

Case Series A741B

Operating
Representative No. 52 (Fem.)

At Atlanta, Ga.

Date Saturday, August 24, 1918

In re Labor Conditions

"This morning I reported at the plant and mingled with various of the workers to further cultivate their friendship and gain their confidence. In this I am becoming very successful.

I spoke to a number of the workers today, showing them that the Government at this time needed every bit of production which was being turned out at the client's plant and that we should stand solidly behind our Government in this war and save the women from becoming victims of the German atrocities. 'We women must put forth our best efforts, so that at no time would the Government be short of the necessary materials, as our plant is one that is very essential at this time and we must help in every possible way to increase production and in this manner, we would be doing our bit to assist those who are sacrificing their lives for us.'

The workers all appeared to be satisfied with the working conditions at the plant with the exception of today being pay day, a number of them were paid short and they would have to wait until Monday to get the rest of their money. This has caused considerable complaining by the workers, as they feel that the time should be figured more accurately and not cause them to wait after they have earned their money.

During the afternoon at every opporture moment,

I advanced arguments to the workers, showing them that it was their duty to put forth their best efforts and after cultivating them further, I believe I will be successful in increasing production, as there appears to be considerable room for improvement in my department.

There is a considerable waste of time at the plant due to operators cleaning their machines when it is not at all necessary. At 10 o'clock the operators are to clean their machines. During this time, the clippers and other helpers sit around and wait. It is only a matter of five minutes, but most of them get up and take a bite of their lunch and a drink of water and this takes five minutes more and ten to fifteen at times. At 3 o'clock in the afternoon this same operation is carried on which means ten or fifteen minutes more and at 20 of 6, the workers all stop to clean their machines and get ready to go home.

During the day, I noticed that there was a waste of practically forty minutes to a vast number of workers. This waste could be eliminated. As I become more accustomed to the plant, I will be in a better position to show them the proper manner to eliminate this unnecessary waste of time.

Leaving the plant at the usual time, I spoke to several of the workers, but our conversation was on generalities and nothing worthy of report was mentioned.

Leaving them at the street car line, I proceeded to my room and discontinued for the day."

Yours very truly,
SHERMAN SERVICE, INC.