

In respect to the second condition, intimidation, I can say that in a well ordered strike there is absolutely none of this. That it is a violation of a fundamental principle of public right to prevent a man from working we admit. That a command with intimidation is a misdemeanor or a crime we as readily concede. But we maintain that coercion is to day unnecessary—the negative have yet to make us see it so—because Trades Unions, recognized legally, do away with intimidation ; consequently, where perfect harmony exists among the strikers we see no reason for flouting this objection. The third condition in which a strike would be unjustifiable—where there is no probability of success, I need scarcely mention. The idea of a strike without some assurance of triumph, however slight, would be absurd. Self-willed and obstinate as man might be he would naturally shirk an undertaking where victory must be denied him. So with strikes. If there is one attainment hoped for, prayed for, it is success and consequently this objection may be logically passed over. Summing up then, we find, that where the right of property has not been violated, where there has been no force used in persuading others to join the strikers, where there is a firm belief that some measure of success will crown the efforts of those “going-out,” a cessation from labour is morally justifiable.

That I have not gone into detail concerning past strikes and those present; that I have refrained from telling you of the sin, the misery, the crime, the disorder, and, generally, the demoralized condition of striking communities, was intentional on my part. These I consider wholly outside of and superfluous to the nature of this debate. That I have not deduced arguments sufficient to substantiate the affirmative, or that I have not been clear in those put forth is due to my inability and not to any weakness on our side of the question. The condition of the wage earner to-day is such that strikes must occur ; so long as this present system of slave-driving exists, for, slavery is just as prevalent in our large factories to-day as it was in the Southern States previous to 1863, so long as this condition exists, I say, strikes are bound to happen. Capitalists are seeking to get the most possible and in return give very