

Eula McGill describes the difficulties workers had

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Eula McGill describes the difficulties workers had talking about their grievances with management.

Duration: 1:06

Transcript:

Audio Transcript

Jacquelyn Hall

Now before you went out on strike, did you take your grievances to the manager or try to get anything changed?

Eula McGill

No, no.

Jacquelyn Hall

There were no negotiations going on back and forth?

Eula McGill

No, they wouldn't recognize you; they wouldn't even talk to you.

Jacquelyn Hall

Did you try to send a delegation to talk to them at all?

Eula McGill

Oh yes, we had a committee. We wouldn't have asked them to negotiate had we not had a majority. But no, there wasn't really nothing in that Section that could give you really any power; there wasn't much teeth in it.

Jacquelyn Hall

To enforce it, right. So how did it come about that you went out on strike?

Eula McGill

Well, you know, Frank Gorman, president of the United Textile, he got up and just called for a general strike. And hell, everybody come out, non-union as well as union. [laughter] I mean, people began to come out of the mills that hadn't even gotten around to forming a union. It was a massive walk-out.

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