

JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
INTERNATIONAL LADIES GARMENT
WORKERS UNION

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No. 1

THE STRUGGLE FOR VICTORY

The die has been cast. A struggle between the Waist and Dressmakers' Union and the Dress and Waist Manufacturers' Association is now a foregone conclusion. Today or tomorrow the tens of thousands of workers, bent with hard toil in the shops to eke out a miserable existence, will vacate them and forgetful in the streets, in halls. The shops will remain empty and death-like for an indefinite period. This was in the waist industry will touch deeply the fate and the lives of 30,000 workers and of three times that number of people directly and indirectly connected with them. Naturally this conflict between employers and employees will to a certain extent affect the rest of the population; and the latter has a right to demand an accounting from the authors of this turmoil.

The following lines are a faint attempt to explain the situation and point out the actually guilty parties.

Every unbiased person who has at all gone into the respective statements of the representatives of the Waist and Dressmakers' Union and those of the Dress and Waist Manufacturers' Association must concede the fact that for the conflict which is to break out these days the manufacturers alone are responsible.

True, the representatives of the union presented a few new demands, such as a working week of forty-four hours, an increase of 15 per cent in wages, etc. But at the same time the union has expressed its readiness to submit its demands to arbitration and abide by the award.

Of course, this should not be interpreted that the union has the slightest doubt in the justice of its demands. In an address to the manufacturers' association President Schleisinger so indisputably put the case for these demands that it is impossible to question any of its points. Together with its President the entire union shares its firm belief in the justice of these demands and in their absolute necessity. For, only the realization of these demands will afford the workers the possibility of more or less regular work and will keep the wolf of hunger and misery from their doors.

Yet, and perhaps because of this consideration, the workers

were prepared to submit these demands and the reasons for them, to arbitration, in the judgment of honest and impartial persons, who should decide whether the workers want too much, and to how to their decision.

The manufacturers, however, who originally started the base and cry of "Bolshevism" against the union and its representatives, intending to imply that the workers are unreasonable in their demands; these fine people, with their pious pretense of reason and moderation, state in their last reply to the International Union that they will no wise agree to arbitration.

It must be clear to all that the cry of Bolshevism against the union is simply throwing sand in the eyes. Bolshevism, in the worst sense of the word, are, indeed, the manufacturers. They act like veritable autocrats. They present their ultimatum and refuse to listen to reason or think of fairness. They impose their will as the sole arbiter.

These "petty despots" must know that under the circumstances public opinion cannot range itself on their side, but must decidedly oppose and reprimand them, because their action is like flinging mud in the face of the public. In the words of their lawyer, they say to the public: You are outsiders; mind your own business; we know better than you how to deal with our wage slaves; your intervention in the last six years has nearly ruined us; therefore hands off!

That is the attitude of the manufacturers' association to the great public. How then can the public do else than brand such audacity as an insult to the entire community? Clearly, from this angle the manufacturers can expect no aid or sympathy. Then, upon what agency do they center their hopes for victory over the workers?

It can be no other than the strange idea that they will enlist on their side the entire brutal forces. Furthermore, that by starving the workers they will force them to accept the impossible conditions and thus smash the union.

If this in the case the workers will plunge into the fight with all the fire of indignant protest against this fell design, fully convinced that the day is not

far off when the employers will regret the hour in which they provoked this strife, which must end for them with the most terrible defeat in their experience.

During the few years that have elapsed in comparative calm in the waist industry the employers have forgotten the great fight, which the Waistmakers' Union gave them nine years ago, even though the union was then so young and poor and inexperienced and helpless. Yet, is there one manufacturer who can recall without a shudder that tremendous upheaval and blow to their business? "I have grown tired of fighting the union," an employer recently told us; "and over again, I vow." Since then the Waist and Dressmakers' Union has become one of the strongest in the land. On one side it is a member in the family of the powerful International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and on the other—a part of the entire labor movement. Through its untold struggles and victories it now occupies one of the foremost places among the organized workers. That infant organization of nine years ago, which forced the manufacturers to be more decent in their dealings with their employees is now a veritable giant; and is it this giant that the manufacturers are provoking to combat? Surely the gods wish to destroy the manufacturers, therefore they made them blind and unbalanced.

The workers have not willed this fight. They have done all in their power to meet the employers before any honest tribunal and accept its verdict, but the latter rejected this proposal. They want to force upon the workers their old time slavery. Like ruthless despots they want to dominate over them in the factories. The curbing of their arbitrary power to discharge workers without due reason they regard as an unusual demand. The right of the worker to his job, when he performs his duty honestly and loyally, they brand as Bolshevism of the worst kind, which they cannot stand for. In their blindness they have not noticed the hands of the clock and do not know that even conservatives who are by no means Bolsheviki recognize the necessity of the worker participating in the management for the good and welfare of the industry in general.

Upon these issues the manufacturers have precipitated the conflict between them and the Union. Well, they shall have it, and in a more intensified form than they have ever imagined.

This is not a controversy the issues of which are obscure and not clearly brought out on both sides. It is a fight upon which the workers are entering with full consciousness of their aims.

First, they know that their employers wish to drag them back to the condition of misery, starvation and slavish helplessness of ten years ago; and they also know what they want: They want, first of all a "proper remuneration" for their labor, even if the manufacturers should have to be satisfied with a thousand dollars less profit every year.

Secondly, they think that under present conditions of perfected machinery, minute division of work and the fact that so many workers are idle, the time has come for a considerable reduction in the hours of labor.

Thirdly, they are weary of the daily and hourly malice of the employers against them and to meet which they have on other means than stoppages, which has exhausted so much of their energy and money. They know that it is sheer hypocrisy on the part of the employers to complain of the stoppages of work. The employers themselves have in most cases, brought the stoppages on by their "diabolical" tricks; now they come and blame them at the door of the workers, as though the workers have any other remedy for the oppressed petty tyranny. To an end to this evil a system must be introduced.

Such are the main issues of the controversy. The workers were ready to submit their demands to persons well-known for honesty and impartiality, but the employers turned down the proposal. It does not suit them to have an arbitrator such as Judge Julian W. Mack, L. D. Brandeis and men of still prominence. In the employer's eyes these men are, as regarded as Bolsheviki. They do not want the public to have a say in their manner of dealing with labor. Suddenly they have become men of principle, not being so concerned for their profits as for their fundamental rights as employers to be privileged any minute to chase a



ECHOES FROM THE AMERICAN LABOR MOVEMENT



By A. Roy.

The Strike in the New York Harbor.

A remarkable demonstration of organized power was presented to a three day strike of 16,000 workers operating the tugboat river craft in the port of New York. A strike of this nature could not last long, yet on the second day the outlook was very serious, for the first time became very difficult. Mayor Hylan, who in 1911 had been elected by the labor vote, threatened the municipal workers with arrest and prosecution, and the press, as usual, leaned over to the side of the exploiting boat owners.

The workers, as will presently be seen, have just grievances. As yet in November the smoldering fire of discontent had not been in, and in the course of the two months the workers suffered to every means in their power to avert a conflict. But the employers have played the same game with them until their patience was exhausted and a strike declared on Thursday morning, January 5.

The employers are partly owners and tug owners and partly officials of the railroad administration under the government, having charge over some of the ferries and other boats. The strike, if prolonged, would have caused something like a famine and acute suffering to the already overtaxed population. Clearly the responsibility rested on the shoulders of the boat owners and railroad administration, since they blocked the efforts of the War Labor Board to adjust the dispute. Many of the boats carry milk, fuel and coal to New York, and this traffic was completely demoralized.

Fortunately President Wilson is a cable message from France to Secretary of Labor Wilson intervened ordering the parties to submit their case to the already named; and the employers and other parties concerned having agreed to do this a strike was willingly called off a strike and returned to work Sunday night.

The workers demanded the 44 hour day, an increase in wages and standardization of conditions throughout the port. There are by no means vacant demands, since the

Railroad Administration granted them to the employees on the coast. But the private owners, bent on profiteering, refused to have the workers' grievances passed on by the War Labor Board, in view of the well-known principles of that body.

The unions involved had rallied upon the New York Board of Arbitration and the National Adjustment Commission at Washington to help avert a strike. Having met with no success in these quarters they finally applied to the National War Labor Board.

On December 21 the board issued an order that the private owners and railroad administration should fill the vacancies on the local adjustment committee that had settled petty disputes during the war. But the employers failed to carry out the order. Thereupon David M. Manly, the joint chairman of the board, recently appointed successor to Frank P. Walsh, issued a statement to the effect that the board was unable to adjust the controversy because the employers failed to recognize its authority or agree to abide by its award. This left the unions no other course than to order a strike.

Six unions of the Marine Workers' Affiliation were involved in the strike: the Master Mates and Pilots' Association; Marine Engineers' Beneficent Association; Harbor Boatmen's Union Local No. 227; Lighter Captain's Union No. 996; Tidewater Boatmen's Union No. 587 and Local 379, International Union of Steam and Operating Engineers.

All traffic was tied up, excepting Federal ships and one boat of each line carrying milk and other necessities.

During the war the wage slaves loyally performed their duties so as not to delay the government's war operations. Now the employers everywhere want to measure strength with the workers. But the more they will bring matters to the breaking point the closer the solidarity will grow in the ranks of labor.

Bethlehem Steel Company Seeks Trouble.

During the war 32,000 workers, employed by the company

of which Millionaire Charles M. Schwab is the president, won an increase of wages and the right to organize. This was awarded them by the War Labor Board on July 31. The management of the company was pledged to enforce the award. But the award has remained a dead letter and now the management is trying to wriggle out of the company's pledges altogether.

Apparently all employers' minds work in the same direction. In war time they feared to antagonize the workers so as to disguise their real complexion under the mask of patriotism. Now they have openly removed their mask and brazenly exhibit their test of profiteering at the workers' expense.

The War Labor Board claims that since officially the war is not over yet, the government should step in and seize the Bethlehem plant; just as it did in the case of the Smith and Wesson Company, which defied the award of the National War Labor Board. The head of the company was summoned to a judicial hearing in Washington, held on January 13, to give the final answer to the demand of the Labor Board.

At this hearing it was understood that the Board would make a test case as to its power. If the power of enforcing its decisions is still vested in it under the President's proclamation of last year, then the company must live up to the award of July 31. If not, the workers will know that the only course open to them is to rely on their own organized power and resources.

A Gain for the Metal Trades.

The metal workers of the company have a department in the American Federation of Labor, and thirteen national and international unions are affiliated with it. During the war the employers conceded the workers demands because of government pressure for production; and the unions strengthened their organized ranks. Now that the demand for labor has considerably lessened, there was a question as to the employers' attitude. Would they maintain peace in the industry or like so many others, adopt a bellicose tone.

A large ship-building company, having plants in Massachusetts, San Francisco, Baltimore, Wilmington, Del. and Elizabeth, N. J., and employing some 75,000 workers, recently concluded an agreement with the thirteen unions of the Metal Department. The agreement provides for an adjustment committee consisting of five representative employers and five representatives of the unions. This is probably a sort of "committee on immediate action" that will consist of one representative of each side in every plant. There will be shop committees who will formulate the desires and grievances of the workers and submit them to

the said representatives for settlement.

The agreement is regarded as a gain for the unions and the workers.

The Mooney Convention in Chicago.

While these lines are being written a labor convention is gathering in Chicago upon the course that should be taken by the labor movement to gain liberty for Tom Mooney and W. K. Billing, whose innocence is practically established. The International Workers' Defense League, which has from the beginning organized the defense of the accused labor men, has made it known that the convention would consider three resolutions: One resolution calls for Federal action in taking Mooney out of the jurisdiction of his would-be executioners. A second resolution calls for Congressional legislation providing for such cases. A third resolution is to the effect that in the event of the former methods proving unsuccessful a nationwide general strike shall be organized.

Almost all the unions of the country are being represented at the convention. Vice President Schuchman represents our International Union as well as the Chicago cloakmakers. J. H. Hoffman, organizer of the Chicago waistmakers, represents Local No. 26, and Local No. 50 of New York as well as Local No. 100 of Chicago. Jacob Heller represents the Reeler makers Local No. 17. Vice President Minfo represents the Italian cloak makers Local No. 48. Local No. 20, Raincoat makers, Local No. 23, Skirt makers and Local of our International Union in Philadelphia, and elsewhere, are in the list of unions represented. Other kindred organizations from New York are the United Hebrew Trades, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, the Cloth Hat and Cap makers, besides many unions affiliated with the C. P. U.

Amalgamated Secures 44 Hours in Chicago.

The well-known firm Hart, Schaffner and Marks, employing some 10,000 workers, has this month entered into agreement with the Amalgamated Clothing Workers granting the forty-four hour working week and an increase in wages. This is a diplomatic victory of considerable significance, which will influence for good the 44-hour movement among other unions.

If Hart, Schaffner and Marks can run their business on the principle of fairness and the short-workday all the tensions of the New York garment manufacturers against the unions fade away into nothingness.

The Conferences in the Fur Industry.

In the fur trade of New York conferences are in progress between the Furriers' Union and the Fur Manufacturers' Association in regard to a proposed (Continued on page 5.)

out of the shop, if it so pleases them. They hold that, as their second right not to be violated. The workers are taking up the struggle not in despair, not in anger, but after thorough deliberation.

The workers are prepared for conflict and do not conceal the fact. They have been preparing for months, because they are too experienced and wise to prevent a rear attack. A sudden assault, as the employers have been planning to do, they find are now repudiating the workers for their preparedness.

No, the weapon of starving of the workers will prove ineffective. Our brave people will be left to starve. The public,

knowing who it is that provokes this war and for what reason, will find this weapon. The moral consciousness of mankind has recently become too strong a weapon in the world of warfare. If as yet the employers do not know it they will soon learn the lesson.

But even though the workers should have to starve they will starve and suffer the direst need willingly, but will not return to their own terms. Never, never will they let the employers encourage the collapse of the union and the reintroduction of their former slavery.

To arms, with full faith and energy and enthusiasm! For victory, great and glorious victory for right and humanity!

AT A MEETING OF THE CLOAKMAKERS' JOINT BOARD

By E. YANOVSKY.

It is already more than two weeks since the meeting of the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union, when the newly elected officers for the current year were duly installed, yet the impression I gleaned there, as well as in my subsequent visits, is so vivid that the numerous events with which our present days abound cannot wipe them out.

That was indeed, a glorious gathering of thoughtful workers who must have called forth the pertinent question even to the minds of the most stubborn pessimist: Has not this time really come when the workers are perfectly ripe and ready to become the possessors of the world? It was quite a revelation to me to witness the earnestness with which the various delegates, all shop workers, wielding the press iron, fingering the needle or operating the machine, bore themselves towards vital and serious questions of the moment. I do not mean here the really impressive and thoughtful address of President Schlesinger and Secretary Baroff of the International Union, or of President Feinberg and Manager Sigman of the Joint Board, good and pointed and earnest as they were, because I expected it of them. I mean that quite many of the rank and file, who are so little known to the outside world, were quite so eloquent and logical, and spoke with quite as much fire and conviction. I particularly enjoyed a certain speech, even though I did not agree with a single word therein. The speaker is known as the "reactionary" of the Joint Board. Yet what frankness and certainty in his argumentation, what power in the analysis of the question, and what toleration on the part of the hundreds of his listeners regardless of the fact that they represented a diametrically opposite view? Yes, it is indeed a gathering which enthused and made one strong in the faith and hope that the world, the future, belongs to those who will now have been considered the pariahs of society.

Such was the character of the entire meeting. But its most impressive and sacred moment — an unforgettable moment — occurred when the President of the International Union took the floor upon a very important, though very delicate matter, namely, the matter of the present great strike of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, and asked the Joint Board to pledge to their strike fund not less than a sum of \$50,000.

Here was a suggestion to practice large-hearted solidarity under most difficult circumstances. First, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers is beyond the pale, so to say, of the official American labor movement; secondly, the relations between the cloakmakers and the clothing workers have re-

cently been strained on account of the accusation of the former from the shops of the latter engaged on military work; thirdly, there was even a more weighty consideration: the International Union, in itself, on the eve of a great struggle, when every ear in the transcripts of the various local councils. Naturally it was to be expected that President Schlesinger's suggestion should call forth strenuous opposition and be voted down.

My curiosity was keenly aroused. I was eager to see whether the worker, in a moment of fierce struggle waged by his brothers and sisters not directly affiliated with him, would lift himself above his grievances, forget his own need of the hour and come to feel that this is not the time for petty reasoning, but that it is the time for true magnanimity. I hoped for the manifestation of this feeling, though I felt much anxiety whether the assembled delegates would stand the hard test. And it was really one of the greatest moments in my life to see the splendid result. Regardless of every consideration that may have swayed their minds the Joint Board voted by a large majority to raise the sum of \$50,000. Truly, I do not know whether many gatherings are capable of attaining to such moral heights.

I thought: If only the clothing employers were present and saw with their own eyes the wonderful scene, the greatness of the true fraternal manifestation — would they not understand the futility of their fight against the clothing strikers? Would they not realize the fact that when the workers have attained to such a marvellous degree of solidarity, before actually prepared to give their last penny to their brothers in arms, even though those brothers had so recently acted unexpectedly foolish toward them — yes, if the employers were present and understood the meaning of that noble action they would see the stupidity of their resistance; that in fighting the clothing workers they are literally fighting the entire labor movement of New York, and would abandon their senseless, futile obstinacy.

Equally impressive would the meeting have proved to the waist and dress manufacturers who are preparing to engage in battle with their employees, when they have to thank for all they possess. They would realize how foolish is their campaign against the union in the shape of displayed advertisements, in which they denounce as dangerous "Bolsheviki" the very people who are capable of such great and noble action. They, the waist manufacturers, would see that by such slanderous statements they make themselves rather ridiculous in the eyes of the New York pub-

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW WEEKLY

PRESIDENT SCHLESINGER'S CONGRATULATIONS

The first issue of our weekly publication in English, Jewish and Italian marks the fulfillment of a long-felt wish on the part of a large majority of our membership throughout the country and the carrying out into practice a resolution adopted at the Cleveland Convention in 1914 and reaffirmed at the subsequent conventions in Philadelphia and Boston, to amalgamate all the local publications into one organ published by the International Union. It is hardly necessary for me to state the reason for the inevitable delay in completing the amalgamation. At first, the locals publishing their own organs were not favorably inclined towards this step. Then, we were called upon to defend our organization against attacks by the manufacturers, and this period of strikes in New York and other parts of the country which obscured all our time and attention, lasted for almost five years. Another important obstacle was that we were not able to enlist the services of an editor of high calibre, such as would insure the prestige and success of the publication.

Now, at last, our cherished desire for the unification of our press has been realized. We are glad to state that we have been fortunate in securing the services of Brother S. Yanovsky, the very able publicist and editor for many years of the "Free Labor Voice". As an editor of "Justice", our weekly publication, and we are retaining on the staff Brother A. Rosebury, the editor of our defunct official publication, "The Ladies' Garment Worker", and Brother Leo Finkelstein, formerly with the "New Post", the organ of the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union, and many others. Brother Elias Lieberman, formerly chief clerk of the Waist and Dressmakers' Union, is in charge of the business management of the publication. We wish to assure our locals and members everywhere that we shall strive to produce the best, most interesting and readable trade union paper that can be published.

I heartily congratulate our locals and members on this latest achievement of the International Union. We feel certain that "Justice" will be a source of instruction and enlightenment to our members and will add power and prestige to the International Union.

BENJAMIN SCHLESINGER.

We Stand for Justice

Dear Friend S. Yanovsky

With genuine hearty joy I am sending you congratulations on the birth of Justice.

The selection of the name Justice symbolizes our movement.

Justice is what we stand for. True, very often we have to fight to obtain justice.

It is true, that when we speak of our International Union as a labor organization it would be more appropriate that its organ should be named "The Fighter", for the reason that our great organization is full of the fighting spirit. Yet it seems to me that Justice is a more suitable name, because our aim is to secure justice for the wronged, the oppressed; and this struggle is only a means to this end. Hence I repeat, that the name Justice for our organ is a happy idea.

Our organ Justice comes into the world at a time when one of our biggest locals, the Waist and Dressmakers' Union, numbers its membership for battle to secure justice, and to demonstrate, comrades and friend Yanovsky, that I bless the moment when we obtained your consent to undertake the task of editing our Justice.

The record you have attained during the long years in which you have fought bravely in the advance ranks of labor and, by your pen, have taught them and led them to a better life, is a good guarantee.

Your name, my friend, in connection with our paper as its supervisor and guide, assures us that Justice will be a paper which will bring light and knowledge into the minds of the workers and will kindle the hearts of our members with the faith that only in unity there is strength.

With a sense of security do we look to the future. Our hearts throb with the hope that our aims will be attained. And now, while we are on the threshold of a bitter conflict with the dress and waist manufacturers to secure justice for our members, we feel that in Justice and its editor we have acquired an invaluable force which will help to lead the workers of our industries to victory.

Congratulations to our International Union for its great achievement of a weekly organ. We wish that Justice may carry forth all our hopes and aspirations.

(Continued on page 5.)

lic, and that in spite of their fabricated epithets the world is bound to sympathize with the workers. True, the waist makers have presented certain demands; but as strong is their sense of justice of their claims that they are ready, at any moment, to submit them to arbitration, while they, the employers, although they spend so lavishly to poison public opinion by large advertisements in the press, yet they fear to submit their "painful" grievances to impartial, honest opinion.

Thus I have come to this

conclusion: even though these other employers or most sinister do — the workers, what will it be then, when they have arrayed against them such workers? I saw that that meeting of the Joint Board? How can they even measure strength with them? In moral force, never! In money? I would say that people who can give \$50,000 to other workers on strike at a time when they themselves are entering upon a great struggle — against such workers money is the weakest and most contemptible weapon.

JUSTICE

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FROM THE EDITOR'S NOTE BOOK

A Few Personal Remarks

I confess to being somewhat nervous. It seems to me that to be the editor of a great labor paper is a very difficult task. Yet from all sides come assurances of confidence which is truly touching and full of promise. And I ask myself: Will you be able to fulfill these great hopes and expectations? Yes, I feel truly nervous and I can assure my many friends that I will spare no energy to justify, at least in slight measure, all the great hopes placed in me, although I know how hard it will be.

For, if I were quite unknown or at least not quite so known, I might sometimes by a good story early or a strong word express myself and the world would be so kind as to overlook the possibility of gradual revealing to self and others would be highly interesting. Fortunately are the young, the unknown, for whom the possibility of revealing and refuting themselves is so great. But so, however, is it the case with him, who is already popular, who has already revealed all that is in him. However well he might accomplish a certain task, he will constantly overbear the remark: "Well, should he not have known this?"

Besides, such a remark is an embarrassing, so full of disappointment. He who is so unfortunate as to have acquired slight popularity, must not, cannot be content with having performed a pretty good job, the words "pretty good" are so painful to the unfortunate person one must, to satisfy himself and others, surpass himself and the expectations of all his friends. And since this is rarely possible, the inevitable result is disappointment, unfulfilled expectations and, sometimes, perhaps the bitter observation: "Oh, everyone could do this." I therefore request all those who contemplate addressing gratitudes to Justice and its editor, to be more reserved with their compliments. Perhaps this will be a cure to my nervousness.

The Name of our Journal

"Next I did not quite favor the word 'justice'—and to both, as something outstanding rather much, and as something very indelible. In reality, who does not know, that the justice of today can become the injustice of tomorrow, and vice versa? I desired a more simple name, without so many pretensions, for Justice is not something trivial. Are we always just, and must we always be just? Does not the fact that people sometimes are and can be unjust give to the a certain grace? Then, is

it not rather too much to ask of frail, sinful man to be ever just? And if it were possible, would it not be a bore?

Besides, I fear that we may be too often confronted with the remark: "Some 'Justice' this is, eh?"

So I did not favor the name. But now that the name is here I am beginning to feel more conciliatory toward it, and am even becoming satisfied that the name of our paper is JUSTICE. I am, however, anxious that it should be rightly interpreted. The name of our paper does not imply that we imagine that all we have done or will do will be permeated with justice. I cannot vouch for that. But I can promise that in all our actions it will be our earnest endeavor to live up to the spirit of justice as we conceive it; and lest we should forget it, there will be ever before our eyes the name JUSTICE.

Our Program

It is the ambition of the editor, first of all, to induce the reader to read his own paper. That he should not feel that the paper is forced upon him, but—rather that he should impatiently await its appearance from week to week. When the editor assumed this position of great responsibility and honor, which he profoundly appreciates, he thought to himself: "All your life you have been addressing a more or less limited circle of people. True, you have been well known to them, and nothing can separate them from you or you from them. Yet, there is also the desire to speak to the great masses, to those whom it would not harm to hear you. Your hope that they would come to you, to the small, sacred temple you have erected has not been realized. Perhaps now it would be no more than right that you should come to them!" And acting in accordance with the old saying: "If the mountain does not come to Mohamed, Mohamed must go to the mountain." I undertake this great responsible position.

But that will only be true when the people will read the paper. If not, the effort will be in vain. Hence I have decided, in order that the paper should be read, the reader must find it highly interesting in the fullest sense of the term, if not at once, then by degrees. It must become the mirror of the mental, physical, emotional and social life of every member of the great International Union. The entire union with all its varied activities, large or small, important and unimportant, must be reflected in its pages.

If the paper can aid in this

work in any common way it should exist.

The paper must be the reader's friend, his thum, his guide, his mouth, eyes and ears. I do not mean that the reader should cease using his own vital organs. I mean that the paper should help the organs to function much better and fuller than heretofore. It should strengthen his power in use, in hear, in talk.

The International Union has still to become known through the paper to tens of thousands of its members. The loose bond now existing, and perhaps the apathy, the indifference to the fact that the entire union, with all its achievements, is to most members a closed book, to JUSTICE we shall strive to put an end to this lack of knowledge, and thereby the union will gain in power and efficacy to an extent scarcely to be imagined.

I should much like to unfold all my plans to our brothers and sisters; but this would take up too much space. I had hoped that already the first number would afford an idea of what I intend to do. But it so happens that even in this first number we must engage in a great battle for our union and our rights; and naturally this is not the time and the opportunity to carry out the program. Now the slogan is: fight and keep up the fight! And so it ever will be, when the union or any part thereof will be called upon to wage its daily struggles. Yet I am certain that in the interval we should succeed in making our paper so vivid and interesting, so indispensable to the reader that there shall be no question of not reading it.

No doubt there are many reasons why the preceding organs of the International Union, now amalgamated in Justice have not been read with avidity and therefore did not have the necessary influence. In the next issue we shall begin a discussion on this question in an initial article by a contributor, who apparently knows his subject. I urge the readers to participate in the discussion, in order to ascertain the precise reasons why the members of the International Union have been strangers to their own publications. I believe that we shall learn much from the shortcomings of our worthy predecessors.

Let me stress the point that "readers" includes our women readers, just as "workers" covers our women workers. The term man, in my opinion, includes both sexes who are either workers or better from one another.

But let us return to the subject of our program, as to which I have promised, I want to say one more word. The paper is the organ of the International. Hence it will deal with all that is useful and interesting to this great and powerful labor organization. But at the same time, I believe, it will be the organ of the workers in general, and nothing that touches the worker, in whatever trade he may be employed, will be foreign to Justice.

Another word: A paper is like a living being, and like every living being, must achieve perfection all at once, it must develop. Intelligent critics might gain an idea from this whether

with the paper will be a few weeks later. Others will learn to have patience. The condition, both of the International Union, and the editor is to make Justice the leading organ in the labor world.

One of the Arguments of the Dress and Waist Manufacturers

Should Be Demanded. The dress and waist manufacturers have a grievance against the Waist and Dressmakers' Union. In the last few months there have been not less than 300 stoppages in different shops. They complain that the workers have been in the habit of suspending work suddenly. If the employers' statement is correct, we can come to no other conclusion than that the waistmakers are out of their senses. The dress and waist manufacturers are therefore very angry with the union for having failed to discipline such workers, and they insist that in the event of stoppages being made in the future, the act should be regarded as one by which the workers exclude themselves from the shops and cannot be reinstated.

I think that these 300 stoppages in ten months are the strongest indictment against the employers. If only they had a modicum of sagacity the figure would shame them. I cannot imagine that the workers should suspend operations without cause, and thus hurt themselves and their by no means large earnings. One worker may sometimes lose his temper; but that thousands of workers should be seized with the same madness of stopping work—does not ring logical or true. I am therefore certain that most stoppages have resulted from violent, disgraceful insults, which no one with a sense of dignity can pass over in silence; or they resulted from grievous annoyance. I therefore invite those who can express themselves in writing to write to Justice, telling us some of the reasons for these stoppages. Let the world know the truth. Those who cannot write—which is by no means to their dishonor, so long as we are aware of the fact—are requested to come to our office at 21 Union Square, and communicate with me verbally. I do not promise to publish all letters or reveal all I may hear. Some of the facts may be of such a nature as cannot have publicity. However, the most important facts will be imparted to our readers.

Heartly Congratulations to Our Sister Organization, the Amalgamated.

It was an admirable, a brilliant move. I mean the gain of the forty-four hour week in Chicago, conceded by the firm Hart-Schaffner & Marks. All those who helped to bring it about, especially Brother Adney Hillman, the president of the Amalgamated Union, may be proud of the victory. The fact has with one blow taken the wind out of the sails of the New York employers, and their rickety boat is now on the sands. Their contentions that a forty-four hour week spells ruin for the entire clothing industry has lost all its force. The world can and will now answer them that what is possible for Hart, Schaffner & Marks should also be possible for the New York clothing manufacturers.



THE CAUSE SPREADS OVER LAND AND SEA

by William Morris Folgenbaum.



There is no land where there is no industry that is free from the labor movement. There is no land in which there is no exploitation and hunger and death from the ruthless exploitation of the workers to monopolize themselves from danger and exploitation.

Today, in the class of the workers, the workers are rapidly assuming the historic role that is theirs by right. In land after land it is becoming increasingly apparent that there is no problem but the labor problem; that no one is going to solve the labor problem but the workers themselves.

In a notable speech that President Wilson delivered to the Congress of Socialists in Turin the other day, he declared in words brimming with meaning and sentences shot through and through with thoughts that at least of a bourgeois nation were allowed before, these sentences:

"Therefore you think of the members of your government and the members of other governments who are going to enter in the City of Paris as the real makers of war and peace. But we are not. **YOU ARE THE MAKERS OF WAR AND PEACE.** The peace of the modern world hangs on the farms and in the mines and in the factories."

And so Milan, a day or so later, he uttered those remarks, more pregnant than the words in Turin.

"I am so keenly aware, I assure, as anyone, can be, of the social structure rests upon the great working classes of the world, and that these working classes in several countries of the world have by their consciousness of community of interest, by their consciousness of community of spirit, done perhaps more than any other in the world to establish a world opinion which is not of a nation, which is not of a continent, but which is the opinion of mankind."

These speeches were directed not to kings, not to diplomats, but to vast audiences of working people; they were delivered in great cheering multitudes who came to him waving red flags, they came singing the workers' Marseillaise.

And these thoughts, seeing what the advance guard of the workers have always said, do not mean that our President is converted to the point of view of the international labor movement; they do not mean that President Wilson has become an international Socialist. They mean that at the peace table, there will be no thought more predominant than the demands of Labor; that Labor's needs, Labor's hopes, Labor's dream, and the dominance of Labor's revolt, will stand first place. And at the table in the Hall of Mirrors at Versailles, the thought of the labor uprisings in Central and Eastern Europe will be the ghost that will not down.

Meanwhile, as the workers are ready to assume power in our country after another in Europe, there are other parts in which the struggle between Labor and the master class is assuming striking form, and in which there is being enacted the same drama that we have in Europe and in America.

Latin America, although in the Western Hemisphere, has hitherto been more European than American. And so it happens that while our capitalists have been looking to the South with greedy eyes for the great spheres of exploitation that they can find there, the workers have been practically blind to South American events.

For years, American capitalists have been striving to penetrate the Southern continent; great business organizations have established branches there, and a whole propaganda has been carried on to wrest the business of the South American countries, first from the Germans and then from England.

It is necessary to know of the business penetration of South America by American capitalism in order to realize the great significance of the awakening of labor that is threatening to make of Latin America an industrial battleground second to no other part of the world.

Uruguay is a small nation, only about as large as New York and New Jersey together, with a population half as large as that of Brooklyn. It is a progressive country, with a rapidly developing labor movement. In that country also, there is a strong and virile Socialist party, which in 1911, secured representation in the Chamber of Representatives.

As a result of general war conditions, the workers there recently prepared to strike for better living conditions. The plans for the strike grew so rapidly that soon they assumed the proportions of a general strike. The whole harbor was tied up and shipping was at a standstill. The capital, Montevideo, a flourishing city of about 400,000 people, felt the strike acutely, and the Government took action.

Declaring that the strike was the work of "foreigners," mostly Russian Maximilians, the president of the Republic mobilized the entire army against the workers, and terrorized them into temporarily calling off the strike.

The charge of "foreigners" has a peculiarly familiar sound. It would seem as if no one thinks of leading the labor movement in his own country. He must go to another country, to be a properly qualified "foreigner"—in the eyes of the bourgeois press and government.

Shortly before the Uruguayan outbreak, there was a great labor disturbance in Cuba, which for all we know to the contrary, is still going on. A feature of the labor movement throughout the world is the absolute silence of the capital-

ist press, wherever they can successfully keep silence, until there is an opportunity to lie and misrepresent the aspirations of the workers. Then there is an avalanche of so-called "news."

The Cuban conflict began as a strike on the Cuba Railways. The workers went out to secure certain demands. As the bitterness of the struggle grew, workers in other lines of activity went out in sympathy, until nearly the whole of Havana and parts of the rest of the Island Republic were tied up by the walk-out.

The railroad workers soon secured their demands, but still the strike went on. For it began to develop into a general strike with demands that were not economic so much as political. For instance, the workers demanded the immediate end of compulsory military service. They demanded the repeal of certain anti-labor laws, including laws limiting the right of workers to strike.

In Cuba, as in Uruguay, the Government took a hand. The strikers were denounced as "foreigners" and agitators and threatened in the papers there. In this case, however, the "foreigners" were supposed to be Spaniards—not Russians. The supply of Russians seems to have given out. The strikers took to parading under the red flag. The Government saw visions of a general tie-up of the harbor, for the harbor workers were solidly with the strikers. Thereupon, the government took to the use of convicts and army trucks on the docks, in order that the workers might be beaten by governmental scabbing.

Some of the incidents of the strike were amusing. Havana is a sort of an island Paris, with its gay cafe life; the perfumed dandies saw their gilded calves closed to them. Thereupon the proprietors themselves had to wait upon their patrons, serving canned foods. Street car traffic was stopped in the capital; there was no electric or gas service in Mantanzas; altogether, the strike spread with the rapidity of a prairie fire. The capitalist papers were wild. Some of them made believe to treat it as a joke—thereby showing that they were thoroughly frightened.

But others went to the limit. They threatened the one thing that Cubans fear most, namely, American intervention.

And since that threat was made, not a whisper of the strike has come out of the island. The news censorship has shut down tight. Columns of the sorrows of prominent Cubans at the death of Theodore Roosevelt, but not a line about the biggest thing happening there. The progress of news know their business, and so do they serve those who pay them.

In connection with the labor disturbances in the Latin American countries, it is well to take note of capitalist connections in those countries.

There is a short news item in the Wall Street Journal, for example, stating that Brazil is reducing her import duties by 20 per cent to countries favoring her similarity. That is, the greatest nation of South America is looking for favors, and in return, will do favors. The nature of the favors is becoming more and more manifest; they are concessions, worth millions.

The Argentine is a wonderful country. It has as its capital city Buenos Aires, with a population of nearly 2,000,000; it is thoroughly capitalist, and its principal capitalist newspaper is La Nacion.

Recently, the editor of that journal went to England, and in an interview given to Northcliffe's London Times, he says: "Since the armistice was signed, we have been able to see through our New York office the great interest that is being developed in South American trade. The same thing is likely to occur here (England). . . . I believe myself that newspaper offices should be the advisers and distributors of information. This applies particularly to trade matters."

The strike movement that began in Montevideo, there to be brutally suppressed by the government, soon reached across the great La Plata river to Buenos Aires. In the latter city, there is a powerful labor movement, headed by members of the great Partido Socialista, the largest party in the capital city in point of votes cast and served by the great Socialist newspaper, "Vanguardia."

The first outbreak there was a strike of iron workers in the Vasena iron works in the outskirts of the city. The police and firemen attacked the strikers, and a battle, lasting three hours, resulted, with five killed and thirty wounded. The men sought to tie up the iron works; the city authorities sought to prevent them, and the result was the battle. The next move is to be a strike of the harbor workers—after that a general strike.

The harbor workers, indeed, went out the same day that a New York harbor was tied up, and there the tie-up was complete.

The workers in the textile mills in Brazil, in and near Rio de Janeiro, fought their employees to a standstill, securing from them a "protocol" some time early in December, which guarantees them a 56 hour week, and a minimum wage. Not a word of all it secures upon recognition. The "protocol" is said to have been modeled upon the Protocol of our workmen.

There are some of the outward manifestations of the great labor unrest that is following Capitalist penetration into Latin America. The movement is running broad, and deep and now, the greatest step of all is imminent; that is, international action.

In 1915, the American Federation of Labor selected Gar-

IMPRESSIONS OF THE LABOR PARTY CONVENTION

By A. R.

On the morning of the 10th of June, I took the South American Express and spent back on the labor movement. I arrived in the city, and at the Baltimore convention in 1916, reported that there was a real labor movement in every developed country, and that in every case, it was under the leadership of the Socialists.

The inquiry resulted in the calling of the Pan-American Labor Conference that met a few weeks ago at Laredo, Texas, in the Mexican border. There were representatives of the workers of Mexico, of the Central American countries, and of Porto Rico, as well as the United States. But not of the powerful labor movements in Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, Chile and Peru. It is said that they distrusted the auspices under which that conference was called.

But now another congress is being called, at which the attempt will be made to form an American International.

The threatened war between Chile and Peru is the occasion. The capitalists of South America are getting ready for a war over the rich nitrate fields in the provinces of Arica and Tacna, torn from Peru and Bolivia in 1879. Since that year, there have been no diplomatic relations between the two governments. At Peru and Chile, and the armies have been kept in readiness for them.

But it is of vast significance to know that the workers of the two countries have not broken off relations. They have organized what is known as the Centro Latino Americano - Latin American Center. Presided over by a union printer, Alberto J. Montes, the workers of the two countries maintain the warmest and the friendliest relations; and there have been frequent meetings of the two nations in the brotherhood of Labor.

Now, the various capitalist nations of the world want to exploit the nitrate fields of Arica and Tacna. Suddenly, therefore, the two nations get to quarreling again over their possessions. It is of vast interest to one nation, or another to own these natural resources, being exploited by another nation. It pays. So Chile and Peru are getting ready to fight - not for honor, but for the privilege of selling concessions - for the swag.

This is the signal to the labor movement. Vast meetings are being held by the Socialists to prevent the war. And best of all, the Argentine Partido Socialista has called for a convention of the Socialists of all American countries at Buenos Aires to meet soon, to prevent this war, and to cement the bonds of the brotherhood of toil in all the lands this side of the Atlantic.

Life's great interest arises from the panorama of unexpected occurrences. This is true of the convention called for the Central Federated Union of New York and held on Saturday and Sunday in the Yorkville Casino, with the object of forming an Independent Labor Party for Greater New York.

Upon receiving the invitation practical people asked each other: How does the Central Federated Union fit into this movement and what success can be assured for the new organization? It initiated by its leadership? Some people seem to forget that we are living in a new age of convulsive changes and world revolutions; and judging from past experience they believe that the conservatives of the C. F. U. are spreading a political net for the unwary organized labor forces of New York. But can all the people be deceived all the time.

Radical unions rightly suspected that the same C. F. U. which only a year ago planned annihilation of the United Hebrew Trades and its affiliated unions was not capable of ensuring that unity and harmony essential to the success of a Labor party. Then, some thought, the members of the Socialist party cannot permit the formation of a sort of opposition party that might alienate many of its supporters.

But the realities of life have removed all doubt and questionings. The whole spirit of the convention, the radical platform and program adopted unanimously, the large representation of Socialist union men, the revolutionary tone prevailing from beginning to end, and the satisfaction in the ranks with the result of the two days' labor - all this is a great surprise. Only three days before, such a result was hardly expected.

"The world do move;" and it moves partly for the reason that some people possessing more impudence than foresight want the world to stand still; they even try to turn back the hands of the clock. The end of the war, the question of demobilization, the fact that discharged soldiers are already seeking employment and finding none while men in uniform are begging in the streets; the brassiness of leading employers, who immediately upon the second day after the armistice had been signed came out with a demand for longer hours, reduction in wages and the open shop - all this and other reasons have brought home to enlightened workers the necessity for an Independent Labor party in America. And the new party is grimly determined to break away completely from old political parties and follow the course of England's Labor party.

Old conservatives of the C. F. U. have seen the light of day as reflected in the Socialist principles of the British Labor party and even in the principles of the American Socialist party. And the same process of dawning in the mind of the Labor giant is apparent throughout the country. In Chicago the new Labor party has already selected its municipal ticket.

Here is the platform of the American Labor Party of Greater New York:

If we, the workers, are to enjoy freedom and embrace our full opportunities in the new nation about to emerge out of the suffering and sacrifice of the great world conflict now closed, it behooves labor to formulate its own program of fundamental, social, economic and political change and establish an Independent American Labor party to carry out that program. If we are to escape from the decay of civilization, we must insure that what is presently to be built is a social order based not on fighting, but on fraternity; not on competitive struggle for the means of bare life, but on deliberately planned co-operation in production and distribution by and for the benefit of all who participate with hand or brain; not on the inequality of riches, but on a systematic approach toward a healthy equality of material circumstances for every person born in the world. There should be no subject nations, subject races, subject colonies, subject peoples, or a subject sex; but in industry as well as in government, we propose to build on that equal freedom, that general consciousness of consent, and that widest possible participation in power, both economic and political which is characteristic of democracy.

The program is actually such as every Socialist can conscientiously endorse. Public ownership of public utilities, full freedom in every respect, the worker's right in his job, 100 per cent taxation of incomes above \$100,000, a working week of 44 hours and other vital reforms - all which cannot be more radically expressed.

Right on the first day of the convention there was something in the general atmosphere which foretold harmonious accord. The chairman - William Cohen of the Upholsterers' Union - a past member of the Socialist party and the other convention officers were elected unanimously. Save a few erratic points of orders, no one manifested opposition to the leaders. DeBelle, a Socialist delegate, demanded that the committees be elected from the floor. "We shall favorably consider additional nominations," came back from the leaders. Thereupon several delegates were nominated and, upon intimating their acceptance, were added to the committees without question.

East Side unions were practically all represented at the convention and their delegates evinced enthusiasm for the new movement. True, the radicals who love the Socialist party, assumed a watchful demanor and took an inconspicuous part in the proceedings. Being known as strict party members they evidently declined to commit themselves in view of the fact that officially the Socialist party has not as yet announced its position. According to report many prominent and active party members are sympathetic to

the new movement. James Jacobson, who, as a visitor watched the entire proceedings from the gallery, and, subsequently, at the request of the chairman addressed the convention, indirectly confirmed this report.

Our cloakmakers' locale were well represented; likewise our local No. 25, 62, 38, 41, 46, No. 8, Shore and A. Ellner were also represented in the committee. The Fur Workers, Cloth Hat and Capsmakers, Fancy Leather Goods Workers, Boot and Shoe Workers were fully represented. Max Fine and H. Gordon represented the United Hebrew Trades.

The New York Women's Trade Union League was represented by its entire regular delegation, and Rose Schneiderman, its president and a well-known Socialist, was one of the speakers.

Two locals of the United Garment Workers were represented. But the Amalgamated Clothing Workers was absent, not because of any official hint to the union that the presence of its delegates was undesired, but because of a vague impression in its own circles that they would not be admitted. Had they, however, appeared, there would have been no question about their credentials. James Holland and other reactionaries have no more voice in the councils of the now enlightened Central Federated Union.

If it should seem remarkable that the Hebrew workers who are such loyal adherents to the Socialist party, are so enthusiastic for the new movement, it might be explained:

Possibly they are disappointed with the election results of the last few years. In 1917 we had all thought that at last we were going to reap the fruits of many years agitation, and that as soon as Socialist representatives will gain an inroad into the legislatures their number will grow and increase with every year. But the last elections were a humiliating setback and many ascribe the defeat to disharmony within. That opinion may not be correct; but a profound disappointment does prevail in the organizations composed of a large Jewish element.

In view of the present attitude of the employing class, showing that while the world is advancing they remain stationary, cherishing sinister desires of dragging us back to the dark bondage of old times, it behooves us not only to be watchful but to close up our ranks and present a solid phalanx. The new movement for an Independent Labor party promises to effect political as well as economic unity. While the new Labor party has not adopted the Socialist designation, it nevertheless aims at the realization of the Socialist ideal not less than socialists.

A small number of people are capable of raw courage to run against the stream and suffer martyrdom. But the masses do not possess such energy, preferring to go slow and follow a moderate program that does not incite defiance. They do not feel sure of their freedom and

(Continued from page 1.)

been agreed upon to come in force next February. One of the principal demands is the 44-hour week.

A second demand, strongly emphasized by the workers, is the introduction of one wage rolling throughout the year, instead of a higher wage from July to December and a lower wage from January to the end of June. By this old-time system the fur workers receive smaller pay in January and June even if the trade is very busy.

Interesting is the minimum scale proposed by the union for the workers of various grades of skill. The minimum for first class workers is from \$60 to \$12 a week; second class workers, from \$45 to \$42. For beginners \$15 a week is called for, and gradual increases during a short period, culminating in the prescribed minimum. The union further demands that certain skins hitherto listed in the second class, shall now be transferred to the first class, which means lifting the workers to a higher position.

In the last two years the Furriers' Union has become a compact organization of great power. It has created a special defence fund of \$100,000. Its members are keenly interested in the affairs of the union and attend their meetings in large numbers. The manufacturers know that they have to reckon with an organization that cannot be damaged or broken. Then the industry is in excellent condition, and it is hardly credible that the employers will put up a serious resistance.

Early this month the General Executive Board of the International Fur Workers' Union held its semi-annual meeting in St. Paul and made all arrangements for dealing with the New York situation and for organizing campaigns in other cities.

Congratulations.

(Continued from page 2.)
pirations and help us in their realization.

We wish that Justice under the leadership of so true a teacher of labor as you are, will be to our members a comrade, a friend and outpost in our struggle.

I greet all the members of our International Union and hope that they will have cause to be proud of their paper.

Your true friend,
AB. BAROVY,
Sec.-Treas. of the Int. Union.

answer questions or give what information is possible in this matter. Write to the department at the above address.

S. LIBERTY,
Educational Organizer.

Saturday, January 11th 1919, long before the hour set for the mass meeting of the Italian Waist and Drummakers, the auditorium of the Peoples' House was completely packed, and many people were unable to gain admittance.

The chairman, Mr. Lombard, gave a brief outline of the present situation and then Mr. Antonelli, officer of the union and editor of "L'Operaio," explained in detail how the manufacturers have forced the union to call a general strike. This the union must do to preserve its existence. He pointed out how last July, during the session of the Board of Arbitration, Harry Gordon, counsel for the association, grossly insulted the members of the Board by saying that outsiders should not be called in to solve the problems confronting the trade. At this point Mr. Antonelli's remark, as to whether Mr. Gordon belonged to the industry, evoked great hilarity. He proceeded to show how the union had tried every means to avoid a strike and was willing to have the matter placed before a Board of Arbitration, while the manufacturers have advertised extensively in the newspapers, as well as in his Italian daily paper, "Il Progresso," in order to hoodwink the public by placing the responsibility of the strike on the union.

The speaker read the letter that President Schlesinger of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union under date of January 5th, had addressed to the manufacturers, and when he announced that the manufacturers did not wait for the time limit of eight days given them to reply, but immediately answered with an arrogant NO! the audience broke into loud indignation.

He evoked great enthusiasm when he stated that the manufacturers still hold a vain hope that the Italian workers will be strike breakers, and the enthusiasm was intense when he recalled the historic fact of Charles VIII invasion into Italy, when he had tried to impose miserable conditions upon the people of Florence, and Citizen Pierre Capoue, tearing the proclamation, had cried, "Give voice to your trumpets, for we will ring our bells." The Italian Waist and Drummakers, the speaker said, will surely not betray the traditions of liberty of their race, by accepting the degrading conditions which the manufacturers wish to impose upon the workers, and will reply with the same cry, "Give voice to your trumpets, for we will ring our bells."

Judge Panken addressed a few warm words to the gathering and brought out the fact that while today the workers put in only 48 hours a week, they produce a great deal more than when they worked 57, 58 and 60 hours a week, due to the perfection of machinery and section systems introduced by the manufacturers. This, said Judge Panken, was greatly to their benefit and not to that of the workers. So that, if the waist and drummakers today ask for shorter hours and more pay, they are only demanding that to which they are entitled.

Julius Panken urged the Jewish and Italian workers to be united and solid in their determined front against the employers, who make no distinction between races but prefer whom-ever they can best exploit.

Lawyer Canedo, Journalist and Director of the official organ a file Order of the Sons of Italy, one of the largest organizations in America aroused great enthusiasm. He called the Italian women to their duties and appealed to them not to fall below the women of other nationalities, but uphold their dignity by demonstrating to the manufacturers their close affiliation with their union, the only safeguard of their rights.

The other speakers were Di-doni, Crivello and Paolo, who are influential in the Italian branch and whose remarks evoked enthusiastic applause.

A resolution was adopted with three ringing cheers, denouncing the attitude of the manufacturers and endorsing the efforts of the Executive Board of the union to bring about an amicable settlement, failing which, the officers were authorized to call a general strike.

OUR EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

(Continued from page 5.)
The Epiphany branch of the N. Y. Public Library every Friday afternoon.

The periodical concerts are given in various places where our members assemble, and many activities too numerous to mention help to make up a program of which any labor union may be proud.

The courses and classes can be reached by all our members free of charge. All they have to do is to register and get their admission card, by applying either to their own local secretaries, or at the office of the Educational Department, 31 Union Square, Room 1902, every day between 9 A. M. to 5 P. M.

We should like to hear from members of the International Union in reference to educational activities conducted in their own locale, and we shall gladly

... that is why they must ...
... that is why they must ...
... that is why they must ...

When Edward Hannan, the President of the C. P. U. announced at the opening of the convention that all labor and business organizations will be admitted, to assure the upbuilding of a strong labor movement, all the delegates were agreeably surprised. When, almost to the same breath, he declared that they were prepared to unite with the radicals and embrace their principles, it is safe to imagine how the declaration elicited from the 315 delegates present.

And when the same Hannan, toward the close of the convention, declared that even though for twenty years he had been a Tammany man he had now come to the conviction that the only salvation for the workers is to be politically independent and not have no dealings with the old capitalist parties the delegates felt that the leaders of the C. P. U. were earnest in their declared convictions.

James Boyle of the Brooklyn Central Labor Union presented a second example of the new open penetrating attitude of labor men everywhere. He was the chairman of the committee on platform and program of the new party. Readily Boyle seemed to embody every amendment suggested by Socialist delegates to give the program a more radical aim.

The earnestness, here as in Chicago and other cities, is a mark of the times—clear evidence that the air is replete with change and revolution.

ONE MORE HEARING IN THE CLEVELAND CLOAK SITUATION

On Saturday, January 11, another hearing was held on the Cleveland cloak situation, before Major Rosenbaum, one of the board of referees appointed by Secretary of War Baker to settle the cloak strike waged in Cleveland last summer.

Our union was represented at the hearing by International President Schlesinger and Vice President Pearlstein, our Cleveland organizer. Owing to technical reasons the union had to be represented by counsel, and the well-known advocate, Max H. Winter, had been engaged for the purpose.

The Cleveland manufacturers were represented by Mr. Maurice Black and Mr. Frankel, the attorney for the association. The question turned mainly on the claim of back pay.

It will be remembered that when both parties had agreed to submit the matter to the Board of Referees it was expressly stipulated that the workers should be paid back wages as from August 1.

So far, only a small number of workers in the inside factories have received this back pay, while as yet the majority have not received satisfaction in this regard. Thus the said hearing was held at the request of the union which claimed the unpaid back pay for the workers concerned.

Incidentally President Schlesinger raised the question of es-

tablishing a machinery for the adjustment of disputes occurring from time to time between employers and employees.

Major Rosenbaum stated that Dr. Hopkins, one of the referees, was giving attention to this matter. But being busily occupied he is unable to devote to the subject the time it requires. Dr. Hopkins, however, will complete the plan as soon as possible.

The decision as to back pay which is now expected, will be final.

Fourth Grand Annual
RECEPTION AND BALL
Given by the
EMBROIDERY WORKERS' UNION
Local 6, I. L. O. W. U.
SATURDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 15TH, 1919
At Eight O'clock
AT MCINLIRY SQUARE CASINO
169th Street and Boston Road
Music by HENRY M. KIELASTA'S JAZZ BAND
Tickets including war tax and Warjrobe 50 Cents