

SPECIAL WORK.

Tuesday, June 9th, 1914. Report of Opr's. J.W.W. & A.E.W. #10.

FULTON BAG & COTTON MILLS.

Mr. Miles arose at 7:00 A.M., left the hotel and went to restaurant on Mitchell Street. He returned to hotel and wrote some letters, then went to news stand and bought a paper, and went over to Mitchell Street.

We left our hotel and went to our rooms on Decatur St., where we connected up the dictograph and awaited the results.

Mr. Miles made them come to order. Mr. Fleming called the meeting to order at 10:15 A.M., and in turn introduced the speaker. "There are some pickets in this hall that are not doing their duty, what do you think about them? I know these pickets are not on the job. I know it is a pretty hard job, but you must get busy, and I do not want you to shirk your duty."

"Now, if there is anyone in this hall that wants to become a member of this Local #886, come forward, and if you have not got the sixty cents, you can pay it next week. Brother Arden please take charge of the door." He then asked them to place their right hand over their left breast, and conferred the obligation on about ten, and said, "You are now members of this Local, and those of you that have paid the initiation fee, I will give the pass word, and the sign to enter the hall, and those of you that have not paid the initiation fee, I cannot give you either, the pass word or the recognition sign."

"I want volunteers among you men to help unload the transfer wagon. Thats right, step forward, one more please. Now you fellows unload that stuff and take it up stairs, and, I will say, I want some more men for this same work, to-morrow. Does anyone know who had the key to this hall? How many of the Captains of pickets are there in the hall? come forward, please. Now then, any of you pickets that refuse to do your duty, let me know and we will see that their rations are cut off at the Commissary. We hate to do this, but, we will have to do it. I noticed that you pickets did not do your duty in front of the Mill, but the Mill pickets did their duty."

"Ladies and Gentlemen, we have with us to-day, our International Organizer, and some of you have never heard him before." Mr. Miles of New York did not speak, but made way for a Mrs. Martin, she spoke so low we could not hear only a word here and there. She only talked a few minutes. Fleming then instructed one of the pickets to stay away from the Mill to-day. (Mr. Miles is now reading some newspaper clippings) "Now when the police ask you to move on, why, move on, and if they ask you to move again, do so, but don't let them drive you away, and keep away from that hotel, but I want you pickets to do your duty. I had a talk with the Chief of Police, and I told him that we had not and were not creating any trouble, and that we have enough pickets around the Mill to see who goes in and out of the Mills, and we do not want any throwing of bricks or stones around the Mill. I want to say that this strike has been carried on in the most respectable way that any strike has ever been carried on, that I ever knew of, and we have gained the admiration of the people by the peaceful means we have used." He then asked for Mattie Smith, and said, "there is a package for her down at the commissary. We would like to hear a word from Brother (Hopp of Hock) come on Brother, we would like to hear from you. I now take pleasure in introducing to you, Mrs. Smith."

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Mrs. Smith speaking, "I have been to town this morning and you are going to have some more to eat. I also arranged for some more houses for you. I got the tip this morning that they are going to put our two telephones out of commission, and before the day is over, you will get this rumor, that there has been five or six of you returned back to work, watch out for it, and run it down, for it is a lie. They got Mr. Miles yesterday, and the reason I have not been here with you sooner, is, because I had fifty things to do before I took my ride, and I wanted to do them so that I would have the time to spare to go to jail. Now, don't get scared, for if Mr. Miles and I can stand it, you can, and I am going down to the lot, and be ready when they get their warrant out for me." She then read a paper about the charity the Elsas Brothers has given you people down at the lot. "Now, fellows this is a fight to a finish, and we have got to have your help. We want forty men to help move you brothers and sisters, that are put out of your homes, into your new homes. Now, for Gods sake, by to-morrow at noon, we want forty men to do this, so that these people can have a hot supper in their new homes. Now, you must not touch anything until it is in the street, and then put it into the transfer wagons on the street. That is all I have to say, for I must see the girls, and get things ready.

Miles then said, "I want the pickets to go to the depot. Nobody leave this room for a moment."

Another speaker, a man by the name of Bridges, then said, "I have worked in 50 cotton mills in the South, and I would work in them again if I had to. Now, when they tell you to do something, go do it, and as I am a railroad man, I know that the railroad men will help you all they can, and I am here to help you all I can, and I am sure that if you will do what you are told, you can and will win this strike, for you are getting lots of help, and keep your hall clean, and don't throw cigarettes and stuff on the floor. All of you bear in mind that there will be an entertainment at the Labor Temple, #112 Trinity Ave., Sunday afternoon at 3:00 P.M.

A lady then spoke about how she talked to some one and tried to get them to quit. Some one said, "I can write 20 or 25 letters to these cotton mills and receive at least 12 letters a day to come to work, so you fight to a finish, you are getting plenty to eat, will keep you going, and you will win."

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 o'clock.