

S P E C I A L   W O R K .

Wednesday, August 26th, 1914. Report of Opr. #115.

FULTON BAG & COTTON MILLS.

I arrived early this A.M., and after getting located, I started to get in touch with conditions here. I first met several of the strikers and learned that conditions were not as bright to them as when I was here last. There seems to be a feeling of discouragement among them. I attended meeting of union at 10:00 A.M. Wright is now president, having replaced Sweat. I was received back with great enthusiasm, compelled to make a speech, which I did, and was invited to take up the singing, which I did also.

Leaders were late in arriving, and the president was compelled to keep talking to hold people in hall. I note that the attendance has fallen off almost half. "Mee Too" Fleming was greatly in evidence, taking every chance he could to get up and say nothing. I moved freely among strikers and note considerable dissatisfaction over outcome of the strike thus far, and I note also the advocating of using other means of getting people out of mill.

In fact, Wright himself (usually conservative) said "get the people out by pleading with them, if you can, but if you cannot get them out that way, get them out any way, because that is the only way we will win." A number of others said about the same thing.

There is considerable trouble I note, in getting people to attend the meetings, and they are now forcing strikers to attend, by threatening to cut them off commissary, if they do not be present at a certain number of meetings.

President John Golden of the American Federation of Labor, is here and is personally directing strike. In his speech this A.M. he told them how he considered himself "one of the Bunch" how he was working night and day to get an honorable settlement, and that no settlement would be considered except company came to a right settlement, and he was going to drop all his other business, and use all his time for their interest. Said that they were going to keep right on and effect organization in all the cotton mills in this and adjoining states.

Miles made no speech, but asked all those to whom the mill owed wages, to be at the hall at 3:00 P.M., to meet attorney to make their affidavit concerning amount of money company was keeping away from them.