



**ALBUM PAIRING PRIMARY SOURCES AND PICTURE BOOKS: BRAVE GIRL;  
CLARA AND THE SHIRTWAIST MAKERS' STRIKE OF 1909 BY MICHELLE  
MARKEL**

**Album Description**

NE

NEW-YORK, MONDAY,

909

## FOOD FOR STRIKERS

### SUFFRAGISTS TREAT WAIST MAKERS.

*Mrs. Belmont the Hostess at  
Mental Cheer Meeting in  
Hippodrome.*

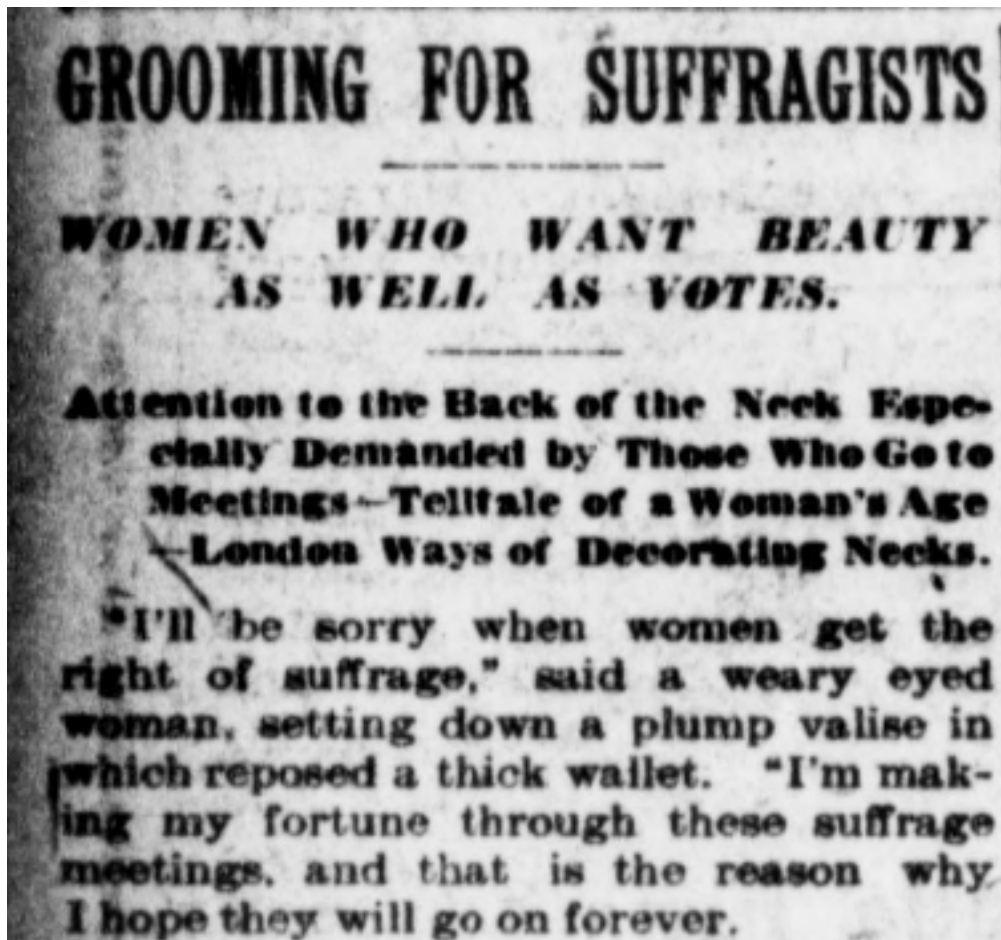
Was it the cause of woman suffrage or the strikers? It was hard to tell. There were many thousands there, members of the Ladies' Shirt Waist Makers' Union, now striking. They were the guests of Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, at the Hippo-

**Reference Link:** <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83030214/1909-12-06/ed-1/seq-1/#date1=1909&sort=date&rows=20&words=Hippodrome+Meeting&searchType=basic&sequence=0&index=6&sta>

**THE DIARY OF A SHIRTWAIST STRIKER : A STORY OF THE SHIRTWAIST MAKERS'  
STRIKE IN NEW YORK BY THERESA SERBER MALKIEL**

**DECEMBER 5.**—Lord! I never saw anything like it in my life—that Hippodrome meeting. The place was so crowded that I had trouble in getting in, though I did come rather early. But once I was in it was worth all the trouble of getting there. It did my heart good to see how happy every one of our girls looked. There, more than in any other place, I felt the kinship between all the girls and myself. It seemed to me that their joy was my joy, their sorrow my own. It seemed as if I had grown a pair of wings that lifted me nearer to heaven. I sang and laughed, and was happy like all the rest of them. For I felt as though I had been born anew and became a power. I knew that if I should happen to be hurt or abused all these thousands of men and women would stretch out their hands to lift me out of danger.

**Reference Link:** <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=mdp.39015073391321;view=1up;seq=31>



**Reference Link:** <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83030272/1909-12-19/ed-1/seq-22/#date1=1909&sort=date&rows=20&words=Hippodrome+meeting&searchType=basic&sequence=0&index=8&st=1>

NEW-YORK TRIBUNE., DECEMBER 22, 1909

and vociferously before the home of Mayor McClellan, in Washington Square. The Mayor having written to Mrs. Belmont on the occasion of the Hippodrome meeting that he was not interested in the strikers, they were anxious to call his attention to the fact that other people thought differently.

**Reference Link:** <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83030214/1909-12-22/ed-1/seq-14/#date1=1909&sort=date&rows=20&words=Hippodrome+meeting&searchType=basic&sequence=0&index=9&size=20>

When the girls called the strike, three weeks ago, there was little money in their union coffers. But they declared they would strike to the starving point, and some of them were almost at that point when the strike first began. She went down to the strike headquarters to talk with the girls. One chat was enough. She hired the great Hippodrome for them for a mass meeting. She organized a giant parade.

"Fight," she told the girls.

**Reference Link:** <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn88085947/1909-12-28/ed-1/seq-1/#date1=1909&sort=date&rows=20&words=Hippodrome+meeting&searchType=basic&sequence=0&index=11&size=20>

**THE DIARY OF A SHIRTWAIST STRIKER : A STORY OF THE SHIRTWAIST MAKERS'  
STRIKE IN NEW YORK BY THERESA SERBER MALKIEL**

When Leonora stopped little Clara rose and I felt mighty proud for that simple Jew girl. She told them point blank that she came there to ask for help, but added that it wasn't for us present, only for the thousands of young girls who've been working since they were big enough to turn a wheel, that these very hard working girls were compelled to throw up their jobs, for they couldn't go on any longer; that they're down and out at present and that there ain't a bit of fire in their grates nor a piece of bread in their cupboards, while they are out on the streets fighting for dear life. And so she said for dear life, and so they are fighting for dear life, for going back under the former conditions is worse than death.

**Reference Link:** <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=mdp.39015073391321;view=1up;seq=40>

OMAHA DAILY BEE, DECEMBER 12, 1909

### Girl Leader to be a Doctor.

As in practically all strikes, that of the ladies' shirt waist makers of New York has developed one figure, which stands out picturesquely above the others in the movement. This is Miss Clara Lemlich, 19 years old, whose enthusiasm was as the pressing of an electric button that put the machinery of the strike in motion.

To look at the diminutive leader—for a leader she really is, although she modestly disclaims it—one would not suspect the dynamic force that is contained in her frail body.

**Reference Link:** <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn99021999/1909-12-12/ed-1/seq-36/#date1=1909&index=0&rows=20&words=Clara+Lemlich&searchType=basic&sequence=0&state=&date2=1910>

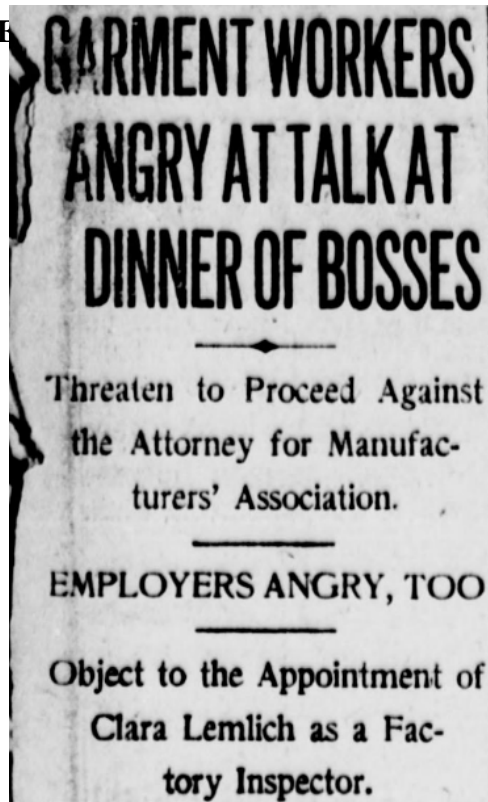


THE SUN, NOVEMBER 28, 1909

Mr. Leiserson, who once was the employer of Miss Clara Lemlich, a strike leader who has made many assertions as to the alleged harsh treatment of waist-makers, said the assertions were all wrong and he was willing to give \$5,000 to any charity if they were proved to be correct.

Reference Link: <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83030272/1909-11-28/ed-1/seq-2/#date1=1909&index=5&rows=20&words=Clara+strike&searchType=basic&sequence=0&state=&date2=1909&pr>

THE B



1, 1911

**Reference Link:** <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83030193/1911-12-11/ed-1/seq-3/#date1=1909&index=1&rows=20&words=Clara+Lemlich&searchType=basic&sequence=0&state=&date2=1911&>

# STRIKE TO GO ON

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## *GIRLS REJECT PLAN.*

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*Waist Makers Unanimously  
Refuse to Give Up Union.*

The striking waist makers at four mass meetings yesterday afternoon unanimously rejected the agreement adopted at a conference of representatives of the strikers

**Reference Link:** <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83030214/1909-12-28/ed-1/seq-8/#date1=1909&index=1&rows=20&words=Lemlich&searchType=basic&sequence=0&state=&date2=1910&prox>