

## CORPORATION HAND ON PUBLIC SCHOOLS IS SHOWN AT GOGGIN MEMORIAL MEETING

Margaret A. Haley, business representative of the Chicago Teachers' Federation, and Prof. Scott Nearing of the University of Toledo were speakers last night at a meeting in the Auditorium hotel, the first of a series aimed at presenting the facts of the public school controversy.

Prof. Nearing quoted from a recent survey that "of 967 members of the boards of education in many cities 7 per cent were women, about 5 per cent represented the employed classes and nearly 90 per cent were representatives of business. Six-sevenths of the population of Chicago are wage earners and they practically are unrepresented on the board of education."

The dropping of 68 teachers last June was done under orders from Jake Loeb, president of the school board, "without notice to one of them, without giving them a chance to be heard or without explanation," according to Miss Haley, who said he did it "to intimidate the 7,800 teachers, to notify them the board of education did not want collective activity or any organized effort on the part of the teaching body."

She quoted Speaker Dave Shanahan of the state legislature as telling the teachers' federation at Springfield a few years ago: "When you teachers stayed in the school room we took care of you, but when you come out and attack the great corporations you must expect them to hit back."

Edwin G. Cooley, former sup't of schools, was quoted as telling a delegation of teachers who were attacking tax-dodging corporations: "You teachers should not attack the corporations for the corporations in turn will injure the teachers and damage the schools."

She quoted figures on the millions of dollars in taxes forced from the corporations by suits of the Teach-

ers' Federation and explained that salary raises were impossible until the teachers had thus replenished the public treasury.

"Dr. Emil G. Hirsch told me only recently," continued Miss Haley, "that he once asked Dr. William Rainey Harper how he could expect to hold professors at the meager salary of \$1,200 a year, and that Dr. Harper replied that for every professor who left because of the salary he could get six others who were willing to take the place for \$600.

"Soon after the late Charles Ffrench was appointed to the board he was invited by Dudley Taylor, attorney for the Employers ass'n, to meet Jacob Loeb at a certain restaurant. Mr. Ffrench went, but instead of finding Mr. Loeb there he found Mr. Taylor and a former member of the board (William Rothmann), who has been one of the leaders in the fight on the federation. There they tried to poison the mind of Mr. Ffrench by telling him the salaries of the teachers were too high.

"Big business is not going to permit the existence of a school system which endangers the ground on which it stands. The blow has been struck here because Chicago has been the leader in the fight by the teachers for the freedom of the children.

"Big business demands that the schools prepare the children for the industries, and the Chicago teachers replied fearlessly: 'If we must prepare the children for the industries, then we demand that you prepare the industries for the children.'"

Expenses of these meetings are to be paid for out of the Catherine Goggin Memorial Fund under the theory that Miss Goggin would rather have the people of Chicago fully informed on what the Chicago Teachers' Federation stands for than to have a