1919 Pittsburgh - Role Sheet

Name: Roger Clark

Allegiance: Indeterminate

Role Context

You're a 35-year-old white steel worker from Pittsburgh. You've been working in the Jones and Laughlin Mill for almost 15 years, your work is considered highly skilled, and you are a long-standing member of a Labor Union. You worry that if you participate in a strike, you fear you may lose your job. However, this does not mean that you aren't sympathetic to the workers' pleas, after all, you yourself often work 12-hour days, for a wage that keeps falling. However, past strikes do not leave you hopeful, you're fearful of how the Steel Trust owners might react, and know that it is not beneath them to resort to violence, or fear tactics to break the efforts of the workers.

Motivations

Largely due to the failed attempts of labor strikes in the past, you are frightened of the potential consequences that may come if you join the labor strike effort. The memory of the 1917 Strike at the Jones and Laughlin mills still lingers in the back of your mind. You clearly remember how that effort led nowhere and only saw conditions for workers, and worker-owner relations sour. You understand that the conditions at the current conditions at the mills aren't feasible, and desperately want to find a solution. One of your closest friends lost their life at the mills just a few years ago. Furthermore, you wish you could spend more time resting, or with your family, yet you must work to keep food on the table.

Play Guidelines

Round #1

- Introduce yourself to those around you, and make sure to chat with the heads of both the anti-strike and pro-strike factions, explaining your fears and concerns.
- At the end of the round, you should vote based on the discussions you had with the other members.

Round #2

 This round will mainly involve Q&A, as an indeterminate, you should pose questions to both factions to see if they can appeal to your concerns.

Round #3

• Choose whether you want to return to work based on what you've seen and heard throughout the game.

Victory Objectives

Complete Victory

You'll achieve complete victory if the final vote results in some improvement for you as a worker.

Complete Defeat

You will achieve complete defeat if no agreement is reached at all by Round #3.

Important Sources

- Source 3.5 "Blood is Shed" lays out the extent of violence that occurred in Homestead, during a strike that occurred in Pennsylvania, not far at all from Pittsburgh and your home
- Source 3.7 "The Chicago Riot -The Foreign Element Create an Extensive Disturbance."
- Source 3.12 "A Steel Worker Writes to Fellow Workers."