

BOLD WORKERS AND TIMID SOULS.

Several years ago an English court held that striking employes were liable for damage in case of strike. The British House of Lords sustained the decision. Defeated in every court, the workers awoke to their helplessness, raised the cry: "Trade unionists for parliament," and at the following election placed 35 of their fellows in the English law-making body.

And the notorious Taff Vale decision was repealed, after the workers defiantly announced to their rulers, "If you don't repeal this decision, that endangers our homes, we will sweep the island at the next election."

The mighty English government dropped to its knees, and a law was passed, called "The Trades Disputes Bill," providing, in short, that if an act is legal, when done by an individual, it is LEGAL FOR A COL-LECTION OF INDIVIDUALS.

Strikes were thus legalized, and now English women and children are never threatened with having their homes confiscated for damages if the men refuse to work under debasing conditions.

How was it done, you say?

Listen: Men like Kier Hardie, Ransley McDonald, Ben Tillett, Victor Grayson, and scores of others, are real LABOR LEAD-ERS. They showed the utter helplessness of workers WITH THAT LAW UNCHAL-LENGED. They didn't fawn or truckle. They didn't tremble before imaginary power. They dared the government to move, if their fellows would only stick. These men were not interested in jurisdiction fights, nor did they jockey for individual gains. Nor did they use their office to prove their conservatism against iniquity and wrong. More than this, they refused to beg for favors at the hand that enslaved them.

In America, at the present time, the property of Danbury Union Hatters is tied up by the same sort of proceedings that brought on such a revolution in English polities.

But we had forgotten the incident until the Steel Workers are asked to "fork over" \$200,000 damages for daring to strike. Nothing is said by our lady-like labor press or our genteel officials, who are not expected to move as long as the "ghost walks" and our membership remains docile.

Probably the old-time politicians will some day take pity on us and desert the powers that place them in office. Then, AND NOT TILL THEN, will the American labor movement's present course be vindicated.

So let us continue to pray and beg, lest we be called "radical."—Toledo Union Leader.



