





# RETAIL STORE CODE CUTS WAGES BY HUNGER RATES

Director of Bloomingdale Bros., Member of Industrial Advisory Board

By LABOR RESEARCH ASSN. The tentative code agreed upon by representatives of 3,000 leading department, dry goods and specialty stores now awaiting government O.K. under the National Industrial Recovery Act, offers another test as to whose interests the Roosevelt law will serve.

Minimum weekly wage scales proposed under this code would divide retail workers into three categories as follows: (1) experienced male workers; (2) experienced women workers; and (3) apprentices or "inexperienced help under 18 years of age."

What does all this mean to the thousands of salesgirls, clerks, cashiers, wrappers and other retail store workers affected by this code? It means, first of all, a direct wage cut for many.

According to the Illinois Department of Labor, average weekly earnings in Illinois department stores on April 15, 1933, amounted to \$14.35—in itself a ridiculously low wage.

For the sake of argument we shall take an example from the "most favored group," i. e., a male clerk, whose \$18 a week means \$1.50 less than the \$19.50 minimum.

The present codes are much below even the minimum wage schedules recommended by conservative state bodies.

"The minimum has been little more than a minimum of subsistence," wrote J. A. Estey in his book, *The Labor Problem*.

The code as drafted by the employers is, in fact, nothing more than an attempt to give federal sanction and legalization of present starvation wage levels enforced upon the workers after four years of crisis.

No wonder then that S. Klein, New York City department store owner and notorious labor sweeper, could say of the code, "I am thoroughly in accord."

When the delegate visited the ship yesterday, he found the crew, which had signed on 18 days ago in New York, had been paid only \$1, in Norfolk, since that time.

This is the 12th struggle on the Munson Line ships in the last few months conducted by the Marine Workers' Industrial Union.

Employers Well Satisfied. The employers are thoroughly satisfied because it was they who drafted the code openly and without pretense that they were considering the workers.

Another Roosevelt official, Louis E. Kirstein, member of the Industrial Advisory Board set up under the Recovery Act, is director of such department stores as Bloomingdale Bros., B. Forman & Co., Abraham & Straus, Inc., and official of William Filene's Sons Co.

# LEATHER STRIKE WON IN JERSEY

New Brunswick Workers Form Industrial Union

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J. — One hundred and thirty workers at the Lefkowitz factory, 25 Water St., formed the Leather Workers Industrial Union here at the termination of a nine-day strike.

Originally called to demand that a 15 per cent wage cut imposed last December be rescinded, the strike gained in power when A. Fisher, Trade Union Unity League organizer, went to New Brunswick after a committee of the strikers asked aid of the T. U. U. L.

Union officers were elected and a broad shop committee established at a meeting where Fisher, representing the T. U. U. L., received a great ovation for the aid given to the strike.

# 8 WORKERS GO BEFORE COURT

NEW YORK — Five workers will go on trial this morning at 9:30 and three tomorrow at the same hour, most of them arrested because they were active in demanding jobless relief.

Arrested May 31 at a Brooklyn home relief bureau during a demonstration, Hanna Jasper and Ada Fishman will be tried this morning, July 5, on "disorderly conduct."

Jack Fisher will also be tried today at the 161st Street and Washington Avenue Court, Bronx, on a charge placed by his landlord that he tried to intimidate a scab during a rent strike.

At the 170 East 121st Street Court, Arthur Siroreza and Joseph Rodriguez, jobless Spanish workers, will be tried today, charged by Hyman Rubin landlord, with holding him up and taking \$50 from him.

Five hundred socialists and sympathizers gathered in an independence day meeting on Union Square.

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# THE SPIRIT OF '33



# DEMOCRATS AND SOCIALISTS TELL MEANING OF '4TH'

Workers Can 'Benefit' By Slavery Act, Say Socialists

NEW YORK — Fourth of July was celebrated in and around Union Square by Tammany Hall—the political breeding of President Roosevelt—and by the Socialist Party of New York.

PHILADELPHIA July 4.—Stating that reduced pay made it impossible for them to support their families, sixty substitute post-office employees marched yesterday to the Philadelphia County Relief Board where they demanded help.

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# Labor's Dividends Under New Deal

Waiter Ends Life

NEW YORK, July 4.—When Dr. Wandek of Knickerbocker Hospital told him he required an operation for which he couldn't pay—Oscar Stone, unemployed waiter, leaped from a window of his furnished room on the fourth floor yesterday and was instantly killed.

NEW YORK, July 4.—Upon being evicted from his room, Allen Sheed, 40, ended his life last night by jumping to the track in a subway station ahead of a northbound express train.

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# "LIBERAL" OWNERS OF CONSUMERS CO-OP PAY STARVATION WAGES

Part-Time Employment and Wage-Cuts Give Lie to Board's Claim of "Highest Wages"

Actually commercial restaurants pay dishwashers \$7 to \$15 a week, and in those organized by the Food Workers' Industrial Union they are paid \$18 for a 48-hour week.

Holidays and sickness further cut down this minimum wage. There is a so-called sick benefit, but its provisions are so complicated that only the management can understand it, and workers rarely benefit from it.

To kill opposition from the workers certain of them have been given part-time work, instead of being fired, but their wages come from reductions in the wages of others doing the same work.

The members are under the illusion that when the consumers own the restaurants and apartment houses, capitalism will disappear without the necessity of a revolution.

Workers' Ordinance Discussed Tonight

NEW YORK — The first of the meetings arranged by workers of the Bronx on the Workers' Relief Ordinance for New York City will be held tonight at the Charles Street Neighborhood Center, 1447 Charlotte St.

Tammany Club Gives Relief for \$5 "Tip"

NEW YORK — Albert Moran of 404 E. 11th Street obtained a relief ticket at the Home Relief Bureau at Spring and Elizabeth Streets yesterday by putting up a militant fight for it.

AMUSEMENTS

"26 COMMISSARS" ACME THEATRE

MUSIC

LICENSE NOTICES

STATIONERY

Communist Party Week

SPEND YOUR VACATION IN OUR PROLETARIAN CAMPS

FREE TRIP TO THE SOVIET UNION

Workers Cooperative Colony

NEW HEALTH CENTER CAFETERIA

WORKERS' ORGANIZATIONS! Daily Worker Picnic Tickets for July 30 ARE NOW READY

THE WORKERS SCHOOL ANNOUNCES A Six Weeks Summer Term beginning July 24, 1933

ARE YOU MOVING OR Storing Your Furniture? COOKE'S STORAGE

WOCOLONA Bungalows Now Available

Negro Organization Thanks Labor Defense For Scottsboro Fight

ARMY TENTS 16x16 \$8.00 up

Are You Moving or Storing Your Furniture? COOKE'S STORAGE

WOCOLONA Bungalows Now Available

War Vets Rally

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