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Bakery Workers Fight for Their Lives

The making of bread is as old as
history itself. In the excavation of
prehistoric ruins in Switzerland the re-
mains of a crude kind of cake and
the tools for making it have been
found.

In the middle ages the bakers took
a commanding part in the Labor Guild
and in the affairs of the industrial
world in general. All industries and
trades are developed in the past from
crude forms to our present day com-
plicated area of machine production. The
effect of this progress in the baking
industry has been hardly noticed by
the public at large, nevertheless great
changes have taken place.

The baking trade is practically the
last trade wherein this machinery was
introduced. Ten years ago the average
bakeshop had hardly any improvements
over the old hand work. A plain
dough mixer was used. And even today
this system prevails in thousands of
small bakeries. The home bakery still
exists, and in Los Angeles these small
shops are in a majority.

A few years ago a wholesale bakery
was unknown. But changes in our
modern life, corresponding with the
changes of our whole social system
brought about the big wholesale baker-
ies. There never was much money in
the baking business until the advent
of the wholesale bakery. But when
baking began on a wholesale basis it
meant the beginning of a monopoly in
the bread business; for it takes a great
deal of money to carry on the business
in a big way. A small bakeshop can
be started with \$200, but big business
in this line requires a great expendi-
ture for machinery and modern ap-
pliances.

So the bread trust came. And the
big financiers of the nation furnished
the cash.
In 1910 the National Biscuit Com-
pany was the only corporation dealing
in bread on a wholesale basis.

Today there are five giant corpora-
tions with a combined capital of \$150,-
000,000. The people behind these baker-
ies are not bakers. They are the Wall
street money men.

As soon as these financiers saw that
bread could be manufactured and sold
at wholesale, they saw their chance to
squeeze overburdened consumer and
wage earner, and at the same time by

getting absolute control of the bread
business of the nation they could force
down the wages of their employees to
the level of mere subsistence, and by
substituting boys and girls in the place
of bakers, unionism among the bakers
might be destroyed.

To build up the bread trust and force
all independent bakers out of business
a unique system of advertising was
inaugurated. Bread trust emissaries go
from city to city and approach the
owners of independent bakeries and
offer to build up his business by leas-
ing him the name of a bread and fur-
nishing him with all the advertising
for that name. Several different names
are used by the trust, such as "Tip-
Top." These names are copyrighted
by the trust. The names are heavily
advertised. The use of the names con-
tinues until the demand is good. Then
they offer a price for the shop, and
usually succeed in buying it by theat-
ening to withdraw the use of the name
of the bread.

And by these methods the bread
combine is being built up.
For years the Bakers' International
Union had only to contend with the
small master bakers, and, by the work-
ers combining, succeeded in building an
effective union and raising the wages
and improving the working conditions
of the bakers from a condition of
actual slavery until now the organ-
ized bakers are receiving fair wages
and are treated with consideration.

The advent of the trust threatens
to undermine what has been accom-
plished with so many long struggles by
the working bakers. That is why the
union is fighting the bread trust. And
that is why we appeal to all Socialists
and union men and everyone who be-
lieves in maintaining decent working
conditions for labor to assist us by de-
manding our union label on all bread
which you buy.

Why does the Bakers' Union make
such a cry about the bread trust?
Trusts don't deal with organized
labor.

The bread trust seeks to disrupt the
Bakers' Union.

The trust hires men for almost
starvation wages.

The trust works its bakers long
hours.

The trust bakery can turn out three

times as much bread per worker by
its slave-driving methods and still hire
unskilled bakers at wages below the
decent-living line.

**TEACHERS' SALARIES AND THE
BALLOT.**

Those who are in any degree familiar
with the creation, composition and con-
duct of school boards, speaking gener-
ally, will not need to be told that
there is intimate relation between
these bodies and politics. Such rela-
tion may be unavoidable; it is not
necessarily harmful. Everything de-
pends upon the political plane of the
community concerned. Since it is well
that the public schools should be con-
trolled by the people, it is inevitable
that popular opinion, expressing itself
through political agencies, should have
all to do with the making or unmak-
ing of the school boards. Theoretically,
women have an equal voice with men
in the conduct of the public schools of
the several states in the American
Union; practically, they have not. Men
in four-fifths of the states, putting the
case roundly, control political machin-
ery absolutely. Where women may
vote for school candidates, as a rule,
men have it in their power to dictate
to the candidates chosen. In numerous
instances men have power to appoint
school boards. In a majority of in-
stances men control the purse strings
and can at their pleasure restrict or
give freedom of action to school direc-
tors.

This will account largely for the fact
that the salaries of women school
teachers are uniformly low. Let the
situation be stated as it has been
formulated in a report of the com-
mittee on salaries and cost of living
to the National Education Association
at its meeting in St. Paul: "The large
majority of teachers are women," says
this report, "and as such are still
without the right of suffrage in most
states, therefore the funds from which
their salaries are paid are under the
control of officials in whose selection
they have no vote. It should be clearly
recognized by the National Educa-
tion Association, therefore, that the
relation of woman suffrage to the
honest and fair adjustment of the sal-
aries of women teachers is vital and
immediate." The association at its
session of Thursday endorsed the find-
ing set forth here.

There is logic in the demand for this
recognition, it seems, if there is logic
in the demand that women should be
compensated equally with men for the
same amount and quality of work. The
principle of equality, if allowed at all,
should naturally be permitted to govern
throughout. Women teachers as a
rule are now not only not receiving
adequate compensation, but they are
being discriminated against in favor
of men. What seems to be needed is a
public sense of the justice of the claim
that adequate salaries should be paid
public school teachers according to the
ability of these teachers and without
any regard to sex. That this sense
may be developed and sharpened, it
seems to be equally necessary that sex
shall no longer mark a dividing line in
citizenship.

HOUSEHOLD WASTE.

Waste is even worse than extrava-
gance. There is some return for over-
expenditure; there is no return for
waste. Extravagance is more easily
checked and stopped than waste, be-
cause it manifests itself more con-
spicuously; waste is in the nature of
a drain, silent and secret, that ex-
hausts the family income, generally
leaving no other trace.

It can only be checked and stopped,
as a rule, by the housewife, and by
her only when she is skilled in her
vocation. It cannot be either checked
or stopped until it is detected, and it
can be detected only by housewives
who are proficient. It goes on day in
and day out, year in and year out,
under the eyes of housekeepers who
have not naturally a talent for, or
who have not been trained in, house-
hold management. "I insist," says the
writer of the article referred to, "that
to live well, easily and happily, the
housewife herself must be trained.
Even though she does not spend much
time in the kitchen, she must know
how to direct its management, must
know the theory as well as the prac-
tice of housekeeping."

Diseases Caused by Bad Teeth.

Of the muscles—Acute rheumatism.
Of the joints—Rheumatic arthritis,
synovitis. Of the blood—Septic anemia,
pernicious anemia, carbuncles, boils. Of
the heart—Endocarditis, pericarditis.
Of the glands—Adenoids, tonsillitis, in-
flammation of the neck glands. Of
the nervous system—Toxic neuritis,
neuralgia, nervous degenerations,
chorea. Of the kidneys—Nephritis. Of
the skin—Rashes, herpes zoster. Of the
digestive organs—Gastritis, enteritis,
colitis, appendicitis, cholecystitis. Of
the lungs—Pleurisy, pneumonia. Of the
throat and nose—Laryngitis, pharyn-
gitis, diphtheria, angina.

Entertaining Bill.

"Only got two hours' sleep last
night."
"What's the matter? Wife away?"
"No, but Bill Smith's wife is."
—Detroit Free Press.

The difference between a bachelor
girl and an old maid is about ten
years.

**HIGHER PAY FOR WOMEN
TEACHERS.**

The example set by women teaching
in Chicago's public schools a few
years ago when first repulsed in an
effort to secure fair pay illuminated
a situation existing in many commu-
nities. The repulse, on the ground of
inadequate city income, was in due
time converted into a victory. But
how? Through women's disclosure of
inequities in taxation and official
negligence in assessments. Since of-
ficials reduced the matter to one of
economics and forced supplicants to
act on that plane, the women pro-
ceeded to uncover new sources of mu-
nicipal income.

The victory won in this instance
never has ceased to make its appeal
as a method of strategy to be em-
ployed wherever and whenever of-
ficial opposition to fair pay for women
hides behind the plea of community
poverty. Unable always to duplicate
the Chicago success, women teachers
nevertheless can steadily press for
more equitable and more rigorously
enforced systems of taxation than now
exist, knowing that if property now
refusing its fair share of taxation is
made to pay its way the school can
claim its share of the new income.

The National Education Association,
at its recent meeting at St. Paul, did
not formally endorse a proposition to
have one of its committees formally
study the problem of school mainte-
nance in its relation to new sources of
town and city revenue; but it went a
long way toward such a proceeding
under pressure from forces within the
convention that in due time probably
will bring the result to pass.

Not without its prophetic signifi-
cance is this sentence from the argu-
ment of those who pressed for this
investigation: "The possibilities of
uneared increment taxes in our cities
are of major importance." If the
movement for reform of systems of
local taxation, now gaining ground
rapidly, should happen to enlist in its
support a majority of the public
school teachers, it would be accelerated
at a rate more rapid than prior to
such enlistment. That is to say, if
the educators of the country, men and
women, working in universities, col-
leges and public schools, ever come to
believe that any limitation of their
civic usefulness is really due to out-
worn methods of assessing and col-
lecting community revenue they will
join heartily in tax reform propaganda
work, and do it with such intelligence
and vigor that results will follow, be
the opposition what it may.—Christian
Science Monitor.

CAUSES OF CHILD LABOR.

A small portion of the people of this
land is trying to cut out certain can-
cers in our misnamed civilization that
have poisoned and are still poisoning
the whole social body. Another and
a larger portion is trying to lessen the
size of the cancer, and thus decrease
the amount of damage done to all of
us. We welcome every effort to de-
crease in the slightest degree the ills
from which we suffer, but we welcome
most those efforts which aim at seek-
ing to remove the cause of these ills.

This thought is suggested to us by
the constantly increasing agitation
against child labor. Hardly a day
passes but some legislation aimed at
decreasing the burden put upon child-
hood by a cruel commercial system is
suggested. Only yesterday the Bureau
of Compulsory Education in the city
announced a new regulation which
will result in keeping out certain in-
dustries children whose physical condition
is such that to labor in these factories
would mean the certain breaking down
of the physical, and therefore mental
and moral, well-being of these young
toilers. This regulation applies only to
children below the age of sixteen, as
beyond that age the department has
no power to protect them.

This incident leads us to ask why
are boys and girls below the age of 16
compelled to seek positions in factories
and stores? The answer, of course, is
as easy as the fact is hard and cruel.
The average parent does not receive
sufficient wages to support his child
through the entire period of childhood.
Here is the cause of child labor, and
it is this cause that must be removed
before it is possible to blot out forever
this greatest indictment against the
justice of our present social system.

If parents were receiving even Ford
wages, do you think they would delib-
erately consign their boys and girls to
factories and stores before these chil-
dren had reached even the period of
young manhood and womanhood? If
you were to go to a group of houses in
which lived wage earners receiving \$30
per week, do you think you would find
as many children leaving their homes
for factory and store as you would see
if you were looking upon homes where
the bread-winners were receiving but
\$15 per week? It is concrete facts of
this kind that we must realize if we
are to achieve a better day not only
for this generation but the ones to
come after us. Let us not be satisfied
to deal only with effects but keep
after the cause in season and out of it,
and the cause in the case of child labor
is the low wages of the parent.—Phila-
delphia News-Post.

Visitor—This is delicious jam. Did
your mamma make it?
Little Harold—She did most of the
work, but I had a finger in it.—Kan-
sas City Star.

**Housewives
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