

MBW 1

MINNIE B. WARE, sworn, testified:

EXamination by Mr. Daly.

Q Where do you live, Minnie?

A Here at the Textile Camps.

Q How long have you lived there?

A I have been there since the tents have been put up from about September 1st last year, 1914.

Q Where did you live before you went to the camp?

A 51 Tennell Street.

Q Is that in the mill village of the Fulton Bag Mills?

A Yes Sir.

Q How long did you live there?

A We have been living there about two years.

Q In the same house?

A Yes Sir.

Q With whom did you live?

A I lived with my mother.

Q How old are you, Minnie?

A Going on 17.

Q Did you ever work in the Fulton Mills?

A Yes Sir.

Q How long did you work in these mills?

A Off and on for eight years.

Q What did you do in the mills?

A Spinner.

Q How much did you make a week?

A If I was at it all the week I would be making \$7.05 a week.

Q Did you work five days in the week?

A Yes Sir.

Q Do you remember the time you had trouble at the mill in October, 1913?

A Yes Sir.

Q Were you among those that left the mill at that time or not?

A At the first strike?

A Yes.

A No Sir, I was not working in there then. I worked out a notice and I was helping my mother, and after the strike I went in to work.

Q After this first strike was over you went back?

A Yes Sir, I went back.

Q Was your mother at work in the mills too?

A No Sir, she was not at work in the mill.

Q Then you worked in the mill from the time you went back after the first strike until the second strike?

A Yes Sir.

Q Did you strike with the rest?

A No Sir, they fired me about three weeks before the strike because I stayed out sick. I had Dr. Garrett

with me.

Q You were confined, weren't you in this case?

A Yes Sir.

Q How long were you sick?

A I was taken sick, I think, Friday and they put us out on the eighth day. I had three hard chills and they put me out on Monday. I was in the bed when they put me out on Monday.

Q Who put you out of the house?

A The marshall, I don't know his name, and two niggers.

Q He was sent by the management of the mills?

A Yes Sir, I think so.

Q Why were you put out, Minnie?

A Because we joined the Union.

Q Had you done your work properly before that?

A Yes Sir.

Q Had there been any fault found with you about your work?

A No Sir.

Q Were you in bed when the marshall came to put you out?

A Yes Sir.

Q What did he tell you?

A He came in and he asked me, he says, "How about the little girl?" My mother said, "Well, its up to you." He says, "Little girl, you get up and go to the next house and we will get the things out of here; it won't excite you." I got up and they taken me to the next house, Mr. Smith's and then we got moved down to Kirkwood. After we moved to Kirkwood I stayed in bed until I could not turn over. Dr. Garrett come to see me two or three times a day for three weeks .

Q Was your rent paid when they put you out, do you know?

A Yes Sir,,I had time in the mill. My brother and two sisters had time in the mill too.

Q Did you say that your brother and two sisters worked in the mill?

A Yes Sir, they stayed with us too.

Q You all lived together?

A Yes Sir.

Q Did they join the strikers?

A Yes Sir.

Q Were they discharged?

A No Sir, they went out on the strike.

Q Have you worked any since?

A No Sir.

Q You have been in the camp ever since, have you?

A Yes Sir.

Q How about your health? Was your health affected after you moved that day? Were you much sick afterwards?

A Yes Sir, I have been pretty bad after we moved to Kirkwood. I could not turn over on my side. I taken medicine from Dr. Garrett and there was a man who come down to take my picture.

Q Did your baby live?

A No Sir.

Q Was it living when you were put out?

A No Sir, it just lived about two hours.

Q In what department did you work when you were in the mill? In the spinning department?

A Yes Sir.

Q How many girls were in your room?

A Why, I don't know how many there were, about 50.

Q Did you make as much money as the other girls in the mill?

A No Sir.

Q Were there girls that made more money?

A Yes Sir.

Q Were there girls that made less money?

A Yes Sir, they did, all us kids running two and three sides made less.

MBW 6

Q How were you treated by your overseer in that room?

A Well, the boss done very well, but everytime I stayed out they come down there and raked me out good. If I stayed out sick and when I was going to ask off they would not let me off.

Q Have you been sick much?

A Yes Sir.

Q Did you manage to work five days a week?

A Part of the time I did.

Q Some of the time you did not work that much?

A No Sir.

Q When you were out of the mill who did come to see you?

A Well, they sent that old Doctor down there, Dr. Hawkins.

Q Did he do anything for you?

A No.

Q Would he prescribe for you?

A No Sir.

Q He simply saw you and reported back to the office, I suppose, whether or not you were ill?

A Yes Sir.

Q Who was attending you? Who was your attending physician?

A Dr. W. V. Garrett.

Q Do you know whether he had told the marshall or anybody that you were not fit to be moved?

A He told them I was not able to be moved.

Q Did he give you a certificate to that effect?

A Yes Sir.

Q And this certificate stated what?

A "Not to be moved out under ten days," and if I was not able to be moved, not to move me then, and then at the end of eight days they come and put me out.

Q What did you do with that certificate?

A Dr. Hawkins got it. I gave it to him and he came down there with the sheriff and put us out and Ma gave him the certificate.

Q How many people came to put you out?

A Dr. Hawkins, the sheriff and two niggers.

Q Did they carry you to the other house that you went to, or how did you get there?

A They sent me over there in an automobile.

Q How old was the baby when it died?

A It was born at five and only lived two hours.

Q Do you know anything about the forfeiture of time? Just go ahead and tell about it if you had a forfeit.

A About three years ago I was fixing to go to Columbus, Georgia and I was working a notice and lacked two days and a half of having my time out and we just

MHW 8

went on and left my time and Ma and then they went to get my time and they would not give it to her at all and after I come back I tried to get them to give us \$2.00 for it, that was half of it, and they never would do it.

Q Do you know of any other case where it was forfeited among the other girls?

A No Sir.

Q Did you hear many complaints about the time being forfeited or not?

A My brother had time forfeited. He has got about \$24.00 up there.

Q Never could get it?

A No Sir, he can't get it.

Q Have you heard of two or three different cases?

A Yes Sir.

Q Just this one time is the only time you have had it forfeited?

A Yes Sir.

Q Howin regard to your pay day, when you were paid did you get your money on Saturday, or did they ever hold your money up on you until the next week because you had been out a day or two?

A Yes Sir, If we didn't have five days when we

End

MBW 9

went to get our money we had to wait until Monday night or Tuesday night.

Q Under the rule it was necessary for you to have five days before you could get any money?

A Well, if you were out sick -- I don't care what was the matter, you had to be there five days before you could get your money.

Q You would not if you were sick?

A No Sir, not until you made up the five days..

Q They didnt change your work in cases of necessity?

A No Sir.
