

## WISE COUNSEL PREVAILS.

### ACTION TAKEN TOWARD A SETTLEMENT OF PACKING HOUSE TROUBLE.

At a Great Meeting Held in Hanson's Opera House Last Night by the Employes a Grievance Committee Was Appointed to See if the Firms Making the Reduction Could Not Be Induced to Change Their Minds — Arbitration Counseled.—The Situation at the Various Plants.

By far the greatest labor demonstration ever held in this vicinity was that held at Hanson's Opera house in Kansas City, Kan., last night. It was the direct result of the butchers' and packing house employes' strike at the several institutions at the Kaw mouth and was held under the auspices of the Kansas City Beef Butcher's union.

The union is a strong one and the meeting was attended by about 600 members. The meeting was a secret one. No one was allowed in the hall except members of the union. The 10 per cent reduction ordered at Swift's and Schwarzschild & Sulzberger packing houses was discussed and the men stood solidly against returning to work at the proposed price.

Speeches were made by H. G. Moulder, secretary of the International Horse Collar Makers' association; W. C. Dennis, State organizer of the Federation of Labor, and Major W. G. Winfield. Major Winfield said that these were "panicky" times and that the winter was likely to prove a hard one. Many families would suffer for the necessities of life, he said, if the strike was persisted in and he hoped that the matter could soon be adjusted to the satisfaction of both sides. He suggested that a special grievance committee of five be appointed from the various packing houses to wait upon the managers of the two packing houses where reductions have been ordered, and if possible agree upon satisfactory terms. Failing in this Major Winfield promised that the matter would next Sunday be brought before the Industrial Council and a committee from that body would attempt to have the matter settled by arbitration. He thought the matter could be amicably settled in a short time, but in event of failure, promised the strikers the support of all union men in the city.

#### Will Wait on the Swifts.

This counsel was accepted and the grievance committee appointed. A telegram was received from the Butchers' union at Chicago stating that G. W. and Ed Swift left for Kansas City last night and the committee will endeavor to see these gentlemen today.

Beef Butchers' union No. 1 was organized three weeks ago and now numbers about 600 men. One hundred and fifty new members joined last night.

A meeting was also held over O'Brien's saloon at the corner of Ninth street and the State line, and an organization of skilled workmen effected. This includes the lard renderers and other workers. About seventy-five joined the union last night, and the members claim they will swell the list to 500 by the next meeting.

The sheep butchers, hog butchers, beef canners and others also met at the same place and determined to effect an organization. About 250 of them signed the application for a charter and the organization will be perfected next Monday night.

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The butchers at Swift's, Reid Bros' and Schwarzschild & Sulzberger's packing houses and the other employes of the institutions thrown out of employment formed in line at First street and Kansas avenue in Armourdale early in the evening and paraded to Hanson's Opera house by way of Mulberry street in this city. They mustered about 800 men at the start and were continually reinforced all along the line by sympathizers until they reached Hickory street in Kansas City, Mo., where they were met by the butchers from Armour's and the other institutions. This swelled the procession to nearly 1,800 men. They were given a rousing ovation from the time they reached West Ninth street until they arrived at the hall. The procession was led by a big, strong man carrying the American flag. Then came the Third Regiment drum corps of this city. The drum corps was followed by the boys and young men employed at the various institutions, and then came the butchers. They carried a transparency on which was inscribed:

"United we stand, divided we fall."

"No 10 per cent cut goes."

"We demand and must have our rights."

"The Beef Butchers union, Kansas City No. 1."

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Another wild rumor was to the effect that some of the officers of the Swift house had attempted to get Reid Bros. to make a cut in wages at their plant, but the rumor was without foundation.

Yesterday was pay day at Swift's, and all the men called and received their money.

Everything was quiet at the Schwarzschild & Sulzberger plant yesterday. No settlement has been made, and the men and the company are no nearer an agreement than they were on the day the butchers went out. The company's bosses yesterday worked on the beef beds and slaughtered sixty-seven cattle. The men are still out on the three days grace granted them by the company to consider the proposition. The strikers made themselves scarce around the plant. At their meeting yesterday morning they were still firm in their determination to remain out until the company consented to pay them the old scale of wages.

Independent Nathan denied that his com-

Superintendent Nathan denied that his company had sent cattle to the Reid Bros' plant to be slaughtered, and said they were able to slaughter all their own cattle necessary. Thirty butchers have left his plant, throwing about 150 to 200 men out of employment.

Manager Nathan said yesterday afternoon that his foremen would kill a few more cattle today, and that he expected the regular butchers to be at their posts tomorrow. He was fully convinced that the 10 per cent reduction would go into effect. He had not seen a committee from the butchers since Tuesday afternoon, and no individual butcher had approached him, either to compromise or quarrel. He admired the manly way in which the butchers were acting since he gave them a three-days' lay off, and wished it were in his power to raise rather than lower their wages. He thought the condition of business warranted the proposed reduction, and felt sure that it would be only temporary. No non-union men had applied for work, nor were they wanted until every consistent means had been tried to retain the old men.

A butchers' strike was narrowly avoided at Reid Bros' packing house yesterday at noon. The butchers are very suspicious and some strange cattle were driven into the pens, which were said to belong to Schwarzschild & Sulzberger's packing house. The butchers had not been asked to slaughter the animals, but served notice on Foreman Jack Darrington that under no circumstances would they lay a hand on the cattle.

Mr. Darrington later notified the men that they would not be required to slaughter the obnoxious lot and they were driven away again. It is said they belonged to James Dezelle & Co., a commission firm at the Stock Yards, who act as buyers for the Schwarzschild & Sulzberger company. Mr. Reid was seen by a TIMES reporter and stated that the men had not been asked to kill any other firm's cattle. As far as he knew no cut would be made at his plant. He stated further that his plant had experienced no strike since the time they organized, sixty years ago, and never expected any.

The situation at Armour's remains unchanged from that of yesterday. Several conferences were held between a committee representing the strikers and Superintendent Tourtelot, but nothing came of them so far as a settlement is concerned.

Superintendent Tourtelot called for the committee yesterday and informed them that he wanted all the men to return to work at the wages offered them, and promised them that when the company felt sufficiently able to restore the old scale of wages they would do so. The committee informed Mr. Tourtelot that they

could not accept his offer. Had they felt satisfied with the cut they would not have gone out on a strike. They also informed Mr. Tourtelot that they had no proposition to offer other than that they would return under no circumstances unless the old scale was paid. One of the strikers said that several men who had filled their places had sent them word that they would not return to work today.

**CLEANSE the blood with Ayer's Sarsaparilla and realize what poor health you have had.**

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