

Sunday, December 6th, 1914. Report of Opr: #457.

FULTON BAG & COTTON MILLS.

Remained around the boarding house till 10 o'clock; then went down town, staying until 12 O'clock; then on Decatur Street, where I stayed until 3 o'clock, with Mr. Taylor and West Mylan. I stayed at my boarding place the rest of the day.

I heard John Melton telling Mr. Clark that the leaders in charge of the tent colony are sending the strikers away from the camp. He said they had given a number of them five days time in which to leave. Melton says there are over 250 people at the camp now, and 200 of them have never worked in the Fulton Mills. A man and woman who went to the camp—the man saying that he and his wife had worked in the mill as weavers—were driven away. The woman gave herself and her husband away by telling some of the other women at the camp that they had never worked in the mill. When this reached the ears of the leaders, the man and his wife were called before the Board of Directors. They asked the woman if it were true, that she and her husband had never worked in the mill, and she told them it was. They then asked him what class of work he did in the mill, and he told them that he had laid up filling in the spinning room. They did not believe him, and drove him away from the camp. According to what Mr. Melton and Mr. Clark say, they are going to get rid of all the people who have never worked in the Fulton Mills. Mr. Clark also said that one of the strikers was telling him that they are going to do away with the camp, but did not say what they were going to do with the people.

They were speaking about the strike leaders: Mr. Miles, Mrs. Conboy and Mrs. Smith; how they used to graft the money that was supposed to go to the strikers, and how the boys, who went around collecting old shoes and clothing for the strikers, took the best of what they collected and sold it to the second hand dealers, and sold the rest of the stuff to the union. But the union got wise to this, and started to buying their shoes through the Beacon Shoe Company. Last week they bought every person in camp a pair of shoes—between four or five hundred dollars worth.

Mr. Clark said they would never come to board with him again, as they nearly put him out of business. Said he was going to have warrants taken out for several of them; that they would not work, but he was going to put them where they will have to work.