Humorous Scenes at "Headquarters" During Girls' Strike.

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ONLY a few weeks ago occurred the biggest strike of girls that has ever taken place in this country. Forty thousand shirtwaist makers went to business on Tuesday morning as usual, learned after work was over that they were being locked out and then, at the giving of an understood signal, suddenly put on their things and walked out, leaving the rooms in a state of indignant disorder. The strike was the result of a "breakdown" of indiscipline.

Now, this sort of thing on a lesser scale is happening all the time all over the country, and so it may be interesting to know how girl strikes run the strikes they make.

They don't go home and help their mothers do one to every one hundred or one. The society of a tried, tired mother and a house full of children always tiring of work and wanting something to eat is not apt to make a girl see the bright side of losing a weekly salary even for a short time. The girls know that if the won't stay out they will likely be staked out at the end of an hour. So they turn "headquarters."

"Headquarters" at the beginning of a big girls' strike is usually a rather large, dingy building that is literally packed by a mass of excited young women, who are very much excited about the strike, but who aren't quite sure how to go about it. Interpersed among them, of course, are the officers of the local Woman's Trade Union League, who are usually women of education and influence, social workers, most of them. It is the business of these officers to evolve some degree of order out of the black masses moving about them.

"Sadie," says one excited young woman to a bosom friend across the room, "we win, Sue. Sadie. We'll all be rich and independent, and working for the cause."

"I'll go to you with the first Saturday afternoon after we will the strike," shouts a friendly, pretty young girl.

The strike being of the "un-ion" type, the girls do not waste any time in collecting and sending dollars to friends or even to those on the other side.

The police often have to interfere, and the strike in the union premises, such as they are, are generally arrested and fined. Sometimes, however, by tactful or heart-felt pleading, picketing is made very effective. It is generally done that leadership of one of the important strike committees before described.

Never joining a union so popular, strangely enough, as a strike. If any employer, induced by the continuance of the strike, is willing to settle, he is promptly taken to the executive office at "headquarters" to sign up. His employees will have met previously to agree on their demands. Often, instead of showing each other distrust or ill will, the "boss" and his rebellious workers go up to the office laughing and chatting each other.

On the whole, the chief difference between the headquarters of men's and women's unions during a strike is that those of the men have not such an exciting atmosphere. The men don't talk so much nor so fast nor so loud. It's a scientific fact, anyhow, and the tongue of a woman is longer and more glibly made than that of a man.