

## THE TIMES NEWSPAPERS

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## TROOPS IN LAKE COUNTY.

Hammond has been invaded by the state militia. Soldiers are quartered within the city's gates for the first time since 1886 during the railroad strike, when federal troops were sent to the city by Grover Cleveland. Strikers at the Standard Steel Car district have made threats about what they will do to the soldiers and what they will do to government property, and it is to be hoped for their sake and the sake of the city that they were boasting.

The leaders should counsel caution and submission to the desire of the troops, else there will be bloodshed and the strikers will discover that all the blood will not be theirs. The troops have been sent for and brought here because the civil authorities do not feel that life and property is safe without them. That's all there is to the situation. The troops are not coming to make a showing of strength nor to usurp any function belonging to anybody. They only came as a last resort, but they will remain until complete order is restored and until such time as the agitators at the big car plant realize that order is Hammond's first law as well as heaven's just now. Boasts are idle. The troops mean business. Strike leaders will do well to let them control the situation. All good citizens will realize this and treat the soldiers accordingly. The city wants no blot on its fair name for the eyes of the nation are on it just now.

While the Standard Steel Car officials and the strikers are coming to an agreement the military will rule. The federal court has been ignored but armed soldiers cannot be.

## STRIKING AND PROFITEERING.

The Fort Wayne News argues that one cause of the high cost of living is that so many hundreds of thousands of workers in this country are idle by reason of strikes and have quit producing, and goes on to say that:

The argument that strikes are necessary that workmen may get wage increases that will permit them to meet increasing costs of living is not true in all cases. There has been announced within a day or two the formal end of a strike of railway shopmen. This strike, called week before last without authority and without reason as leaders among the railway men admit, brought some two hundred thousand railway shopmen from their work if their claim as to the magnitude of the strike are trustworthy. Almost every part of the country was seriously affected—some parts of the country acutely so. Transportation on some systems of railroads was almost completely suspended. Great cities were put under threat of hunger and millions of workers of all sorts, industrial, classes no less than others, were gravely inconvenienced and there was a situation that caused heavy loss by interruption of all business throughout the country. What

degree of effect it had on the cost of living no one can learn, but that it did not make anything cheaper even the strikers will admit.

That the strike was ill-advised and without reason is shown to be the case by the fact that it accomplished nothing whatever. It was spread about the country from north to south and from coast to coast and then called off with not a question settled, not a thing gained. Nothing but evil came out of that wanton muss. There doubtless are other strikes in progress adding their effect in doing their bit for the bevelment of industry and business and adding their mite here and there to the cost of living. And every strike has the same effect. The world is too much in need of production to make it possible that idleness of men and obstruction of the currents of trade can be without sorry effect. The strikes that mean nothing and get nowhere, as in the case of the railway shopmen, are worse than foolish. They are wicked.

## WHAT GOOD THE BLACKLIST?

The food profiteering investigations do not get us very far in bringing down the high cost of living. Here in our own state it looks from Dr. Barnard's statement as if he is shooting in the air. He practically admits there is no recourse against retail profiteering except publicity. Where is publicity going to come from except in the newspapers? Who is going to force the newspaper to give space to the campaign. Across the line in Chicago a dispatch says that United States District Attorney Charles F. Clyne is preparing today the first of the blacklists of exorbitant retailers, publication of which will start, Clyne announced, tomorrow.

The first name of the list, Clyne said, is that of a grocer who charged \$4.80 for a bushel of potatoes, and another who sold sugar at nineteen cents a pound. Blacklisting of the extortionate retailers an indictment of the profiteering wholesaler, jobber or dealer, is one of the plans of the campaign to wipe out profiteering.

If the United States government has no other way to stop food profiteering except blacklisting it might as well stop right now and save its powder.

Food profiteers have always been on the blacklist and look where the price of food is!

Why, they laugh at blacklists and fatten on publicity.

## ON DANGEROUS GROUND.

The statement that the labor unions may push their cause to that extent that it will cause a division in both the old parties and a complete realignment of the country politically, is no doubt idle gossip. For unionism could make no greater mistake than to force matters to that pass, where one party would espouse its cause and the other oppose it. It has made advances solely because it has been able to hold a sort of a balance of political power, forcing concessions through political bargaining with other parties. Let it once seek to stand as a dominant and deciding force, however, and its cause would be broken and shattered. The vast majority of the voters of the country are not affiliated with any union and because of the radical acts of certain union leaders they are inclined to look askance at the union cause. Certainly they would line up in solid opposition to a labor union party standing upon a labor union platform. The cause of unionism is best served by the continuance of the present plan by which the old parties are kept bidding for union support. —For Wayne News.

## BUDGET GOES UP.

According to the latest issue of the New York Times Annalist, the index figure for the food cost of living in 1914 was 146, while in August, 1919, it was 313, an increase of 167 points or 114 per cent over the index figure of 1914. In other words the average cost of twenty-five staples of food is now 114 per cent higher than in 1914. The index number does not show prices—it shows fluctuations. Translated into dollars, the figures mean that the amount of food that could have been bought for \$146 in 1914 would now cost \$313, assuming that the purchases covered the twenty-five articles selected as representing the theoretical family's budget. The Annalist's computation does not cover other costs of living, such as rent, fuel, clothing, medical attention, etc.

## WHAT'S WRONG?

What is there about American tradition that we should surrender in order to become a party to European intrigue?

ELATION over half a cent a pound drop in hog prices seems to reflect a common understanding that big movements have small beginnings.

SO many decisions have been taken in the case of the ex-kaiser, why not begin his trial?

CEE CANT YOU TELL ME HOW TO GET OUT OF DRYING THE DISHES, HANK? MY WIFE ALWAYS WISHES THAT SOB ON ME!

DO LIKE I DID—JUST DROP A FEW AND THAT WILL CURE HER!

COSH, THOSE PLATES ARE SLIPPERY—THAT'S THE THIRD ONE I BROKE!

DON'T YOU DARE TOUCH ANOTHER DISH, YOU HELPLESS THING!

YOU'LL DRY NO MORE OF MY NEW CHINA DISHES!

TEE HEE—

ABOUT having swell silk lingerie

IS THAT nobody can see it except when MOTHER hangs it on the clothes line in the

BACKYARD

AND then it is almost impossible to send

OUT general invitations to everybody

OUR esteemed friends among the

WEEKLY

SYNDICATE doctors

TOSSING off his prunes and bran every

MORNING

WITH joyous digestion-aiding laugh

THE only thing a girl dislikes

ABOUT having swell silk lingerie

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