

SOUTH YORKSHIRE DISPUTE

A. U. C. E.

NOTES FOR SPEAKERS:

Our Scale of Wages has been in the hands of the Societies since May 19th.

The Societies referred it to the Hours and Wages Boards.

The Hours and Wages Board considered our application and sent it to the Joint Advisory Board.

The Joint Advisory Board considered it and referred it to a combined meeting of Joint Advisory Boards.

The Combined Joint Advisory Boards decided to appoint a Sub-Committee to consider Counter offers.

Then they started to work back to the beginning !!

The Sub-Committee made counter proposals to the Executive Committee which presented them to the combined Joint Advisory Boards. These appeared in the public press but were not submitted to us.

The Combined Joint Advisory Board referred the proposal to the separate Joint Advisory Boards.

These Joint Advisory Boards decided to submit them to the different Hours and Wages Boards.

As a result of extreme pressure on our part the suggestion was made that the Executive Committee of the Combined Joint Advisory would meet us if we would wait till JULY 30th

Note that the Union has no knowledge of the constitution or personnel of this Executive Committee of the Combined Joint Advisory Boards. We are told nothing of its powers, and have no guarantee from the Societies that they will obey its decisions if it ever comes to any.

While the Societies were deliberately meandering through this maze of "references" and "submissions" our members became impatient and demanded drastic action.

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In South Yorkshire, the discontent was intensified by the fact that we have a signed agreement in this District that the two sides should meet within FOURTEEN DAYS.

We waited FIVE WEEKS.

Then our members gave 88 hours notice to withdraw labour. This made the Hours and Wage Board meet us.

When we met, they had no power.

They asked for time to get power.

We gave them TEN DAYS on condition that they would then make proposals.

We met on the eleventh day, only to find that they had broken faith again. They refused to make proposals, and declared their intention of again sending the matter through the Super Circumlocution Department of the Co-operative Union.

After two deliberate breaches of their pledged work, there is nothing left but to show them that their workers will not be trifled with like this.

They broke faith with us in 1917, and only Government intervention by Royal Proclamation saved them from being taught their lesson then.

Only the STRIKE Weapon is left, to teach them to respect their employees, and keep their faith with the Union.