

VOLUME I. NUMBER 35.

NEW CASTLE, PENNSYLVANIA, SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 1910.

SIX MONTHS, 50 CENTS. \$1.00 PER YEAR

WHOLESALE ROBBERY

New Bedford Cotton Mill Worker Describes Process by Which Manufacturers, Aided by Labor Fakirs, Get Enormous Dividends From Ill Paid Slaves.

(Special to Solidarity.)

The textile industry is the foremost industry in Massachusetts, from the point of view of numbers employed, capital invested, and dividends paid.

In a pamphlet issued recently by a firm of stockbrokers of New Bedford, pointing out the advantages to be derived from investing capital in the staple industry of that city, it would seem as if we had "Eldorado" skinned a thousand leagues.

In the matter of dividends New Bedford is not alone; Fall River comes a good second in some instances and a good first in others. In the last named city in 1907 cash dividends to the amount of \$2,701,875 were paid on a total capital of approximately \$25,073,000, besides an increase in the form of presents of new stock to the amount of \$1,000,000. That amounts to a dividend rate of 18.30 per cent. Of course these figures are taken from a banner year and are a trifle higher than usual. At the same time it must also be remembered that the average wages were less than \$8.00 per week.

So much for Fall River or that part of the story. There is another side to it that will be touched upon later. Now comes New Bedford's share of the surplus wealth wrung from the hide of the slaves of the mills. When reading this it must be understood that the New Bedford textile worker is credited with being the most "expert and skillful in the world." That is, when he is not asking for an advance in wages. In—what? case is a mean, ungrateful wretch, who has no thought for anyone but himself.

In 1906 in New Bedford there was paid out in wages the sum of \$8,000,000 to 27,000 operatives, making a little less than \$8.00 per week. In the same year there was paid out in dividends \$3,000,000. Thus we see that for every three dollars the worker gets, the big get one.

The Tariff and the Labor Fakir.

It will no doubt be fresh in the minds of the readers of Solidarity what a big figure the textile industry played in the recent framing of the tariff schedules by congress, and the amount of that this question raised at the time. It may also be somewhat surprising to learn that one of our foremost labor leaders(?) cut quite a swathe in one of the hearings before the Congressional Committee.

This man, Senator Sam Ross, and one we same lik, Albert Hibbert of Fall River, were taken along by the manufacturers to appeal to this committee to have the cotton schedule remain as it was. It may be remembered that this tariff on this class of goods was characterized by LaFolais as a piece of plunder unprecedented in the annals of manufacturing. The claim was made by these men that a protective tariff is essential to the welfare of the American people; that it maintains in this country a high standard of living by protecting the people against the competition with foreign producers who only obtain in trade results from low wages (ours are less than \$8.00 per week) which means that we are to build up the trade of this country at the expense of other countries. And this will mean that the more trade we have the less the foreigner will have. The more mills we build the more we cut out the other fellow, and this will mean in the long run that the slaves of the old country will be forced to come over here and compete with us for the jobs on this side of the pond. So it seems there will be very little difference to us whether we are competing in the commodity market of the slave market.

But who could expect these men to see it in that light. It would seem that Ross and men of kindred organizations are neglecting, etc. have practically abandoned

Continued on Page Four.

GOING AFTER THE COW



APPEAL TO TEXTILE WORKERS

By the National Industrial Union to Organize Under the Banner of the I. W. W. In One Big Union.

FELLOW TEXTILE WORKERS:

This appeal and special edition of this paper is addressed to YOU.

Read carefully the different articles written by your fellow workers. Then consider your situation.

Because you produced too much in the days of capitalist prosperity, thousands are walking the streets hungry, in vain search for work. "Because," so the manufacturers say, "curtailment is necessary." The New York "Journal of Commerce" says: "The thing textile merchants would like to be informed on is, what is going to happen to stimulate the general demand after a general acknowledgement of the magnitude of curtailed production is in evidence."

"These are your 'hard times.' In your good times" you are driven at top speed, often overtime, for a bare living wage.

The only remedy for these sad conditions lies in organization.

YOU MUST ORGANIZE FOR SHORTER HOURS.

What The Shorter Work Day Will Mean.
A shorter work day will increase the number of jobs, reduce competition among the workers and thereby tend to increase wages.

A shorter work day will bring a general reduction of poverty among textile workers.

A shorter work day means a rise in the standard of living for all textile workers.

Less hours at work mean more hours for recreation.

Less hours at work mean more men employed to do that work.

Less hours at work mean less competition in the labor market.

Less hours at work mean better wages.

Less hours at work mean better living conditions.

Less hours at work mean that you will live less like beasts of burden.

LONG HOURS OF LABOR MEAN SHORTER HOURS OF LIFE.

You must organize for HIGHER WAGES. It is the only way in which you can counteract the fearful depreciation in your standard of living, because of the rapidly rising prices of commodities, due to causes inherent in this rotten system.

YOU MUST ORGANIZE FOR better working conditions.

The National Industrial Union of Textile Workers.

part of the Industrial Workers of the World, proposes to organize the textile workers for the fight by bringing all operatives in the mills, irrespective of the kind of goods they make, or their craft, sex or age, into ONE INDUSTRIAL UNION OF TEXTILE WORKERS in each locality, embracing all workers, so that they can argue and discuss all shop grievances together, and act together when occasion so requires.

All Local Industrial Unions of Textile Workers, as parts of the National Industrial Union of Textile Workers, are hereby banded together into ONE WORKING CLASS organization on the industrial field in the Industrial Workers of the World.

By organizing their power in this manner the textile workers will also learn to use that power judiciously. Guided by methods applied successfully by workers the world over who have constructed their organizations on the recognition of the irrepressible class conflict in society, they can and will, with the support and cooperation of all workers conscious of their interests, accomplish things for themselves.

Once on the right road the workers will also win the battle for complete economic freedom.

It's your duty to organize, to stand together and to win.

Third Convention of the N. I. U.

Realizing the supreme necessity of having the program of the organization and the methods by which its objects, immediate and final, can best be achieved, understood, the National Industrial Union of Textile Workers of the I. W. W. calls upon all textile workers to form unions in every mill and factory and send delegates to the Third Annual Convention to be held Sunday, September 4, in Philadelphia, Pa., in the Kensington Labor Lyceum, Second

Continued on Page Three.

WOOLEN INDUSTRY

United States Worsted Company Gets An Average of \$38.00 Per Week From Each of Its Slaves, Over and Above Wages Paid.

(Special to Solidarity.)

The woolen and worsted industry is a firmly established and exceedingly profitable one for the manufacturer.

Industrial Unionists and other interested persons who took pains to get information through Government statistics and other ways have for a long time known that the textile industry while paying to the workers the lowest wages, so low that in most cases husband, wife and children must all work together in the factories to earn enough to keep the family; this industry in its profits ranks SECOND among the great STAPLE industries of the country, being headed only by the steel industry.

This fact the Manufacturers have strenuously endeavored to conceal from the workers. They have tried to make it appear that without the protection of a high tariff on foreign goods, without the acceptance by the workers of long hours of labor and lowest wages, without the employment of children of tender years in their foul disease-breeding factories; that the machinery was speeded to the utmost point that the workers could stand at high strain, keep up with its attendance upon; unless the workers would submit to the excessive exactions relating to the quality and quantity of the work they turned out, and yield to heavy fines and the loss of keeping them up to the highest pitch and still further reducing their meagre wages, while at the same time lessening their power of resistance to the capacity of the mill owners, without the advantage of all these things, and unless permitted to undermine the health and strength of their ranks of employees and sap the vitality of a large portion of the nation, it was said that the textile industry would go to ruin and decay and the millions of workers dependent upon it for a living come to poverty and starvation.

All the while, however, the textile industry has been developing and expanding in an astonishing way. Fabulous profits have been succeeded from the flesh and blood of human beings of both sexes and all ages that could be penned up within gilded walls and set at a task. Gigantic factories that rank among the engineering wonders of the age have been and are today being constructed to squeeze ever greater wealth from the labor of the workers and yield ever larger dividends to the idle capitalist class.

While the workers of this industry have been wearing their dreary lives away in a ceaseless struggle for a miserable, often barely endurable existence, hundreds of them being killed and maimed yearly by the cruel, uncovered machinery, other thousands falling a prey to the great white plague, of which the factories provide breeding places, the manufacturers have prospered and grown rich beyond the dreams of avarice.

YOU ARE NOT GETTING YOUR SHARE OF THE INCREASING WEALTH AND PROSPERITY OF THIS COUNTRY UNLESS YOU OWN SOME GOOD NEW ENGLAND TEXTILE MANUFACTURING STOCK.

The above quotation is from a full page advertisement which appeared in the PROVIDENCE JOURNAL of June 20, 1910.

The advertisement was by a broker or dealer in securities, and it gave special prominence to the stock of the United States Worsted Co., which investors were urged to buy in order to "get a share in the increasing wealth and prosperity of the country."

The "United States Worsted Co." is a new combine of four or five old established mills located in Mass. and N. H. From this advertisement and also from the AMERICAN WOOLEN & WORSTED REPORTERS of Dec. 16, 1909, and from circulars issued in the interest of selling the stock of this company some interesting and instructive figures are taken.

Continued on Page Four.

LIVING "CHERRY BLOSSOMS"

How the Fall River Mills Are Destroying the Children and Undermining the Race.

A huge cherry tree, in full bloom, cut off at the roots, stood in the center of a banquet table, says the Los Angeles Record. The flowers would have made bunches of fine cherries, each cherry would have had in its seed the germ of another cherry tree. The diners sniffed the fragrance of the blossoms and didn't think of the cherries or of the thousands of cherry trees that had been sacrificed for them.

After the banquet the tree was thrown aside; there was a little sap in it, and the buds did their best to live like any other cherry blossoms. But their strength was gone, and they turned yellow and died.

The factory owners of Fall River, Mass., just like the factory owners of any other

city where children are allowed to work, are showing this same thoughtlessness, only the cherry blossoms are living children. This is the way things go in Fall River, one of the great mill and factory towns in the country.

Fifteen years ago Rita Hobbs—let us imagine that is her name, for there are thousands of her in Fall River—left school to go to work in one of the factories. She was 14 years old then.

Overworked. She went to work at a loom. Not a day passed that she did not do too much work for her frail body. Every morning she dragged herself out of bed for another day

married. You see, she thought she was like other cherry blossoms.

And married she was. A little girl baby came. It was pitifully weak and thin; it didn't have enough life in its little body to even cry. It batted its eyes at the mother for a few hours and then closed them forever. As if it understood what chance a little girl baby stood in a mill town.

The strength that should have been the baby's inheritance from its mother had been sapped out of its mother's body in the factory years before.

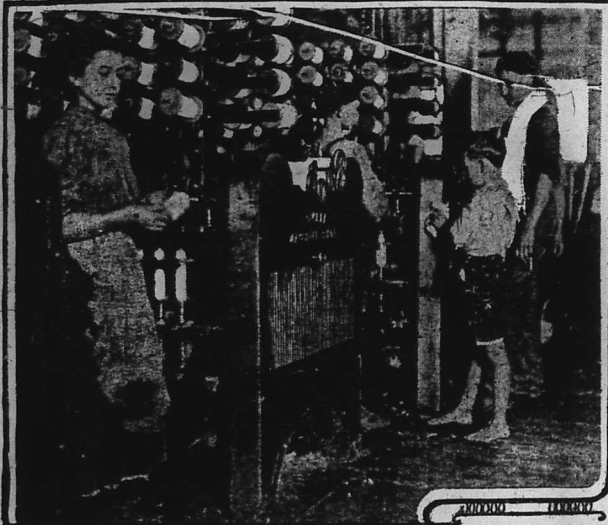
Then Death. Another baby came. It died the same way.

And then the mother died—just with-

ered away. That factory, like all the other factories, had been killing two generations at a time. Not only the strength of living children, but the killing that belonged to children of the future had been sacrificed to buy art treasures from the old world palaces and autos and suits in ocean liners and fine clothes and king's food—for the stockholders in the mill.

High Death Rate. The health authorities say that 4,700 babies were born in Fall River in 1909. Eight hundred and twenty of them died before they were a year old. A thousand and twenty-eight children under the age of five died in the town last year.

And there are only 115,000 men, women and children in the town. Three years ago, in 1907, the school authorities granted employment permits to 1,719 children between the ages of 14 and 16. But that was a hard times year. The factories didn't demand so much child life. The next year the permits numbered 1,765; times were still hard.



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THE I. W. W. PREAMBLE

The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. There can be no peace so long as hunger and want are found among millions of working people and the few, who make up the employing class, have all the good-things of life.

Between these two classes a struggle must go on until the workers of the world organize as a class, take possession of the earth and the machinery of production, and abolish the wage system.

We find that the centering of the management of industries into fewer and fewer hands makes the trade unions unable to cope with the ever-growing power of the employing class. The trade unions foster a state of affairs which allows one set of workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping defeat one another in wage wars. Moreover, the trade unions aid the employing class to mislead the workers into the belief that the working class have interests in common with their employers.

These conditions can be changed and the interest of the working class upheld only by an organization formed in such a way that all its members in any one industry, or in all industries if necessary, cease work whenever a strike or lockout is on in any department thereof, thus making an injury to one an injury to all.

Instead of the conservative motto, "A fair day's wages for a fair day's work," we must inscribe on our banner the revolutionary watchword, "Abolition of the wage system."

It is the historic mission of the working class to do away with capitalism. The army of production must be organized, not only for the every-day struggle with capitalists, but also to carry on production when capitalism shall have been overthrown. By organizing industrially we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old.

Knowing, therefore, that such an organization is absolutely necessary for our emancipation we unite under the following constitution.

INDUSTRIAL WORKER

Published Weekly by the Local Unions of the Industrial Workers of the World in Spokane, Washington.

A Red Hot, Fearless Working Class Paper

AWAKENS THOUGHT! COMPELS ACTION!

Represents the Spirit of the West

Subscription: Yearly, \$1.00; Six Months, 50 Cents; Canada, \$1.50 Per Year. Address

INDUSTRIAL WORKER,

P. O. Box 2129, Spokane, Washington.

SOLIDARITY LITERATURE BUREAU

Publishers of INDUSTRIAL UNION LITERATURE Under same management as Solidarity.

Read the following:

"ELEVEN BLIND LEADERS," by B. H. Williams. 32-Page Pamphlet. Price 5 Cents

"TWO KINDS OF UNIONISM," by Edward Hammond. A Four-page Leaflet, 20c per 100; \$1.00 per 1,000

"UNION SCABS AND OTHERS," by Oscar Ameringer. Four-page Leaflet, 20c per 100; \$1.50 per 1,000

"GETTING RECOGNITION," by A. M. Sifton. A Four-page Leaflet, 20c per 100; \$1.50 per 1,000

ADDRESS

SOLIDARITY LITERATURE BUREAU

Box 622 NEW CASTLE, PA.

APPEAL TO TEXTILE WORKERS.

Continued From Page One.

and Cambria streets.

Organizations of textile workers already in existence, but not a part of the National Industrial Union of Textile Workers of the I. W. W., are cordially invited to take this matter up and elect delegates to the convention, who will be accorded the privilege of a voice in the deliberations of the convention, but not a vote, except otherwise provided for by the convention itself.

Remember, fellow workers, this is a question that should attract your immediate attention. Don't hesitate! Don't stand back.

All communications and requests for further information should be addressed to National Industrial Union, Box 206, Oliveville, R. I.

WILLIAM YATES, JOSEPH ANTONIETTI, EWALD KOETIGEN, WILLIAM VANDERVELDE, GILBERT SMITH, THOMAS POWERS, FRANCIS MILLER, Executive Board N. I. U. of Textile Workers of the I. W. W.

CIRCULATE THIS ISSUE.

Much valuable matter of a general character had to be crowded out of this issue of Solidarity, on account of the abundance of good textile material. Much of that

matter will appear in succeeding issues. We trust, however, that our readers everywhere will find this special number sufficiently interesting and instructive to warrant them in giving it a wide circulation other than among textile workers. As far as the latter are concerned, several substantial bundle orders have been received. The National Industrial Union ordered 800 copies to be sent to various local unions. Local 157 of New Bedford, Mass., wants 1,000 copies, and Local 129 of New York City will also handle about the same number, to be distributed among the textile workers of that vicinity. The Franco-Belgian Federation of Lawrence, Mass., ordered 200. This, together with our regular list, makes the largest issue of Solidarity yet printed. The exact number will be announced next week. We hope to announce other special issues in the near future. RUSH IN THE SUBS!

ITALIAN I. W. W. PAPER.

The attention of our readers is called to the Italian I. W. W. paper, "Ragione Nuova." It is published monthly at 206 Atwell Ave., Providence, R. I., and the subscription price is only 25c per year. This paper has a big field among the Italian workers in this country, and should be given a wide circulation. English speakers, organizers and members of the I. W. W., coming in contact with Italian workers should place "Ragione Nuova" in their hands.

CONDITIONS IN THE SILK INDUSTRY

(Special to Solidarity.)

The chief center for the manufacture of silk is in the city of Paterson, N. J. but of late years many plants in the States of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and New York have developed in the manufacture of silk products.

The two main divisions of silk manufacture are those of broad silks and silk ribbon. Great changes in the productivity of individual workers have taken place. For instance, some 20 or 25 years ago a broad silk weaver would operate one loom, with looms 18 or 20 inches wide; now one weaver is compelled to run two looms, looms containing goods three times 18 inches, thus doing as much work as formerly required six weavers. Or one loom now operates two wide jaquard looms with anywhere from two to seven looms, or 2 two wide looms with 20 or 25 singles, and in one mill in Paterson weavers are running four double wide looms with heavy dress goods. These looms are equipped with electric stopping motions, which stop the loom whenever a thread or the filling breaks.

In ribbon weaving, similar evolution has taken place. The looms have become larger and the number of spindles has multiplied, and the "double-decker" is the order of the day. Girls and women today are running bigger looms, with more spindles, than men were doing in former years. This has, of course, had the effect of throwing many silk workers out of employment, and the competition for jobs is very keen, with the result that wages have dropped to a low level.

Very little remedy for this is to organize in one big union and reduce the hours of labor. The silk workers, especially the women, are beginning to realize this. In the dye houses the situation is even worse. The labor there is practically all

unskilled. Wages range from \$8.00 to \$12.00 per week if they work full time, but the men are hurried through with their work and sent home an hour or two before the regular quitting time, thus making it almost impossible to get in a full pay. Ninety per cent of the dye house workers are Italians and are paid material for the I. W. W.

The American Federation of Labor has never made any serious attempt to organize the silk workers. The great mass of them are too low paid to be able to pay large initiation fees and dues—the main object of the A. F. of L. Only a few loom fixers, twisters and warpers belong to craft unions, and have always made it a practice to scab on the rest of the silk workers whenever the latter were on strike, and are thoroughly hated for the dirty work they have done for the bosses.

The silk industry is not very much trusted as yet. There are a large number of small concerns, and an industrial union using the right tactics and methods can do great work for the silk workers.

Thus, in 1907, the I. W. W. was able in one session to increase the payroll for the silk workers in Paterson alone approximately \$20,000 per week. Strikes are taking place every season, and the workers as a rule get what they ask for, but they have not hitherto stuck to an organization, and consequently lose again what they gained through organized effort.

A strong industrial union embracing all the workers in and around the silk mills and dye houses is what the silk workers need to hold what they once gain.

The silk industry has been very dull for at least two years, and the condition of the streets is terrible, but when business picks up they will be ready for revolt.

If should be the main effort of the National Industrial Union of Textile Workers of the I. W. W. to organize the silk workers, along with the others in the textile mills, into One Big Union, to enable them to gain better conditions for themselves. SILK WEAVER. Paterson, N. J.

WALL STREET AND THE COTTON OUTLOOK

Should cotton advance another cent Wall Street predicts that seven-eighths of the entire textile industry will have to shut down. The situation with reference to the industry is this:

- 1. The cotton crop is short by possibly a million bales, due to drought and decreased acreage in Texas, Mississippi and the other cotton growing states.
2. The Patten syndicate has cornered a great deal of cotton that is already in market, and is holding it away from the spinner, which causes a shortage in their direction.
3. For August, September and October of this year the best possible weather must prevail in order that the crop might be saved. Should this happen, 50 Pattens could not hold their prices. Banks would withdraw support, and this would cause a crash.
4. There is an increasing consumption at this time. It is said that the curtailment will be so drastic before the end of August as to mean a depletion of the stocks now on hand. This will mean a resumption of fuller time in the mills, beginning about the first of September.
New York.

Read this paper and then pass it along to a friend. Get him to subscribe.

LOS ANGELES

Metal Trades Strike Described in Detail by One on the Ground.

(Special to Solidarity.)

Los Angeles, Calif., July 29.—Every one who has traveled any, at all, or has studied the labor question, knows that Los Angeles is known far and wide as one of the seaboard cities in the country—a city where capitalism had almost succeeded in crushing out its organization...

Some shops have been able to secure a few Y. M. C. A. acas, but they are far from knowing their business. The shops that were running 10 to 15 hours per day...

Eighteen iron workers came here from Salt Lake City. The line was called when they got off the train and the other nine worked about a week and we got them all out. It cost the Baker Iron works \$38.00 a picket, \$38.00 a day here, and they did not get a week's work out of them. Several other firms lost money on similar cases.

Seeing that the picket work was very effective, the Merchants and Manufacturers got busy and issued an injunction against all pickets who came by their places. Well, the boys picked up the line so that they did not work. They then went to the city council and through them got an order passed that anyone doing any picket duty or talking to anyone at his home or any other place, had to be arrested and punishable by a fine of not more than \$100.00, or 50 days or both.

The capitalist class here have tried now every means possible to beat us, but they cannot. We have all resolved that this strike means life to us, and we are going to fight this to the end, or die fighting.

To our Eastern fellow-workers: I would advise you to keep far away from this hell hole, as we are now trying to establish (and what's more, are going to succeed in establishing) a condition whereby men can live like human beings.

WOOLEN INDUSTRY.

Continued From Page One.

plies 1100 people and operates 800 looms. These figures would indicate that the two-loom system must generally prevail throughout the T. S. W. Co. plants. The calculation is 25 cents per yard of cloth, paying 7 per cent dividends, of which about half has so far been issued. There is an equal amount of common stock owned by the workers.

we are told in this advertising matter, is now showing earnings (robbing the workers) of four times the amount necessary to pay the profit of the dividend 7 per cent. Let us examine these figures a little closer and learn the lesson they show.

The wages of the 1100 employees (men, women and child) are at the very high average of \$10 per week for each person. In the six months period of 26 weeks the total wage drawn by the 1100 workers was \$1,100,000.

These figures taken from the company's own documents are eloquent as to the extent to which the textile workers are robbed of the wealth created by their labor, that ideas may live in ease and luxury. They show that the labor of 1100 persons created on an average for each person of \$88 in wealth each week more than they received in wages. They show that had each of these 1100 employees been paid in weekly wages \$29 ADDITIONAL upon what they actually received, the company could have paid its 7 per cent dividends, and it would yet fall short of entirely wiping out the company's "balance of \$322,000, over and above all operating expenses."

In other words, if the wages of every man, woman and child in the employ of this company had been paid at an average of \$30 each weekly for the period covered by the above figures, the company could easily have paid its 7 per cent dividend and would have a surplus remaining. Textile workers, it is now time you get busy to force fewer hours or shorter hours and a larger share of the product of your labor. And remember, this showing is by a combine of only four mills hardly a year organized.

How much more of this kind of robbery are exploited by a huge concern like the American Woolen Co., we may dimly estimate. The stock-selling game, in the interest of which the above-given figures are furnished by the U. S. W. Co. to prospective stock buyers is not a matter of concern to the workers. They have as a class no money to put into it. Yet a few words relating to this side of the game of "high finance" may not be amiss.

We will suppose five manufacturers with plants of 200 looms each in a more or less run-down condition. The value of each plant averages about \$200,000. All these plants are in operation and receiving the workers at a goodly rate, but yet the income does not begin to satisfy either of these capitalist owners. It is true that paid preachers of this class tell the workers that they must be satisfied with that which it pleases God to send them; it is also true that the boot-licking weekly trade papers of the textile industry are filled with such moralistic platitudes.

He wants the good things of life, beautiful women, handsome residences, automobiles, yachts, college education for his children and the means to maintain the globe for himself and family. HE MUST HAVE MONEY AND PLENTY OF IT AND AT ONCE. The process of robbing the workers and the method of getting him the ready funds half fast come. He must therefore go after the cash held by the preachers, professional and middle class generally.

So the manufacturers come together and combine their factories, organizing as one company. The new company has 1000 looms in five plants more or less worn out in years of operation. The actual physical value of the combined factories is about \$1,000,000. The new company issues "preferred" stock to three times that amount, or \$3,000,000, which has equal value to the "common" stock which is not going to pay dividends. (This rate of capitalization, \$5,000 per loom is called "conservative" by the American Woolen Co., is capitalized and paying dividends on the enormous over-capitalization of nearly or quite \$10,000 per loom.)

The combining capitalists keep half of this stock, dividing it amongst themselves (in payment for each individual plant) thereby keeping absolute control of the new company, to elect themselves officers and directors, decide dividends and carry out all business of the company. They then the other half of the stock (\$1,500,000) is put on the market; the cash in the possession of the middle and professional classes begins to tell into the treasury and the problem of our ambitious capitalists is solved. It is true that 7 per cent will now have to be paid to the outsiders, but what is that, when compared with the amount of getting what you want, right now, when you want it. Besides, new economies are now possible under the combine that more than offset the cost.

SCREAM!

And the thousand and odd workers, of whom a few of them have perhaps been killed by "accidents" during this year of prosperity. Several have been injured and maimed. Some have died of consumption and other diseases. In factory conditions, others have contracted the disease and are soon to follow. All show the effect of working at high strain and are aging 10 years in one. Now and then a worker is driven crazy or to suicide by the awful stress—it is what has come to the workers in this most prosperous year—for the capitalist.

You must take up the issue of your own interests. You must organize for immediate better conditions to the speedy overthrow of wage-slavery.

WHOLESALE ROBBERY.

Continued From Page One.

the field upon which the workers could secure relief. The basic standard union-led effort is being in the halls of the legislature and begging for charitable consideration of the totally inadequate wishes of the workers; that, too, in the belief that the manufacturer will not let his brothers.

The Sliding Scale. So firm a hold has this "brotherly" feeling got on the workers that the wages in Fall River are so regulated that there is added to the margin of profit for the legislature and begging for charitable consideration of the totally inadequate wishes of the workers; that, too, in the belief that the manufacturer will not let his brothers.

Class 1: "That 21.78 cents per cut shall be the recognized standard price for a margin of 95 points, based on the cost of eight pounds of foreign upland cotton, and the selling value of 45 yards of 34-inch 64x64 print cloth, and 33.11 yards of 38 1/2 inch 64x64. Quotations from the New York Standard of Commerce" shall be considered authority.

Now comes class 2: "Wage agreements shall be binding for six months, beginning the last Monday in May and November of each year, based on an average margin for the previous six months."

Prices for weaving shall be as follows: "With margin of 115 points, 23.96 cents per cut." But what is the use. We could go into the details of this for a whole column, and it is doubtful if your readers would be any wiser. The whole thing is a farce and a farce it means that the selling price of this special kind of cotton (and there are about 9 or 10 others) of which the Fall River manufacturers have the monopoly, is regulated, one week, irrespective of whether they buy any or not (and it is fairly well known that the actual quotations are no criterion of the market value of the amount of cloth sold), and wages have to be regulated by that standard.

As a result there took place in May 1908, the largest reduction of wages for textile workers ever made, viz 17.94 per cent. Speaking of this reduction in wages, the secretary of the Carders' union of Fall River said in part in his report to the various unions: "We have been emphatically and without reserve that if (the sliding scale) is the best agreement for the operatives that was ever accepted" by the employers, it is a regulation of the rise and fall of wages.

Taney Aids the Manufacturers. No wonder this craft union secretary, James Taney, was made a police commissioner. No wonder he was sent South to investigate the condition of the Southern textile worker. In this connection it may be said that the manufacturers on almost all occasions when an advance in wages has been reported by the worker, have either said that trade conditions did not warrant an advance, or that the competition of the Southern manufacturers, who pay notoriously low wages, precluded the granting of an advance. This man Taney was sent South just after the great Fall River strike to investigate conditions in the cotton industry there, and upon this same report ex-Governor Douglas was to a great extent to base his findings in the settlement of the aforesaid strike. So it will be clear understood that safe, sane and conservative labor leader James Taney would uphold his reputation as his in his report. He did so. The result was that the report of Arbitrator Douglas was not in favor of the workers, but to the effect that the masters could not afford to pay any more wages because the purchasing price of the raw cotton and the selling price of the cloth was not normal of a fair profit. The figures quoted above will give our readers some idea of "fairness" from the masters' point of view. So you see the Fall River and its sliding scale. After all the heroic fight the operatives put up for six long months, after the A. F. of L. at its convention had asserted that the Fall River strike was a failure, which was claimed would bring in \$75,000 per week, (but which never materialized) only to the extent of about two-thirds of our week's earnings! After heretofore this defeat as a glorious victory—conditions are as bad in our own Fall River than before the sliding scale went into effect, and workers are being cheated and treated as slaves. It is proven an utter failure and it would not be surprising if it were abolished pretty soon.

Labor Revolts in New Bedford.

New Bedford has also had its share of labor troubles. In 1888 a protracted struggle took place for four months, ending as usual in defeat. Since then there have been several small strikes that did not amount to much, but which furnished lots of opportunities for the labor leaders to do their little stunts. In 1907 the wages of the textile workers were reduced ten per cent. The usual "protesting resolutions" against the avicious greed of the manufacturers, were passed by the unions connected with the A. F. of L., and the matter dropped at that. In 1908 the Textile Council, representing four of the craft unions, viz: Finers, Spinners, Weavers and the Card Room operatives, made a demand for the restoration of the 1907 cut. The demand was turned down by the manufacturers. The matter was then referred to the unions composing the aforesaid Textile Council for action, with the following result: The Finers stated that they were willing to accept a five per cent cut on account of the falling market. The Spinners were willing to have the ten per cent advance, but were not in favor of using any dilatory tactics to get it; the Carders ditto. The weavers did not care about a ten per cent. What they wanted was a Standard list. A standard list is what the officials of the Weavers' Protective Association want, a standard list that will be advantageous to the manufacturers as well as the weavers. The lion is to lie down with the lamb! All the injustices from which the weavers are suffering are like magic; the standard list is to make the manufacturers honest in all their dealings with the weavers. This standard list is being written in England, and the workers by the thousands are pouring into this country—England, a country against the low wages they claim the tariff was fixed to protect. If with the standard list we are to have all the concomitant evils that follow in its wake, then a standard list will only aggravate the present evil. It is the old fossilized cry that "the interests of the capitalist and the laborer are identical," and indeed they are: "The worker perishes if capital does not keep him busy; Capital perishes if it does not exploit labor."

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THE GROWING I. W. W. Below is the list of new I. W. W. unions, chartered by the General Office at Chicago, since our last report No. 383, branch 1, Polish, Minneapolis, Minn., June 29. No. 406, Bakery Workers, Providence, R. I., June 30. No. 64, branch 2, Minneapolis, Minn., July 2. No. 309, Wire Workers' Industrial Union, Fostoria, O. No. 15, Metal and Machinery Workers, Reading, Pa., July 19. No. 202, Furniture Workers, Grand Rapids, Mich., July 26. No. 136, Building Contractors, Honolulu, Island of Hawaii, July 30.

Reduced Price on "Blind Leaders." In order to clean out the remaining 800 copies of the first edition of B. H. Williams' pamphlet, "Eleven Blind Leaders," we are offering the pamphlets to locals and other organizations at THREE CENTS A COPY POSTPAID. Order a quantity of this pamphlet and put them in the hands of slaves who think. Address SOLIDARITY LITERATURE BUREAU, Box 692, New Castle, Pa. Subscribe for Solidarity and push its circulation. Do it now.

Recently the craft union leaders have been lobbying in the halls of the legislature, and begging for charitable consideration of the totally inadequate wishes of the workers, in the belief that the manufacturers are their twin brothers. They support them in their demands for a higher tariff on fabrics from other lands. But the promises of legislation will not bring the shorter work day. While the machines of production are running at the highest possible speed the wages of the textile workers decrease in proportion. New devices introduced tend to intensify competition among the workers for jobs and compel them to operate ever increasing number of looms.

An eight hour day will increase the number of jobs, and competition among the workers, and thereby tend to increase wages. An eight hour day will mean a rise in the standard of living for all textile workers. To enforce these demands we must have power. To realize that power we must have a proper organization to function at such times as the workers are best and the masters least prepared to resist. And this means that we must be organized into one solid compact organization whose rallying cry is "An injury to one is an injury to all."

GOTTON WORKER, New Bedford, Mass. I. W. W. in Providence. A big mass meeting of Clothing Workers under the auspices of Local No. 151, Clothing Workers, I. W. W., was held in the big hall in Labor Temple, Providence, Rhode Island, Thursday night, August 13. The meeting was well advertised by circulars in English, Italian, and Hebrew. The many clothing workers present followed with great interest the speech of James Reid in English, Gildo Massa, of Lynn, Mass., in Italian, and a Jewish tailor, who spoke for his fellow workers. The Italian branch of the union was present at the meeting, and most of the Jews present signified their intention of forming a branch. Whether it was a splendid meeting, and it is safe to say that there was no truth told about the A. F. of L.'s antiquated form of organization and reactionary politics than at all the meetings held in this hall in many long moons.

The same night a bunch of workers employed in office buildings, mostly window cleaners, got together and decided to apply for membership in the I. W. W. The organization started off with 27 charter members. This, together with the existing, make five locals in good standing in Providence: Textile Workers No. 530, Mixed Local No. 121, Clothing Workers No. 151, Bakers No. 406. Let the good work go on. F. MILLER.