

inasmuch as the names of both victors and vanquished in each year are ultimately to be engraved on the cup. This request was therefore simply that the record of the crews formed for the annual race be kept complete. So far from acting "like a lot of professionals," as *The Outlook* was led, by false reports, to state, the members of the Harvard graduate crew acted in a specially fine and sportsman-like spirit. Their very appearance on the river, which led to the misrepresentation of their purpose, was, in fact, an indication of their fondness for rowing as a sport, and a desire to see what they could do for their own satisfaction. *The Outlook* cannot erase what it has already printed; but it can at least here record its conviction that the crew which it unjustly criticised has given evidence of that amateur spirit which we believe it is the greatest function of college athletics to promote.



#### THE CLOAKMAKERS' STRIKE

With rapidity and quiet almost unprecedented, a strike among the cloak-makers of New York City has been organized and put into effect. The day before the strike sixteen thousand workers joined the Cloak, Suit, and Skirt Makers' Union. The day after the strike twenty-four thousand more joined the union. Five days afterwards over eighty thousand men and women had struck work and a number of big shops, besides many sweat-shops, were shut down. Practically all who are engaged in making women's outer garments—operators, cutters, finishers, buttonhole-makers, basting-pullers—are enlisted in the struggle. The causes for the strike can be traced back through eighteen years to the failure of the last general strike of the cloakmakers. At that time the employers, by means of a lockout, broke the spirit of the union. The workmen went back on the employers' terms. Since that time the trade has been carried on by means of a contracting system. The garment-makers work in two kinds of shops. The "inside" shops are owned and managed by the manufacturers; the "outside" shops are owned by contractors. In the "inside" shops conditions appear enduring; but in the

"outside" shops, which are virtually sweat-shops, the conditions of work are distressing. The big manufacturer pays the contractor about the same price for the same amount of work as he pays his own employees; and the money that the contractor makes consists of the difference between that price and the price that he can force his own employees to accept. Moreover, even within the "inside" shops a similar situation is to be found; for there are groups of workmen who are responsible solely to foremen; and each foreman gets a profit out of the difference between what the employer pays him and what he pays the workmen under him. Under this pressure work is carried on late into the evening, all day Saturday, and until three o'clock Sunday afternoon; and it is often carried on after shop hours in the tenements. Even in the height of the season skilled workers get only sixteen dollars a week, and, since the season lasts only three months, they are virtually idle nine months in the year. Whatever work they get during those nine months they get by calling daily at the shop, on the chance of a few hours' work. If a worker fails to report on any day, he is in danger of losing the job. What the garment-makers demand may be summarized as follows: The recognition of the union, the abolition of the subcontracting system, a forty-eight hour (instead of a ninety-hour) week, increase of weekly wages to not less than twenty-six dollars for cutters and twenty-two dollars for pressers, the adjustment by a Settlement Committee of prices to piece workers, with a minimum wage of four dollars a day for skilled work, a maximum of two and a half hours of night work, and payment for night work as double time. Taking a leaf out of the experience of the shirt-waist strikers, the garment-makers have undertaken not to settle the strike until all the employers agree to the demands; for they have learned that in the shirt-waist makers' strike the small manufacturers came to terms with the strikers and then did the work for the big manufacturers. The strikers and their leaders are taking precautions to keep the strike peaceable. Surely there ought to be some other way than that of industrial warfare by which

workers could secure freedom from such intolerable conditions as these cloak-makers are endeavoring to escape.



#### AN EXTRAORDINARY DEMAND

Conductors, trainmen, and others employed in the train and yard service on the Eastern lines of the Pennsylvania Railroad have voted to allow a committee representing them to declare a strike. They are asking for an increase in wages and for a decrease in the hours constituting a day's work. They do not assert that the Pennsylvania Railroad is paying less than the market rate of wages; in fact, they acknowledge the contrary. They refer, however, to the increase of wages on other roads, and demand a corresponding increase on the Pennsylvania. In the letter sent by the committee of the unions involved to their members it is declared that "both road and yard rates should be higher on our line than paid by other companies for similar service because the policy of the Pennsylvania Railroad has always seemingly been to educate their employees in the belief that certain of such employees were entitled to from five to twenty per cent more than paid by other companies for similar service." This extraordinary demand seems to us to be aptly and justly characterized in the reply of the railway company expressed in the form of a question: "Is it fair to penalize your Company now, because, in the past, it has treated its employees as liberally as its finances would permit, regardless of wages paid by its competitors; and, further, because in this instance it has more than met the advances of the other roads, whose employees, although generally still below those of the Pennsylvania Railroad, were brought up more nearly to a parity with the favorable conditions of your Company?" It has been asserted that while some of the men receive higher wages on the Pennsylvania Railroad than men in similar employment on other roads, other men receive far less; and that thus the interests of the men have been divided by the Company. The official statement of the Committee, however, seems to be at variance with this assertion. Surely the demands of the men, as so far expressed,

are not such as to win them the sympathy of the public if they decide to strike. Those who declare industrial war necessarily bring discomfort, danger, and sometimes disaster to non-combatants. If the war is declared for a righteous cause, the public often, and, generally, too good-naturedly, endures the hardship. If, on the other hand, the war is declared unjustly, the public usually brings some kind of reinforcements to the ill-treated side. We trust that the men, who are the aggressors in this case, will either withdraw their demands or make clearer than they have so far done the justice of their complaint. Whether, however, the issue is a just one or not, it ought to be settled in some other way than a struggle at the expense of the public. If this had occurred in Canada, neither side could take aggressive measures until the case had been heard by an impartial tribunal. The United States will in this respect not be as civilized as Canada until it makes industrial warfare in its public utilities and its great industries give way to some kind of judicial proceedings.



#### A NORTHERN LYNCHING

Newark, Ohio, has made for itself a bad name. Decent people who have regard, not merely for the fundamentals of civilization, but even for their own lives, will not, under present circumstances, willingly select that city as a place of residence. On Friday, July 8, a mob, virtually unopposed, broke down the doors of the courthouse, where a white prisoner was in jail, seized him, and hanged him in the public street. As in other Northern lynching cases, this act of murderous brutality was the outcome of a long-continued condition of lawlessness. The county in which Newark is situated cast its vote against the licensing of saloons. Within the city of Newark, however, the majority voted in favor of license. As a consequence, the Mayor of the city, Herbert Atherton, neglected to take action for the enforcement of the law, and public sentiment in the city was not civilized enough to demand that the law, even though it was not in accordance with local opinion, should be enforced. The Anti-Saloon League sent a score of detectives armed with warrants to raid illegal resorts. In the course of