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Strikes, by William GOLDNER, edited by Irving Bernstein, Institute of Industrial Relations, University of California, Berkeley, 1951, 50 pages.

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Strikes, by WILLIAM GOLDNER, edited by Irving Bernstein, Institute of Industrial Relations, University of California, Berkeley, 1951, 50 pages.

The author intends, in this pamphlet, to study the factors that surround the strike situation in order to place it in a proper perspective. The introduction places the strike "the by-product of unsuccessful collective bargaining" in a more complete framework: strike and the public opinion. But, what is a strike, its causes, its purposes? He distinguishes three categories of purposes of strikes and classifies them in the following way: 1) Strikes over basic industrial relations issues; 2) Strikes to compel the employer's support against other groups or to achieve gains beyond his control; 3)strikes to influence government policy.

A second chapter deals with trends and fluctuations of strikes — methods of measurement — trend of strikes — seasonal variation — causes of fluctuations, economic and political. The ideas behind strikes are presented in a brief review of American labor history; this review "shows how the labor movement has come to adopt business unionism as its basic philosophy".

Strikes also worry the Government which, through his agencies, has to build up a body of laws and regulations, such as the Sherman and Clayton Acts, the Norris-Laguardia Act, the National Industrial Recovery Act, the National Labor Relations, the Wagner Act and the Taft-Hartley.

In a last chapter, entitled Union and Employer Conduct, the author discusses about the strike sequence, trade union government, collective bargaining provisions, strikes and the union membership, the cost of strikes, strikes and union power; he then concludes by saying that "labor and management contribute to the events and decisions leading to a strike, both participate in the strike action, and ultimately both must negotiate the treaty of peace". A sixth chapter gives suggestions for further reading.

PUBLICATIONS RECENTES

PROBLÈMES HUMAINS DE L'ENTRÉE AU TRAVAIL, 18 p., avril 1952, par Victor Fallais, extrait de Clartés Syndicales, 205, Grand'Rue, Charleroi.

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