

ONE STATE PROPOSES TO MAKE EMPLOYERS
PAY A LIVING WAGE—READ ABOUT IT

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RUBBER STRIKE AT AKRON GREAT STRUGGLE FOR RIGHT OF WORKERS TO ORGANIZE

*Begins When Three Hundred Unorganized Men Walk
Out—Swells to Strike of 15,000, Backed by
I. W. W. and A. F. of L.*

Akron, O., Feb. 20.—The Akron rubber strike began nineteen days ago, when 300 timid, unorganized finishers walked out of the Firestone-Rubber Co.'s plant when their pay was cut for the third time in three months and they were ordered to "speed up a little more."

But today the rubber industry is paralyzed, and \$20,000,000 worth of watered stock has faded into thin air.

And the strike of the unorganized has become a great struggle of 15,000 men and women for the supreme right to organize, the right to bargain, collectively, for their labor.

The abolition of the piece work system, under which men were speeded up to a tension that ruined their health, might be accomplished now. The rubber magnates are willing to concede that.

The eight-hour day might be

granted now because the Good-year Company has discovered that three shifts of eight hours each is greater economy than the ten and twelve hour shifts used in most factories.

But the strikers demand, and will continue to demand, the right to organize, and the millionaire employers are just as determined they shall not have that right.

For the millionaire rubber magnates know well enough that the organization of their employes means the end of the system by which they have been able to cut wages time and again, time and again, and to speed up human beings as if they were machines.

The employers are shouting themselves blue in the face saying that the strike merely was caused by "outside agitators," men whose sole business it is to cause labor wars, and to profit from these wars.