

# JOB SEEKERS RIOT, STORM FORD PLANT

## Icy Stream from Fire Hose Twice Turns Back 12,000 Attracted by Profit-Sharing Plan.

### BREAK FACTORY WINDOWS

#### Throng Unmanageable After Stand- ing Hours in Blizzard — Dodges Quitting Ford to Go It Alone.

Special to The New York Times.

DETROIT, Mich., Jan. 12.—Henry Ford's \$10,000,000 profit-sharing plan, including the eight-hour day and a minimum wage of \$5 a day, went into effect to-day at the big Ford automobile works. Twelve thousand men, more than congregated around the plant on any day last week, celebrated the event with a rush on the plant which resulted in a riot and the turning of a fire hose on the crowd in weather but little removed from zero. About 3,000 of the men were drenched. An hour later the crowd formed again, and once more the icy water was turned on.

The line at the employment office of the company began to form at 10 o'clock last night in spite of a blizzard and the probability that the temperature would crowd the mercury to the zero mark before morning. The applicants for work tried to get near the buildings to be shielded from the fierce northwest gale. The police tried to keep them away, but their efforts were futile. One of the policemen was well mauled in the attempt.

This was the only disorder until 8 o'clock this morning, when the day shift of Ford workmen were to come on. The path to the works was blocked. Police efforts to clear a way were futile. As a last resort, the police got out the hose. Those in the front rank got the water full in the face. Employees jammed in among the job seekers had to take it with the rest. Those first drenched could not retreat because of the pressure behind. The water then was directed further back.

That started the riot. Bricks and other missiles began to fly. Most of them were aimed at the officers who handled the hose, but many went through windows of the plant. In their icy garments the rioters could not face the situation long, however, and soon they broke for shelter. Then the Ford employes were singled out and permitted to enter the factory.

As soon as the job hunters had dried or changed their clothing they came back. They had armed themselves with various sorts of missiles, and straightway began a bombardment of the factory, considerable damage being done. The fire hose reappeared, with the same result as before.

#### Temper of Crowd Shown Early.

The crowd was not so good-natured as last week's gatherings. The weather had its effect and hope of success was not so great to-day. The temper of some in the crowd was shown late last night when men attacked Policeman Smith and tore his uniform, snatched away his revolver, club, and handcuffs, and were fighting hard when help arrived for Smith.

When the Ford employes began to appear in large numbers to go to work they found the street congested. The police were holding back the job-seekers so as to leave a lane for the employes, but the latter arrived so rapidly that they soon filled all the space left, and the job-holders and job-seekers were thoroughly mingled. The Ford employes wore little badges, but as the dense crowd jammed toward the single door that was open the police found it difficult to keep the job-seekers out.

Soon there was such a congestion that no one could move. The police shouted orders until they were hoarse, but without effect. Then they threatened the crowd with the fire hose, but the crowd would not listen. The job holders kept pressing forward and the job seekers clung to them. Many could not do otherwise because of the enormous pressure on them from behind.

Then the police turned on the water, and employes, job seekers, and police officers themselves were drenched. Scrambling backward the crowd overturned the lunch, cigar, and other stands across Manchester Avenue. Some men, drenched and angry, picked up bricks, stones, and bottles and hurled them at the hose users. Many of these missiles went through the factory windows.

#### Had to Stand and Take It.

The men in front received the streams full in their faces. The water then was thrown upon those directly in the rear, then those still further back. Threatening cries arose from the men in the extreme rear. They resented the action of the police and endeavored to press forward. This held those within the reach of the hose in their positions. There was no escape for the water-soaked thousands.

It was fully fifteen minutes before those in front were able to return and force their way out of reach of the nose. Their garments then were frozen stiff. There was a hasty retreat to shelter.

While the crowd was dispersing Lieut. McLaughlin and Capt. Reardon came upon five men who, they declare, were inciting an armed rush upon the plant. The officers say they heard the men discuss plans for the attack, each to lead as large a following as he could collect. The men were taken by surprise, handcuffed, and taken to the police station. None carried a revolver, but long-bladed knives were found in their possession.

When the crowd had backed off to a safe distance the Ford workers were permitted to come up again, and other doors to the factory were opened, so that they soon were at work. By 10 o'clock there were only a few hundred job-seekers left walking about in the cold, wind-swept streets.

Peace was only temporary, however. As soon as the men had dried out their clothing, or had changed clothing, they came back, apparently looking for revenge. Some bombarded the factory with missiles, while others raided the eating places across Manchester Avenue from the plant, confiscating and consuming everything edible, then smashing the frame buildings in which the "hot dog" places held forth and building fires out of the kindling.

About this time the fire hose reappeared, resulting in a second dispersal. The foreign element is blamed for the riot. Much shouting and exhortation in foreign tongues was heard.

#### Fear Further Trouble To-Day.

More trouble is expected to-morrow. It is the belief of the police that a campaign to rush the factory is being organized, and that the foreigners mean to

get inside the plant at any cost in the morning, believing that once there they will be put to work.

The plan of the Dodge Brothers to withdraw from the Ford Company and manufacture a car of their own will not be checkmated by the Ford profit-sharing scheme. John F. Dodge has \$12,000,000 in cash in bank. His brother is believed to have about the same amount. Their holdings in the Ford Motor Company are worth at least \$20,000,000 and can be sold for that. So the loss of a million dollars in Ford dividends this year may not bother them much. The Duke car will have a 138-inch wheel, and will be one of the largest on the market. The Dodges have a big plant started and machinery for it is being made now.

Helen Keller, in Detroit to-day, was asked through her teacher, Mrs. Macey, what she thought of Henry Ford's statement that women were not included in his profit-sharing plan because they were not sufficient economic factors. "I think it is foolish," she replied. A moment before she had commended the general plan, saying that unless other industrial concerns crushed Ford out it meant the beginning of a wide profit-sharing movement.

### ATTACKS THE FORD CO.

#### Dr. Shaw Says Women Should Be Included in Profit-Sharing.

An audience which nearly filled the Brooklyn Academy of Music listened last night to addresses in favor of the vote for women by Bourke Cockran, Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, and John Sherman Crosby. Dr. Shaw made an attack on the Ford Motor Company for not including woman employes in its profit-sharing scheme.

"I have learned," she said, "that the reason they give for leaving out women is that they say that women employes do not constitute an economic factor in the business. Well, if that is the case, why under the sun do they employ women? The reason that they have women employes is that they add a value to the business. They are certainly an economic factor, or the firm would not employ them.

"Well, another reason that they give is that women as a rule only remain in their employment a short time and then leave it to get married. Well, what of that? They do not share in the benefits of the profit-sharing system after they have left to be married.

"The plain fact is that this discrimination against women could never have happened if the discrimination had not been embodied in our civil laws and institutions for centuries. The denial to women of the right to participate in the government is plainly the cause of this injustice. Without the political brand that women bear women would not to-day suffer so unjustly from an economic brand."

Bourke Cockran said that he regarded giving votes to women not as conferring a favor on women, but as imposing on them a duty to be exercised not for their own benefit, but for that of the entire body politic. He said that in the last fifty years American democratic institutions had fallen into discredit; that our Government was no longer a democracy, but a class Government; that while more than half a century ago nearly all Europe regarded it as a model to-day it was in disrepute in Europe and was regarded as a failure. Woman's suffrage, he said, was the last hope of democracy. In giving the ballot to women he declared that democracy was playing its last card and making a last effort to save itself from a transition into class government and ultimate failure.

### "DYNAMITE," CRIES STEFFENS.

#### Tells Suffragists Women Should Not Hesitate to Destroy.

An "Authors' Evening" at Cooper Union last night, under the auspices of the Woman Suffrage Party organization of the Twenty-fifth Assembly District, Mrs. Paula Jacobs leader, was a great success. All but two of the authors were promptly on hand. Richard Le Gallienne had a cold and telegraphed his regrets, and Edna Ferber was ill and could not come. They and many others sent autographed books which were auctioned off at the close of the meeting by Frederic C. Howe and Marie Jennie Howe.

The programme was interesting from its variety. Most of the authors decided at the last moment to do something that was not down on it. Edwin Markham, who was to open the meeting with a poem, "A Song to Divine Woman," told instead "How Jacques Kept His Bargain." Percy MacKaye read a poem which he had written for the occasion the night before instead of a scene from the "Scarecrow." A suffrage poem intended to be sung as a chorus to the tune of "John Brown's Body" ended to the applause of the audience with the words "when mothers of men are free."

Charlotte Perkins Gilman read a jolly little poem with a suffrage moral, "The Storks," instead of the one for which she was down, and Ellis O. Jones kept the audience in roars of laughter in talking upon "Refutations," which did not refute anything. W. E. Burghardt Du Bois read "The Woman in Black," and Arturo Giovannitti gave "The Lost Gospel," both following the programme.

"If I was treated as the women in England are," said Lincoln Steffens, "I should dynamite something besides buildings."

Miss Elizabeth Freeman, sitting on the platform, applauded with appreciative smiles. She has been in prison with the English suffragettes.

If the women here really want the franchise and are ready to work for it they should not hesitate as to methods, Mr. Steffens told them.

"Let them destroy buildings, let them destroy anything they want to destroy," he said. "Women should learn to understand other groups fighting for what they want too. They should understand labor. Labor may have to kill some one to get what it wants, and the women must try and understand. Forms of force are all wrong, but all are necessary."

"The worst thing about woman suffrage," said Will Irwin, "is that there is no argument against it."

William Hard made a humorous Chairman. There was a large audience, and the big tableful of autographed books sold at good prices. John Luther Long's book "War," had the inscription: "War, my contribution to the suffrage cause."