

suggests itself arises from the fact that the general public is not represented on the Councils. If the employers and workmen of any given trade work in perfect harmony, what is to prevent them from combining to increase the price of their product so as to raise both dividends and wages beyond a point that will be just to the general public? Possibly that might be corrected by combining this scheme in some way with the principle of the co-operative societies that have become so widespread and so highly developed in England. But experience will no doubt find a solution for these and other comparatively minor difficulties, if only the scheme for breaking the great deadlock justifies the high hopes that have led to its adoption. The great change that has come over men's minds with reference to organised industry is well shown by the following quotation from the Report of the Commissioners of the West Midlands Area. They say: "The best security for industrial peace is organisation of both employers and employed. If the men are badly organised, the result is unauthorised local strikes; if the employers are not strongly federated, you have a minority which causes trouble. . . . We therefore recommend that employers' federations representing a substantial part of an industry should have disciplinary powers over recalcitrant members." Similar sentiments are expressed by several of the other Commissions. These statements are almost incredible in view of the general attitude of employers towards organised labour a few years ago. Truly the war has opened the eyes of the management class.

Political democracy was greatly advanced in Great Britain last year by the enfranchisement of 8,000,000 new voters. Industrial Democracy has now started on its course with the historical document promulgated by the Minister of Labour, which may be considered as its constitution. It undoubtedly has many rocks and shoals to discover, but that the right general course has been chosen there can scarcely be a doubt. This is by far the most interesting and far-reaching experiment in the improvement of industrial relations ever attempted in any country. When the history of Great Britain during the 20th Century comes to be written, the year 1917 will stand out as the