

War Strikers Will Work, but Not Surrender

Bridgeport Machinists to Bow to Wilson's Order by Tuesday Morning

Skilled Men Plan to Quit Munition Shops

Meeting Monday Expected to Order Compliance With President's Letter

(Special Dispatch to The Tribune)

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Sept. 14.—The President's work of eight months has had its desired effect upon the striking Bridgeport machinists. The backbone of their offensive is broken.

Tuesday morning the Remington Arms, U. M. C., the American-British and all the other big plants that for the last few weeks have been tied up for want of skilled workers will once more resume the business of producing ordnance and munitions for the United States fighting forces overseas.

Although the 4,000 strikers will take no official action until their scheduled meeting Monday afternoon, the committee in charge has left the men free to answer the Monday morning whistle, if they so desire.

Wilson's Message Received

The official copy of the President's message to the workers reached the city this morning. It was addressed to the International Association of Machinists, District Lodge 55, and was taken from the postoffice box of the union by Samuel Lavit, the local business agent. At once Lavit called the executive committee into extraordinary session.

Simultaneously, from the Manufacturers' Association, formal confirmation came of the report received last night that all strikers would be reinstated to their old jobs, at their old salaries, without prejudice.

The meeting of the executive committee, held behind locked doors, lasted for the better part of the forenoon. At its close the leaders had nothing new to announce, save that official action would still have to wait until Monday, and that in the meantime no more men would be provided with funds to leave town.

"Of course, though," it was added, "we will not seek to prevent any men from leaving who care to do so as private individuals on their own money."

In the course of the day about fifty more men decided as private individuals to leave town, and did so.

Strikers' Spirit Changes

The disposition of the great majority of the strikers was to lie low. The hot tempers that had prevailed at last night's lodge meeting—when it was decided to advocate a wholesale exodus of skilled men from the city, and when two big buses laden with strikers did actually set out—and considerably overhauled by morning.

But the spirit of resistance burns unabated. They were simply shifting their tactics. In the factory the factory is largely a sop to public opinion, a respite to enable them to resign their forces.

"This night," said Lavit, "cannot end this way, because it is a fight that concerns the whole future of every worker in the United States."

Will Keep Up Fight

Privately, their present plans are said to be, while ostensibly bowing to the President's mandate, to withdraw the skilled men gradually from Bridgeport, in so far as it is possible, supply them with new names and credentials and send them out to shops in other cities. Within the shops the indications are that they may, pending such withdrawals, resort to what is known in England as "red canny" and in America as "soldiering on the job."

The men stoutly protest their loyalty to this country. But "loyalty to profiteering bloodsuckers," to use their own phrase, is another thing. Willingly they still assert, will they go into the army if that is necessary. But they will not in any permanent fashion, they insist, bow to their present employers. That is the attitude and resolution that colors all their secret conferences.

Nearwhile, their feeling against both President Wilson and William H. Johnston, president of the Grand Lodge of the International Association of Machinists, is not diminishing. Mr. Wilson's reference to them as "the best of the whole body of workers affected" is a constant grievance.

"It shows," said Lavit, "how little he really knows about the situation he is setting."

The reference to them as a 10 per

cent minority who have set out to cause trouble they also object to.

Award Is Opposed

"We are the men who called in the labor board," they point out. "The 90 per cent were not kicking. They were making \$16 to \$20 a week—why should they kick? Then this so-called award gives them something they weren't even asking for and leaves us—whose problem the board was supposed to settle—out in the cold."

Johnston, the machinists' union head, by whose action the Bridgeport strikers are now outlaws from their own organization, they characterize unqualifiedly as a traitor to their cause.

"Such a man is not fit to represent workmen at Washington," said Lavit. "He must go, and we intend to see that he does so."

This part of the programme is to be undertaken immediately. Petitions are to be prepared in Bridgeport and sent to all the machinists' locals calling for a referendum vote on Johnston. If eighty locals sign the petition such a referendum will have to be held.

Lavit to Take Stump

At the same time Lavit himself—if the government does not stop him, he says—is going to publish the Bridgitz award, in pamphlet form and distribute it broadcast among the workers. He will also, he reiterated today, take the stump and tell his version of the story of Bridgeport.

The latter, though, is not to happen until after Monday's meeting. To-day the local refusal to accept Lavit's resignation, offered at last night's star chamber session, before that time.

Bethlehem Steel Co. Averts Strike; Agrees To Give Higher Wage

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14.—Threatened labor difficulties at the Bethlehem, Penn., steel works have been averted by a promise from the company to obey an order from the War Labor Board to put into effect immediately the board's award in the wage controversy.

Eugene C. Grace, chairman of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation, was directed to apply the award after a committee of employees had presented a formal complaint that the corporation was delaying action.

Mr. Grace protested to the board that application of the award would cost the corporation \$2,600,000 a month and asked for provision for additional compensation. The board declined to pass any resolution on the subject, but individual members said they would not oppose efforts on the part of the corporation to obtain additional compensation from the War and Navy departments on the contract already held. Mr. Grace agreed to formulate plans at once for a democratic election among the workmen of committees to represent them in applying the award, and that these plans will be submitted to the board for its approval.

The employees' committee returned to Bethlehem today.

Shonts Blames All Subway Woes Upon Lack of Man Power

The Interborough Rapid Transit Company has the mechanical power for the proper operation of its cars; there are plenty of cars and the company's disposition in that direction is all right. The trouble in the present situation is that the Interborough lacks the necessary man power.

That is the gist of a statement made yesterday by Theodore P. Shonts, president of the Interborough, in answer to complaints and inquiries recently made by the public and official bodies, who have been demanding better service and asking: "What is the matter with the subway?"

Admits Service Is Poor

Mr. Shonts admits that the people of New York are entitled to know all about the condition that confronts the Interborough. Also he admits frankly, the service is not what we hoped it would be when the new subways were put into operation. The Interborough, said its president, is providing about 80 per cent of the quantity of service which it would be pleased to give and which, if true, would add to the convenience of the public.

"We have plenty of cars," said Mr. Shonts. "At the present time we are operating about 1,300 cars. The schedule of improved service covered in the proposed order of the Public Service Commission calls for 1,380 cars. We have available for service some 1,600 cars. We have plenty of power to run the trains. The principal difficulty lies in the lack of men. During the last year out of a total employees numbering some 14,000, we have lost about 2,000 men to the army and navy."

"Be Patient," Says Shonts

Mr. Shonts added that his company has gone about everything to meet the deficit in man power and has employed 600 women to fill the places of some of those called to the front. It has advertised and has enlisted the aid of the United States Employment Bureau, but the gap has not been filled. Even in the present emergency, said Mr. Shonts, the subway is giving the people of New York greatly increased service over what they received last year. In all of which Mr. Shonts appended this prayer:

"We earnestly bespeak the patient forbearance of the people of New York during these difficult war times. We assure the people of New York City that no money or diligence on our part will be spared to bring about improvement in the service."

U. S. Asked for 5,000 Tons of Old Clothes

Red Cross Drive for Belgians and French Sufferers Starts September 23

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14.—A second campaign for clothing for the 10,000,000 men, women and children in occupied parts of Belgium and France will be conducted by the American Red Cross during the eight days beginning September 23. The Commission for Relief in Belgium says that at least 5,000 tons of clothing will be required.

Garments of every kind for both sexes and all ages are needed, said the appeal issued by the Red Cross, together with piece goods that can be made into shirts, blankets and baby clothes. Only garments of strong materials will be accepted.

"Every householder in the land," said the appeal, "has some spare clothing worn or outgrown, of little value here but desperately needed by these people who have been reduced to fashioning garments from four socks."

If you cannot fight, save and conserve
Buy War Savings Stamps; conserve food and coal

B. Altman & Co.

Thirty-fourth Street MADISON AVENUE-FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK Thirty-fifth Street
Telephone 7000 Murray Hill

Women's and Misses' Blue Serge Dresses

(partly made, but requiring very little work to make ready for immediate use), in three very smart models for Autumn wear, are specially priced in the Department for Catalogue Merchandise, on the Sixth Floor.

These Dresses are in plain and panel effects, featuring black braid embroidery.

Prices \$17.50, 22.50 & 25.00

Silk Petticoats

are shown in styles designed especially to conform to the lines of the smart silhouette. Some of the prices:

Silk taffeta, \$3.85, 5.75 upward
Satin . . . 5.50, 7.25 upward
Georgette, 11.75, 16.50 upward
Silk jersey, 5.75, 8.75 upward
Wool jersey . . . 8.50 upward

(Second Floor)

Distinctive Mourning

The most advanced ideas of the designers at home and abroad are represented in Gowns and Tailored Suits, Blouses, Hats, Coats, Wraps and the accessories of mourning costume.

Many of the new creations shown are exclusive to B. Altman & Co.

(Mourning Dep't, Third Floor)

The New Upholstery Fabrics

for Autumn Draperies

are, despite present conditions, more interesting than ever, there being a greater diversity of artistic designs originated by decorative geniuses in Europe and America.

The fabrics include figured linens and cretonnes; curtain nets, and semi-transparent weaves.

Custom-made Velour Portieres

(from workrooms in the establishment) eight feet in length and highly mercerized, are in the regular stock, very moderately priced at \$37.50 per pair.

(Upholstery Dep't, Fourth Floor)

The Urge of Mid-September

is emphatically in the direction of cool-weather outfitting—for the home as well as for the individual.

Therefore, special effort has been made to assemble under B. Altman & Co.'s spacious roof just the things that will be needed to make oneself as comfortable, one's home as cosy and "livable," as the exigencies of wartime permit. The result conclusively demonstrates that fashion, good taste and economy are—for once, at least—convertible terms.

Special for Monday and Tuesday

A Sale of Linens

PRACTICAL AND DECORATIVE

will offer price inducements not often presented in these days of linen scarcity.

All-linen Damask Table Cloths each \$5.50, 7.00 & 9.75

All-linen Damask Table Napkins per dozen \$6.00, 7.50 & 10.50

All-linen Huckaback Towels, hemstitched, per dozen \$8.50, 10.00 & 12.00

Union Huckaback Towels (linen-and-cotton) hemstitched, per dozen \$5.40, 6.00 & 7.50

Turkish Bath Towels, hemmed, per dozen \$4.00, 6.00 & 7.50

Turkish Bath Mats (heavy quality; large size) each \$1.75

Luncheon Sets (thirteen pieces) hand-crocheted border, linen center . . . per set \$4.75

Madeira Luncheon Sets (thirteen pieces) hand-scalloped and embroidered, per set \$5.00, 5.75 & 6.00

Madeira Tea Napkins hand-scalloped and embroidered . per dozen \$6.00 & 7.00

(Fourth Floor)

Balta Shoes for Women

have, among other distinguishing features, the shape-retaining quality that is so indispensable in these days of enforced economy in footwear.

Well-cut, made throughout of the best selected leathers, and finished with the most scrupulous attention to every nicety of detail, Balta Shoes lend to every wearer that individual distinction—the distinction of individuality—that is frequently spoken of, for want of a better term, as "class." For comfort, one has only to examine the perfect shaping of the shoe, the snug adjustment of the heel, to be convinced of it.

The Balta styles for Autumn and Winter offer a new synonym for elegant simplicity. The prices are very moderate, considering the excellence of materials and workmanship.

(Women's Shoes, Second Floor)

Fashionable Furs

made of fine, carefully selected pelts, are in stock at moderate prices.

Among them are

Wildcat Coats, \$135.00 upward
Nutria Coats . . . 190.00 upward
Hudson Seal Coats, 225.00 upward
Moleskin Coats . . . 390.00 upward

Fur Capes and Coatees, expressing le dernier cri de la mode, with charming Muffs to match, are shown at most attractive prices.

(Third Floor, Madison Ave. section)

Little Children's Hats and Coats

(imported and American-made), embody practically all the newest ideas in outerwear for tiny folk. Excellent values at the stock prices quoted.

LITTLE CHILDREN'S COATS (2 to 5 years)

Wool chinchilla, \$16.50 to 25.00
Corduroy . . . 11.50 to 55.00
Other fabrics 12.50 to 110.00

LITTLE CHILDREN'S HATS of velour and velvet, variously priced, \$7.50 to \$28.00

IMPORTED HATS AND BONNETS of chiffon, velvet and felt, variously priced, \$14.50 to \$48.00

Also INFANTS' SHORT COATS of various materials, \$6.75 to \$20.00

(Second Floor)

Corsets for Misses

and for women whose figures have retained the grace and symmetry of youth, are an important feature in the activities of the Corset Department. Two especially charming models just from Paris are made of pink or white batiste, plain tailored or elaborately trimmed (with attached supporters), and are priced respectively at \$9.50 and \$12.50.

American-made Corsets are obtainable at prices ranging from \$1.50 to \$5.00.

(Second Floor)

A section of the Second Floor is reserved exclusively for The Sale of Vogue Patterns



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