

## THE NEGRO A LARGE FACTOR IN LABOR.

The Negro is indeed a large factor in labor. He supplies one-seventh of the workers of America. Forty thousand of the three hundred thousand members of the coal miners' union are Negroes. One-third of the workers in America in iron and steel, as well as a large percentage of the workers in the packing industries, are Negroes. Negroes form one-half of the employees in the Chicago stock yards. They are also largely represented in building trades. One-tenth of the railway workers in this country are Negroes. It is significant that the Negro looms large in the basic industries necessary to our civilization; namely, the production of fuel, foodstuffs, materials for machinery, and transportation.

North and South the Negro is also learning to ally himself to his class and to protect himself through unionizing. Four thousand Negroes belong to the metal workers' union of America. The National Brotherhood of the Workers of the World, a Negro labor union, numbers 10,000 members. Salisbury, N. C., has a railway union of 1800 members. In Newport News, Va., Negroes are doing every type of work in the building of a battleship. They have two foremen receiving respectively \$125 and \$150 a week. In New York and in Philadelphia, Negroes are largely represented in the transport and stevedore unions. Garment workers of New York have about 3,000 Negro women in their union, some of whom are holding office. These figures show that not only is the Negro making good in the industries of the North, but he is also learning to protect himself from exploitation, both in the North and in the South. He is learning to fuse with his class. This makes certain his firm hold in the industrial field.—Southern Workman.