, who came to Duluth with Gideon Matson to organize the lumber industry workers for strikes this winter, Charles Jacobson, Mrs. Rose Lieberman, wife of John Lieberman, Marie Baxter, organizer of the Duluth Housemaids union of the I. W. W. were refunded bail money.

The others, as follows, were held in jail since their arrest on June 23: Frank Giesler, Gideon Matson, Stephen Hempel; Louis Schappen, Joseph Hodgson, James Golden, Henry Lisk, James Baker, Arthur Boutin and Erick Orstrom.