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Frances Perkins, *Secretary*

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Isador Lubin, *Commissioner*

REVIEW OF STRIKES IN 1936

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Prepared by

Division of Industrial Relations

FLORENCE PETERSON, Chief

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Review of Strikes in 1936 ¹

THE year 1936 was characterized by a relatively large number of strikes which, on the average, were small as measured in terms of number of workers involved and length of duration. There were 2,172 strikes in 1936—an increase of 8 percent over 1935, an increase of 17 percent over 1934, and a larger number than in any year since 1921. However, the number of workers involved in the 1936 strikes (788,648) was 29 percent less than in 1935 and 46 percent less than in 1934. The number of man-days of idleness because of strikes in 1936 (13,901,956) was 10 percent less than in 1935 and 29 percent less than in 1934.

The decline in the number of workers involved in 1936 as compared with the 2 previous years is explained in part by the fact that there were no extremely large strikes during the year, whereas in September 1935 there was the short but widespread strike of 400,000 bituminous-coal miners, and in September 1934 there was the general textile strike, in which more than 300,000 workers were involved.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics obtains its statistical information on strikes from the companies and unions directly involved in the disputes, as well as from various Federal and State labor boards and conciliation services. The first information or notice about strikes comes from more than 650 daily papers, labor papers, and journals. Letters or report forms are then sent to representatives of the parties directly involved, in order to get detailed and accurate information. The strike figures include all strikes or lock-outs in which as many as six workers were involved and which lasted as long as 1 day. There were press notices of 21 strikes during 1936 on which detailed information was not obtained and these cases are not included in this report. These were undoubtedly small disputes and some of them were probably no more than threatened strikes. With the exception of these cases, it is believed that the following tables include all strikes occurring in 1936 in the United States.

The trend of strikes during the past 21 years is presented in table 1.

¹ Prepared by Don Q. Crowther of the Bureau's Industrial Relations Division.

Table 1.—Number of Strikes, Workers Involved, and Man-Days Idle, 1916 to 1936

Year	Number of—			Index (1927-29=100)		
	Strikes	Workers involved ¹	Man-days idle	Strikes	Workers involved	Man-days idle
1916.....	3,789	1,599,917	(?)	509	514	(?)
1917.....	4,450	1,227,254	(?)	598	495	(?)
1918.....	3,353	1,239,989	(?)	451	399	(?)
1919.....	3,630	4,160,348	(?)	488	1,337	(?)
1920.....	3,411	1,463,054	(?)	458	470	(?)
1921.....	2,385	1,099,247	(?)	321	353	(?)
1922.....	1,112	1,612,562	(?)	149	517	(?)
1923.....	1,553	756,584	(?)	209	243	(?)
1924.....	1,249	654,641	(?)	168	210	(?)
1925.....	1,301	428,416	(?)	175	138	(?)
1926.....	1,035	329,592	(?)	139	106	(?)
1927.....	707	329,939	26,218,628	95	106	178
1928.....	604	314,210	12,631,863	81	101	86
1929.....	921	288,572	5,351,540	124	93	36
1930.....	637	182,975	3,316,808	86	59	23
1931.....	810	341,817	6,893,244	109	110	47
1932.....	841	324,210	10,502,033	113	104	71
1933.....	1,695	1,168,272	16,872,128	228	376	115
1934.....	1,856	1,466,695	19,591,949	250	472	133
1935.....	2,014	1,117,213	15,456,337	271	359	105
1936.....	2,172	788,648	13,901,956	292	254	94
1937.....	4,720	1,860,621	28,424,857	637	578	173
1938.....	2,772	688,376	9,143,273	373	221	62

¹ The number of workers involved in strikes from 1916 to 1926 is not known for the entire number of strikes. The missing information is for the smaller disputes, however, and it is believed that the totals here given are fairly accurate.

² No information available.

Monthly Trend

THE number of strikes in progress during the months of 1936 followed the usual seasonal trend, with the greatest number during the summer and fall and a noticeable decline in the winter months. There were more workers involved, however, and more man-days of idleness in the strikes in progress, during November and December than in any previous months of the year. This was due principally to the fact that a few large strikes, particularly in the water-transportation and glass-manufacturing industries, which began in October, continued through the last 2 months of the year.

Comparative monthly figures on strikes for 1935 and 1936 are shown in table 2. The largest number of strikes in any month in 1936 was 234 in September and the smallest was 132 in December. In 1935 the largest number was 239 in August and the smallest was 90 in December. The large number of workers involved in strikes in September 1935 was due to the short strike of 400,000 bituminous-coal miners. The months of December in 1935 and in 1936 were at the opposite extremes in the yearly story of man-days of idleness. In December 1935 there were fewer man-days of idleness because of strikes than in any other month of the year, whereas in December 1936 there were more man-days of idleness than in any other month.

Table 2.—Strikes in 1935 and 1936, by Months

Month	Number of strikes—				Number of workers involved in strikes—				Man-days idle during month	
	Beginning in month		In progress during month		Beginning in month		In progress during month			
	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936
Year.....	2,014	2,172	-----	-----	1,117,213	788,648	-----	-----	15,456,337	13,901,956
January.....	140	167	213	251	81,194	32,406	92,630	59,153	720,778	635,519
February.....	149	148	232	250	64,238	63,056	96,533	89,735	836,498	748,491
March.....	175	186	277	304	53,089	75,191	98,457	122,162	966,980	1,331,162
April.....	180	183	294	313	67,857	65,379	124,174	95,526	1,178,851	699,900
May.....	174	206	307	340	102,491	72,824	151,163	123,030	1,697,848	1,019,171
June.....	189	188	319	309	48,917	63,429	129,784	133,531	1,311,278	1,327,678
July.....	184	173	317	324	70,046	38,017	141,829	125,281	1,297,730	1,105,480
August.....	239	228	377	355	74,313	68,752	150,835	118,268	1,191,063	911,216
September.....	162	234	311	379	453,820	65,994	514,427	130,875	3,027,040	1,063,100
October.....	190	192	332	335	48,223	100,845	133,742	148,570	1,562,908	1,053,878
November.....	142	136	274	252	38,279	70,116	100,732	157,007	1,003,852	1,940,628
December.....	90	132	210	258	14,746	72,639	61,782	184,859	660,911	2,065,733

Industries Affected

BY FAR the greatest number of strikes in any one industry group was in the textile industries where 455 occurred during 1936. The other industry groups affected by large numbers of strikes were: Building and construction, 230; transportation and communication, 165; trade, 164; lumber and allied products, 143; domestic and personal service, 116; and food and kindred products, 106. The industry groups with the largest numbers of workers involved in strikes during the year were: Textiles, 128,578; transportation and communication, 83,231; rubber products, 76,699; domestic and personal service, 72,246; extraction of minerals, 56,063; and transportation equipment, 54,049. Nearly 60 percent of the 13,901,956 man-days of idleness because of strikes in 1936 occurred in five industry groups: Textiles, 2,777,498; transportation and communication, 2,095,435; extraction of minerals, 1,237,470; lumber and allied products, 1,019,284; and machinery manufacturing industries, 944,720.

Table 3 shows the classification of all strikes beginning in 1936, by industries. The general strike indicated at the end of the table was the 3-day general strike in Pekin, Ill., in February 1936, called in sympathy with another strike in the same city.

Table 3.—Strikes in 1936, by Industry

Industry	Number of strikes beginning in 1936	Number of workers involved	Man-days idle during 1936
All industries	2,172	788,648	13,901,856
Iron and steel and their products, not including machinery	69	21,610	494,080
Blast furnaces, steel works, and rolling mills.....	11	9,412	298,445
Cast-iron pipe and fittings.....	1	160	2,820
Cutlery (not including silver and plated cutlery) and edge tools.....	1	484	7,744
Forgings, iron and steel.....	3	428	3,098
Hardware.....	5	2,390	14,040
Plumbers' supplies and fixtures.....	2	322	30,469
Steam and hot-water heating apparatus and steam fittings.....	4	1,044	11,230
Stoves.....	18	4,061	62,354
Structural and ornamental metal work.....	3	395	1,883
Tin cans and other tinware.....	3	294	8,614
Tools (not including edge tools, machine tools, files, and saws) (hand tools).....	2	238	4,807
Wirework.....	4	947	17,064
Other.....	12	1,435	21,522
Machinery, not including transportation equipment	73	29,247	944,780
Agricultural implements.....	2	2,316	108,022
Cash registers, adding machines, and typewriters.....	1	7,000	462,475
Electrical machinery, apparatus, and supplies.....	15	2,286	66,671
Engines, turbines, tractors, and water wheels.....	2	918	14,405
Foundry and machine-shop products.....	36	6,099	106,551
Radios and phonographs.....	8	8,165	170,916
Other.....	9	2,463	15,680
Transportation equipment	53	54,049	718,588
Automobiles, bodies and parts.....	36	40,797	390,459
Cars, electric- and steam-railroad.....	2	780	8,113
Shipbuilding.....	15	12,472	320,016
Nonferrous metals and their products	81	9,525	152,703
Aluminum manufactures.....	2	1,239	9,391
Brass, bronze, and copper products.....	4	3,550	30,625
Clocks and watches and time-recording devices.....	2	322	1,874
Jewelry.....	3	151	1,632
Lighting equipment.....	1	556	2,780
Silverware and plated ware.....	4	799	21,267
Smelting and refining—copper, lead, and zinc.....			2,625
Stamped and enameled ware.....	10	1,606	44,730
Other.....	5	1,302	37,779
Lumber and allied products	143	58,270	1,019,284
Furniture.....	60	7,744	261,389
Millwork and planing.....	15	3,544	73,838
Sawmills and logging camps.....	39	18,502	507,112
Other.....	29	8,480	176,945
Stone, clay, and glass products	39	24,689	728,522
Brick, tile, and terra cotta.....	4	817	43,525
Cement.....	3	670	1,880
Glass.....	18	21,268	608,222
Marble, granite, slate, and other products.....	3	151	2,151
Pottery.....	1	706	47,186
Other.....	10	1,077	20,558
Textiles and their products	455	128,573	2,777,498
Fabrics:			
Carpets and rugs.....	7	1,209	38,925
Cotton goods.....	29	17,029	554,952
Cotton small wares.....	4	120	1,809
Dyeing and finishing textiles.....	18	5,351	179,511
Silk and rayon goods.....	65	11,047	411,767
Woolen and worsted goods.....	27	6,940	157,066
Other.....	18	2,183	87,924
Wearing apparel:			
Clothing, men's.....	31	3,685	29,852
Clothing, women's.....	126	19,889	263,167
Corsets and allied garments.....	2	65	1,660
Men's furnishings.....	10	2,665	33,497
Hats, caps, and millinery.....	23	25,963	162,775
Shirts and collars.....	16	3,344	112,237
Hosiery.....	32	14,148	480,091
Knit goods.....	28	11,610	217,874
Other.....	19	3,330	44,391
Leather and its manufactures	72	20,472	318,896
Boots and shoes.....	44	11,885	83,994
Leather.....	10	5,965	62,980
Other leather goods.....	18	2,622	72,022
Food and kindred products	106	13,859	244,718
Baking.....	43	2,786	82,782
Beverages.....	10	891	8,498
Butter.....	1	11	176
Canning and preserving.....	11	3,437	17,200
Confectionery.....	8	589	8,650
Flour and grain mills.....	8	2,421	48,268

Table 3.—Strikes in 1936, by Industries—Continued

Industry	Number of strikes beginning in 1936	Number of workers involved	Man-days idle during 1936
Food and kindred products—Continued.			
Ice cream.....	2	28	268
Slaughtering and meat packing.....	18	2,905	73,059
Sugar refining, cane.....	1	702	5,610
Other.....	4	89	206
Tobacco manufactures			
Cigars.....	6	1,090	12,573
Paper and printing			
Boxes, paper.....	47	5,203	191,088
Paper and pulp.....	13	2,932	91,575
Printing and publishing.....	7	671	12,840
Book and job.....	8	270	4,687
Newspapers and periodicals.....	10	808	62,919
Other.....	9	522	19,047
Chemicals and allied products			
Chemicals.....	20	13,990	230,766
Explosives.....	4	1,373	31,144
Fertilizers.....	1	30	870
Paint and varnishes.....	1	38	342
Petroleum refining.....	3	615	13,398
Rayon and allied products.....	4	2,521	61,935
Other.....	2	8,905	114,715
Rubber products			
Rubber tires and inner tubes.....	5	503	8,362
Other rubber goods.....	43	76,699	477,286
Miscellaneous manufacturing			
Electric light, power, and manufactured gas.....	22	70,571	443,700
Broom and brush.....	21	6,128	33,586
Furriers and fur factories.....	76	9,586	211,069
Other.....	9	904	11,142
Extraction of minerals			
Coal mining, anthracite.....	3	157	2,047
Coal mining, bituminous.....	19	2,529	70,212
Metalliferous mining.....	45	5,946	127,668
Quarrying and nonmetallic mining.....	83	56,063	1,237,470
Other.....	26	23,072	264,545
Transportation and communication			
Water transportation.....	38	19,648	533,314
Motortruck transportation.....	9	6,959	247,528
Motorbus transportation.....	7	6,274	191,043
Taxicabs and miscellaneous.....	3	109	1,040
Electric railroad.....	165	83,231	2,095,435
Steam railroad.....	79	68,761	1,961,267
Radio broadcasting and transmitting.....	55	9,235	75,958
Other.....	12	920	10,144
Trade			
Wholesale.....	13	3,460	23,561
Retail.....	1	60	240
Domestic and personal service			
Hotels, restaurants, and boarding houses.....	2	587	22,870
Personal service, barbers, beauty parlors.....	1	12	912
Laundries.....	2	196	488
Dyeing, cleaning, and pressing.....	164	30,532	326,749
Elevator and maintenance workers (when not attached to specific industry).....	51	6,637	115,798
Other.....	113	23,895	210,951
Professional service			
Recreation and amusement.....	116	73,246	861,114
Professional.....	49	2,141	36,283
Semiprofessional, attendants, and helpers.....	8	24,805	289,960
Building and construction.....	26	1,519	63,538
Buildings, exclusive of P. W. A.....	18	4,469	52,516
All other construction (bridges, docks, etc., and P. W. A. buildings).....	12	39,081	417,094
Agriculture, etc.....	3	231	1,723
Agriculture.....	24	1,052	14,394
Fishing.....	13	766	6,115
W. P. A., relief, and resettlement projects.....	3	86	879
Other nonmanufacturing industries.....	8	200	7,400
General strike.....	230	33,225	345,351
	111	22,355	180,208
	119	10,870	165,143
	43	21,046	348,804
	28	15,369	259,120
	14	5,677	89,684
	80	40,016	232,216
	34	2,920	29,042
	1	1,500	4,500

States Affected

MORE than one-third of the 2,172 strikes in 1936 were in New York and Pennsylvania. The number of strikes in these States was 393

and 365 respectively. California experienced 194 strikes during the year, Ohio 177, New Jersey 126, and Massachusetts 111. The strikes in these six States constituted more than 60 percent of the strikes throughout the country.

Table 4.—Strikes in 1936, by States

State	Number of strikes beginning in 1936	Workers involved			Man-days idle during 1936	
		Number	Percent of total	Average per strike	Number	Percent of total
All States.....	2, 172	788, 648	100. 0	363	13, 901, 956	100. 0
Alabama.....	31	10, 126	1. 3	327	278, 674	2. 0
Arizona.....	2	940	. 1	470	1, 880	(¹)
Arkansas.....	4	2, 825	. 4	706	64, 602	. 5
California.....	194	70, 027	8. 9	361	2, 038, 101	14. 7
Colorado.....	8	1, 707	. 2	213	13, 084	. 1
Connecticut.....	45	9, 435	1. 2	210	178, 674	1. 3
Delaware.....	6	249	(¹)	42	2, 823	(¹)
District of Columbia.....	16	1, 231	. 2	77	22, 474	. 2
Florida.....	7	1, 491	. 2	213	13, 864	. 1
Georgia.....	10	2, 558	. 3	256	64, 850	. 5
Idaho.....	5	2, 617	. 3	523	123, 375	. 9
Illinois.....	98	24, 094	3. 1	246	409, 748	2. 9
Indiana.....	34	11, 726	1. 5	345	153, 596	1. 1
Iowa.....	10	1, 210	. 2	121	45, 297	. 3
Kansas.....	5	265	(¹)	53	998	(¹)
Kentucky.....	9	1, 305	. 2	145	358, 713	2. 6
Louisiana.....	17	3, 082	. 4	181	31, 858	. 2
Maine.....	7	831	. 1	119	5, 811	(¹)
Maryland.....	27	19, 131	2. 4	709	203, 300	1. 5
Massachusetts.....	111	34, 193	4. 3	308	432, 223	3. 1
Michigan.....	45	26, 986	3. 4	600	214, 182	1. 5
Minnesota.....	54	14, 214	1. 8	263	249, 744	1. 8
Mississippi.....	3	285	(¹)	95	2, 800	(¹)
Missouri.....	35	9, 821	1. 2	281	158, 194	1. 1
Montana.....	6	1, 215	. 2	203	10, 628	. 1
Nebraska.....	5	290	(¹)	58	1, 715	(¹)
Nevada.....	3	169	(¹)	56	247	(¹)
New Hampshire.....	5	1, 093	. 1	219	13, 288	. 1
New Jersey.....	126	30, 024	3. 8	238	560, 953	4. 0
New Mexico.....	4	885	. 1	221	35, 165	. 3
New York.....	393	160, 734	20. 5	409	1, 943, 992	14. 0
North Carolina.....	13	5, 319	. 7	409	85, 707	. 6
North Dakota.....	4	647	. 1	162	1, 878	(¹)
Ohio.....	177	124, 803	15. 9	705	1, 742, 788	12. 5
Oklahoma.....	6	871	. 1	145	40, 396	. 3
Oregon.....	53	16, 009	2. 0	302	391, 174	2. 8
Pennsylvania.....	365	118, 204	15. 0	324	2, 016, 541	14. 5
Rhode Island.....	27	5, 810	. 7	215	82, 289	. 6
South Carolina.....	16	4, 445	. 6	278	257, 375	1. 9
Tennessee.....	23	2, 760	. 3	120	62, 322	. 4
Texas.....	38	7, 058	. 9	186	93, 641	. 7
Utah.....	4	3, 382	. 4	846	136, 995	1. 0
Vermont.....	3	168	(¹)	56	57, 044	. 4
Virginia.....	7	1, 659	. 2	237	8, 311	. 1
Washington.....	82	28, 073	3. 6	342	846, 825	6. 1
West Virginia.....	30	7, 333	. 9	244	140, 968	1. 0
Wisconsin.....	50	16, 417	2. 1	328	233, 200	1. 7
Wyoming.....	3	800	. 1	267	12, 120	. 1
Interstate (unable to determine number of workers in each State).....	2	131	(¹)	66	57, 529	. 4

¹ Less than 1/10 of 1 percent.

² The sum of this column is more than 2,172. This is due to the fact that 33 strikes which extended across State lines have been counted as separate strikes in each State affected, with the proper allocation of number of workers involved and man-days idle. In 2 strikes it was impossible to allocate accurately the workers and man-days to the various States into which the strikes extended.

The greatest number of workers involved in strikes in any State during the year was in New York, where 160,734 were involved. There were 124,803 workers involved in strikes in Ohio, 118,204 in Pennsylvania, and 70,027 in California. Approximately 60 percent of the total number of workers involved in all strikes during the year was in these four States.

California experienced the greatest number of man-days of idleness because of strikes during 1936. This was due principally to the maritime strike along the West coast, which began in October and continued into 1937.

Cities Affected

THERE were more than twice as many strikes in New York as in any other city of the United States in 1936. New York, with 287 strikes, was followed by Philadelphia with 102, San Francisco with 76, Los Angeles with 50, and Akron with 43. With the exception of New York, and excluding the effect of intercity strikes as explained below, there were more workers involved in strikes and more man-days of idleness in Akron than in any other city in 1936. This was due principally to a few large strikes in the rubber industry.

Table 5.—Strikes in 1936 in Cities Which Had 10 or More Strikes in Any Year From 1927 to 1936

City	Number of strikes beginning in 1936	Number of workers involved	Man-days idle during 1936	City	Number of strikes beginning in 1936	Number of workers involved	Man-days idle during 1936
Akron.....	43	70,797	488,346	Milwaukee ¹	24	4,512	60,360
Allentown.....	5	811	11,114	Minneapolis ¹	30	5,230	194,642
Baltimore ¹	15	2,961	33,887	Newark, N. J. ¹	7	888	12,073
Birmingham.....	3	1,455	5,005	New Bedford ¹	7	1,852	38,684
Boston ¹	17	7,226	63,504	New York (Greater) ¹	287	128,644	1,368,813
Buffalo ¹	13	1,683	36,815	Paterson, N. J. ¹	14	2,302	26,508
Chattanooga.....	2	123	1,701	Philadelphia ¹	102	31,901	347,198
Chicago.....	39	3,221	66,418	Pittsburgh ¹	16	3,256	54,807
Cincinnati.....	7	600	7,506	Portland, Oreg. ¹	31	3,632	75,294
Cleveland ¹	39	13,918	124,926	Providence ¹	10	2,070	30,474
Columbus.....	2	489	23,705	Reading.....	6	5,784	153,144
Detroit ¹	18	12,603	102,690	Rochester.....	10	3,941	36,662
Easton, Pa. ¹	14	1,586	144,254	St. Louis ¹	20	2,369	26,311
Elizabeth, N. J. ¹	8	2,200	24,739	San Francisco (bay area) ¹	76	18,882	422,737
Erie.....	3	92	1,909	Seattle ¹	21	2,775	105,696
Fall River, Mass. ¹	9	4,010	49,631	Scranton, Pa.....	5	681	8,286
Haverhill.....	Terre Haute, Ind.....	2	114	785
Houston ¹	11	1,056	14,467	Toledo ¹	22	4,811	117,561
Jersey City ¹	5	812	3,632	Washington, D. C.....	16	1,231	22,474
Kansas City, Mo.....	2	2,472	24,040	Woonsocket ¹	7	1,437	19,243
Los Angeles ¹	50	10,502	230,497	Worcester, Mass.....	4	93	4,083
Lynn ¹	11	3,638	25,464	York, Pa. ¹	2	88	354

¹ In addition to the figures shown, this city was also affected by 1 or more strikes which extended into 2 or more cities. It was not possible accurately to determine how many workers involved in these intercity strikes were employed in each of the cities affected, hence the figures in this table are exclusive of intercity strikes.

In table 5, figures on 1936 strikes are given for each city which has had as many as 10 strikes in any one of the last 10 years. The figures given for each city include only the strikes which were confined to that city. As indicated by the footnote to table 5, many of the cities were also affected by intercity strikes, some of which were widespread and extended even across State lines. The statistical information at hand does not permit further subdivision of these intercity strikes and an allocation of the workers and man-days to the various cities affected.

Number of Workers

MORE than half of the strikes beginning in 1936 involved fewer than 100 workers each. The average for all strikes was 363 workers. The 8 strikes in each of which 10,000 or more workers were involved were: A strike of millinery workers in New York City in February, two strikes at the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. plants in Akron, Ohio (one in February and the other in June), the two maritime strikes late in 1936 (one on the west coast and the other on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts), a strike of building-service employees in March, a strike of barber-shop workers in April, and a strike of painters in August. All of the last three strikes were in New York City.

Table 6.—Strikes Beginning in 1936, Classified by Number of Workers Involved

Industry group	Total	Number of strikes in which the number of workers involved was—						
		6 and under 20	20 and under 100	100 and under 500	500 and under 1,000	1,000 and under 5,000	5,000 and under 10,000	10,000 and over
All industries.....	2,172	392	840	652	158	102	20	8
<i>Manufacturing</i>								
Iron and steel and their products, not including machinery.....	69	7	20	33	6	2	1	-----
Machinery, not including transportation equipment.....	73	8	27	30	3	3	2	-----
Transportation equipment.....	53	2	15	14	7	12	3	-----
Railroad repair shops.....	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Nonferrous metals and their products.....	31	2	15	7	4	3	-----	-----
Lumber and allied products.....	143	22	48	51	18	3	1	-----
Stone, clay, and glass products.....	39	3	13	14	5	2	2	-----
Textiles and their products.....	455	58	189	160	28	18	1	1
Leather and its manufactures.....	72	10	25	24	7	6	-----	-----
Food and kindred products.....	106	30	42	27	5	2	-----	-----
Tobacco manufactures.....	6	2	1	3	-----	-----	-----	-----
Paper and printing.....	47	11	21	12	3	-----	-----	-----
Chemicals and allied products.....	20	1	6	10	1	1	1	-----
Rubber products.....	43	1	7	16	6	6	5	2
Miscellaneous manufacturing.....	76	14	36	21	4	1	-----	-----
<i>Nonmanufacturing</i>								
Extraction of minerals.....	83	1	15	34	22	9	2	-----
Transportation and communication.....	165	31	76	44	8	4	-----	2
Trade.....	164	65	56	29	7	6	1	-----
Domestic and personal service.....	116	45	45	18	2	4	-----	2
Professional service.....	24	11	10	3	-----	-----	-----	-----
Building and construction.....	230	53	117	50	6	3	-----	1
Agriculture, etc.....	42	1	11	18	6	6	-----	-----
W. P. A., relief, and resettlement projects.....	80	6	25	29	9	10	1	-----
Other nonmanufacturing industries.....	34	8	20	5	1	-----	-----	-----
General.....	1	-----	-----	-----	-----	1	-----	-----

Duration

THE average duration of the strikes which ended in 1936 was 23.3 calendar days. Approximately 35 percent of them lasted less than a week and 60 percent were terminated in less than one-half month after they began. Only 5 percent lasted as long as 3 months. The longest strikes, on the average, were in the mining industries (36 calendar days) and the shortest strikes, on the average, were in the rubber-products industries (7.5 calendar days).

Table 7.—Duration of Strikes Ending in 1936

Industrial group	Total strikes	Average duration calendar days)	Number of strikes with duration of—					3 months or more
			Less than 1 week	1 week and less than ½ month	½ and less than 1 month	1 and less than 2 months	2 and less than 3 months	
All industries.....	2, 156	23.3	753	512	382	291	106	112
<i>Manufacturing</i>								
Iron and steel and their products, not including machinery.....	67	26.1	11	25	14	9	5	3
Machinery, not including transportation equipment.....	67	24.4	13	22	15	10	4	3
Transportation equipment.....	50	33.8	12	11	6	10	6	5
Nonferrous metals and their products.....	33	28.7	9	6	5	8	3	2
Lumber and allied products.....	143	31.3	25	25	40	33	10	10
Stone, clay, and glass products.....	37	23.7	10	8	12	3	3	1
Textiles and their products.....	457	28.7	122	114	89	68	27	37
Leather and its manufactures.....	67	16.4	26	17	12	8	3	1
Food and kindred products.....	107	22.8	40	25	18	14	4	6
Tobacco manufactures.....	5	15.6	2		3			
Paper and printing.....	49	32.8	10	13	9	9	3	5
Chemicals and allied products.....	19	23.4	4	5	5	4		1
Rubber products.....	43	7.5	31	7	2	3		
Miscellaneous manufacturing.....	75	19.1	19	21	19	13	2	1
<i>Nonmanufacturing</i>								
Extraction of minerals.....	85	36.0	37	16	11	5	5	11
Transportation and communication.....	164	15.0	96	34	12	11	5	6
Trade.....	163	19.9	66	30	31	24	7	5
Domestic and personal service.....	114	24.5	48	19	17	15	7	8
Professional service.....	23	15.5	10	8		4	1	
Building and construction.....	228	20.1	76	64	44	31	7	6
Agriculture, etc.....	43	15.4	22	8	5	5	3	
W. P. A., relief, and resettlement projects.....	81	8.4	42	28	8	3		
Other nonmanufacturing industries.....	35	14.5	21	6	5	1	1	1
General.....	1	3.0	1					

Causes

IN APPROXIMATELY half of the strikes ending in 1936, in which an equal proportion of the workers were involved, the major issues were union recognition, discrimination, or other union organization matters. "Recognition, wages, and hours" was the most common combination of issues. In 35 percent of the strikes, involving a like proportion of workers, the major issues were wages and hours with demands for wage increases predominating.

The 2,156 strikes which ended in 1936 are classified in table 8 according to the major issues involved. The "other" group at the

end of the table includes strikes over delayed pay, unsafe and unsanitary working conditions, protests against certain foremen or supervisors, and all miscellaneous demands and grievances not properly classifiable under the other headings.

Table 8.—Major Issues Involved in Strikes Ending in 1936

Major issues	Strikes		Workers involved	
	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total
All issues.....	2, 156	100. 0	709, 748	100. 0
Wages and hours.....	756	35. 1	250, 672	35. 3
Wage increase.....	413	19. 1	142, 663	20. 1
Wage decrease.....	151	7. 0	45, 631	6. 3
Wage increase, hour decrease.....	146	6. 8	37, 178	5. 2
Wage decrease, hour increase.....	19	. 9	2, 665	. 4
Hour increase.....	15	. 7	17, 676	2. 5
Hour decrease.....	12	. 6	5, 459	. 8
Union organization.....	1, 083	50. 2	365, 019	51. 4
Recognition.....	173	8. 0	47, 347	6. 7
Recognition and wages.....	272	12. 6	103, 521	14. 6
Recognition and hours.....	7	. 3	325	(1)
Recognition, wages, and hours.....	357	16. 6	120, 820	17. 0
Closed shop.....	130	6. 0	42, 543	6. 0
Violation of agreement.....	24	1. 1	24, 444	3. 4
Discrimination.....	120	5. 6	26, 019	3. 7
Miscellaneous.....	317	14. 7	94, 057	13. 3
Sympathy.....	25	1. 2	4, 976	. 7
Rival unions or factions.....	2	. 1	4, 040	. 6
Jurisdiction.....	37	1. 7	4, 236	. 6
Other.....	251	11. 6	80, 647	11. 4
Not reported.....	2	. 1	158	(1)

¹ Less than 1/10 of 1 percent.

Results

THE difficulties in determining the net results of a strike or lock-out in terms of success or failure are obvious to anyone familiar with the many complex factors involved. The only approach is a comparison of the terms of settlement with the demands or aims of the parties initiating the stoppage of work. Such a comparison can only be approximate, since, for strategic purposes, each of the opposing parties may demand much more than it expects or hopes to obtain. An attempt has been made in each case to determine the basic and underlying issues in the dispute and then to compare the terms of settlement with these issues or demands.

Table 9.—Results of Strikes Ending in 1936

Results	Strikes		Workers involved	
	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total
Total.....	2, 156	100. 0	709, 748	100. 0
Substantial gains to workers.....	991	45. 9	288, 959	40. 7
Partial gains or compromises.....	508	23. 6	254, 751	35. 9
Little or no gains to workers.....	89	27. 5	120, 288	16. 9
Jurisdiction, rival unions, or factions.....	32	1. 8	8, 276	1. 2
Indeterminate.....	22	1. 0	36, 879	5. 2
Not reported.....	4	. 2	602	. 1

Almost 46 percent of the strikes ending in 1936, including 41 percent of the workers involved, resulted in the workers obtaining substantially all of their basic demands. Nearly 24 percent of the strikes, including 36 percent of the workers, resulted in partial gains or compromises, and 27½ percent of the strikes, including 17 percent of the workers, resulted in little or no gains to the workers.

Table 10.—Results of Strikes Ending in 1936 in Relation to Major Issues Involved

Major issues	Total	Strikes resulting in—					
		Substantial gains to workers	Partial gains or compromises	Little or no gains to workers	Jurisdiction, rival union, or faction settlements	Indeterminate	Not reported
Number of strikes							
All issues.....	2, 156	991	508	592	39	22	4
Wages and hours.....	756	347	205	201		3	
Wage increase.....	413	195	117	100		1	
Wage decrease.....	151	49	38	63		1	
Wage increase, hour decrease.....	146	81	42	23			
Wage decrease, hour increase.....	19	6	5	8			
Hour increase.....	15	10	2	3			
Hour decrease.....	12	6	1	4		1	
Union organization.....	1, 083	540	237	296		8	2
Recognition.....	173	72	17	81		3	
Recognition and wages.....	272	136	81	55			
Recognition and hours.....	7	4		3			
Recognition, wages, and hours.....	357	199	91	64		3	
Closed shop.....	130	68	24	37			1
Violation of agreement.....	24	16	5	3			
Discrimination.....	120	45	19	53		2	1
Miscellaneous.....	317	104	66	95	39	11	2
Sympathy.....	25	9	5	5		6	
Rival unions or factions.....	2				2		
Jurisdiction.....	37				37		
Other.....	251	95	61	89		5	1
Not reported.....	2			1			1
Number of workers involved							
All issues.....	709, 748	288, 952	254, 751	120, 288	8, 276	36, 879	602
Wages and hours.....	250, 672	94, 717	110, 472	43, 781		1, 702	
Wage increase.....	142, 663	53, 587	66, 506	22, 493		77	
Wage decrease.....	45, 031	15, 407	14, 160	15, 339		125	
Wage increase, hour decrease.....	37, 178	6, 170	28, 176	2, 832			
Wage decrease, hour increase.....	2, 665	487	1, 201	977			
Hour increase.....	17, 676	16, 787	409	480			
Hour decrease.....	5, 459	2, 279	20	1, 660		1, 500	
Union organization.....	365, 019	169, 522	120, 812	55, 057		19, 158	470
Recognition.....	47, 347	17, 668	5, 144	9, 628		14, 907	
Recognition and wages.....	103, 521	54, 165	31, 970	17, 386			
Recognition and hours.....	325	226		99			
Recognition, wages, and hours.....	120, 820	53, 085	59, 510	7, 724		501	
Closed shop.....	42, 543	13, 107	13, 836	15, 230			370
Violation of agreement.....	24, 444	16, 967	7, 344	133			
Discrimination.....	26, 019	14, 304	3, 008	4, 857		3, 750	100
Miscellaneous.....	94, 057	24, 713	23, 467	21, 450	8, 276	16, 019	132
Sympathy.....	4, 976	1, 240	1, 339	175		2, 222	
Rival unions or factions.....	4, 040				4, 040		
Jurisdiction.....	4, 236				4, 236		
Other.....	80, 647	23, 473	22, 128	21, 237		13, 797	12
Not reported.....	158			38			120

The results of the strikes ending in 1936 are shown in table 10 in relation to the major issues involved. This table indicates that the workers striking over union-organization matters were slightly more successful than those striking over wage-and-hour issues where no union organization questions were involved. Where wages and hours were the major issues, the workers won their demands in 46 percent of the strikes, obtained compromises in 27 percent, and lost in 27 percent. Where union-organization matters were the major issues, they won their demands in 50 percent of the strikes, obtained compromises in 22 percent, and lost in 27 percent. Of the workers involved in strikes over wage and hour issues, 38 percent won their demands, 44 percent obtained compromises, and 17½ percent lost; of those striking over union-organization matters, 46 percent won their demands, 33 percent obtained compromises, and 15 percent lost. Where the issues were miscellaneous matters other than wages and hours or union organization, the workers who won, lost, and obtained compromises were about equal in number.

Methods of Negotiating Settlements

SETTLEMENTS of 43 percent of the strikes, including about an equal proportion of the workers involved, were negotiated directly by the employers and representatives of the organized workers. In about 30 percent of the strikes, including 41 percent of the workers involved, the parties were assisted by Government conciliators or labor boards in working out settlements of their disputes. In most of these cases the workers were represented by union officials. Of these 644 cases, 611 were settled by conciliation or mediation methods and 33 were settled by arbitration. Private conciliators or arbitrators were instrumental in negotiating settlements of 66, or 3 percent, of the strikes. Forty-one of these were settled by conciliation methods and 25 by arbitration.

Table 11.—Methods of Negotiating Settlements of Strikes Ending in 1936

Negotiations toward settlements carried on by—	Strikes		Workers involved	
	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total
Total.....	2, 156	100. 0	709, 748	100. 0
Employers and workers directly.....	114	5. 3	17, 276	2. 4
Employers and representatives of organized workers directly.....	938	43. 4	299, 132	42. 2
Government conciliators or labor boards.....	644	29. 9	292, 600	41. 2
Private conciliators or arbitrators.....	66	3. 1	20, 348	2. 9
Terminated without formal settlement.....	394	18. 3	80, 392	11. 3

There were no formal settlements of 394, or 18 percent, of the strikes terminated during 1936. In most of these cases the workers simply

dropped their demands and returned to work without settlements or they lost their jobs when employers went out of business or hired new workers to fill the places of the strikers.

Labor Organizations Involved

UNIONS affiliated with the American Federation of Labor were involved in more than three-fourths of the strikes which ended in 1936. Independent organizations were involved in 7.4 percent of the strikes. Unions affiliated with the Committee for Industrial Organization were involved in 133 (6.2 percent) strikes after the time of their suspension by the American Federation of Labor in September.

The unions indicated did not in all cases officially call the strikes. Some of the strikes were unauthorized by union officials, although after the workers were out the unions assisted in negotiating settlements. In some cases the workers were unorganized when the strikes began and the unions stepped in and offered leadership and assistance in settling the disputes, as a means of organizing the workers. In table 12 the union which identified itself with the strike, either at the beginning or later, is regarded as the organization involved.

Table 12.—Strikes Ending in 1936 by Types of Labor Organizations Involved

Labor organization involved	Strikes		Workers involved	
	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total
Total.....	2,156	100.0	709,748	100.0
American Federation of Labor ¹	1,649	76.4	488,643	68.8
Committee for Industrial Organization ²	133	6.2	105,814	14.9
Railroad brotherhoods.....	2	.1	560	.1
Independent.....	159	7.4	75,183	10.6
American Federation of Labor and another.....	2	.1	4,040	.6
Company unions.....	10	.5	1,743	.2
Organization involved but type not reported.....	7	.3	360	.1
No organization.....	183	8.5	32,941	4.6
Not reported as to whether or not any organization was involved.....	11	.5	464	.1

¹ Does not include strikes after September 1936, of unions suspended by the American Federation of Labor. See footnote 2.

² Includes the 10 international unions suspended by the American Federation of Labor because of affiliation with the C. I. O. and independent unions which affiliated with the C. I. O. The figures include only the strikes occurring after the date of the A. F. of L. convention in September.

Sit-Down Strikes During 1936

SO-CALLED "sit-down" or "stay-in" strikes seem to fall into five groups:²

(1) A stoppage for a few moments or a few hours until a specific grievance is settled, at which time work is resumed.

(2) A stoppage by a group of workers which arouses sentiment for a general walk-out. The general walk-out thereupon develops into a regular picketing strike.

² Many sit-down strikes are difficult to distinguish from regular picket strikes. This is especially true in the outdoor trades. When longshoremen or building-construction workers stay around their workplaces but do no work, it is a question whether such action should be classified as picketing or sit-down strikes.

(3) A sit-down for a few hours, when the employer forces the employees out and closes the plant. This dispute thereupon assumes the nature of a lock-out.

(4) A procedure whereby dissatisfied employees report for work each day or shift but sit at their places and refuse to work. They go home at the end of each shift.

(5) A stay-in strike, in which a portion or all of the strikers stay in the plant overnight.

In 48 of the 2,172 strikes which began in 1936, the strikers stayed in the plants for 1 day or longer after quitting work. In some of these cases the disputes were settled by the close of the day and work was resumed the following day. In others, workers were ejected or walked out at the close of the shift and set up picket lines around the plants until the disputes were adjusted. In 22 instances the strikers stayed in the building one or more nights. Usually the "stay-in" was only a night or two. Some, however, lasted a week or more. In one case the strikers stayed in the plant for 8 weeks.

About 53,250 workers were involved in the 24 strikes in which workers sat at their places for 1 day but did no work. Approximately 381,000 man-days of idleness resulted from these strikes. In the 22 stay-in-strikes lasting more than 1 day, 34,565 workers were involved and 290,000 man-days of work were lost during the entire progress of the strikes. This does not mean that all these man-days of idleness were spent within the plant. In most cases only a portion of the workers actually stayed in the plant. Also, in many instances, the stay-in lasted only a few days, although the strike continued for a longer period.

Of these 48 stay-in strikes lasting 1 day or longer, 1 was called by a company union, in 1 the workers were unorganized, and 3 were called by independent or unaffiliated unions. In 8 instances the strikers were members of unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, and in 35 cases by unions affiliated with the Committee for Industrial Organization. Matters of union organization, such as recognition, discrimination, wearing of union buttons, etc., were the major factors causing most of these stay-in strikes. Few of them were formally authorized by the unions, although after they were started the unions endorsed them and assisted in getting settlements.

In addition to the strikes in which workers stayed at their places but did no work for 1 day or longer, there were numerous such stoppages lasting from a few moments to several hours. The exact number of such stoppages is not known, since the Bureau of Labor Statistics keeps no record of strikes lasting less than 1 day. A number occurred in the garment trades, when disputed piece-work rates on new styles of work were being adjusted. Longshoremen, especially on the west coast, engaged in what they called "quickie" strikes when they were dissatisfied with certain working conditions. There were a number in

the rubber industry. One rubber concern in Akron reported having had over 50 such stoppages, lasting from 15 minutes to several hours. A large proportion of these brief sit-downs were due to union workers' suspicions that they were being discriminated against, or that nonunion members were being given special consideration.

