

JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT
WORKERS' UNION

VOL. 1

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No. 10

LADIES' WAIST MAKERS ON THE EVE OF VICTORY

There is no doubt that the great Waist Makers' strike is already in its last stages. Its days are counted. The bosses cannot hold out much longer, and very soon they will have to surrender. They let themselves be persuaded that it would be possible for them to "break" the Union, and in their blindness they believed it and made the attempt. But they hit against the fortress of unity, of labor solidarity, against the mighty stronghold of our International organization, and all their diabolical plans were destroyed, all their dreams and hopes were shattered.

The manufacturers were, of course, eager to disrupt the Union. This is why they let themselves be misled so easily by their sorry lawyer, who led them on the slippery path of ruin, where they are now tottering. It is for this reason that they turned a deaf ear to the appeals that came from all classes of society not to start the strike; now they are choking with the strike-bone which the lawyer shoved into their throats.

The result attained is that the waist manufacturers of the Association stand now exposed to the overwhelming contempt of public opinion, and no one possessing the least degree of self-respect would have dealings with them. They made themselves an object of hate and indignation of the whole world. In addition to this they lost thousands of dollars and they continue losing with every day that the strike goes on. These bosses are now playing the part of the desperate gambler who lost practically all he had and plays his last card in the hope of saving himself from ruin. They are trying to drag the strike out another day, another week, hoping against hope that the strikers will flag in their determination, that they will be starved into submission and run to the pestiferous scab shops to work for a starvation wage, to turn miserable scabs!

But this will never happen, never!

If those bosses could but for a moment rise above their villainess and pettiness, they would realize that they are expecting something impossible. They would realize that our brave strikers are not made of such stuff; that they are thoroughly imbued with the spirit of the revolutionary proletariat, and will rather starve without end than turn scabs for one moment and sell themselves into bondage to a repulsive ruffian, to a vile boss, whose highest aspira-

tion is to bathe in the sweat and blood of his downtrodden slaves! They would then understand that the striking Waist Makers are too intelligent, too class-conscious to betray their class, to betray themselves for the brutal, criminal interests of their oppressors. They would then realize that these strikers are imbued with an idealistic, revolutionary spirit, and that such men and women may be inspired warriors for their cause but—scabs—never! They would then know that such people would rather sacrifice themselves for the common good than betray it!

But how can these coarse minds and coarse souls understand such things? To them the dollar is the highest thing in creation and they think that everybody is as enslaved to dollars and cents as they are. This is their fatal error, and they will pay for it dearly. They have already paid for it thousands of dollars, a penalty that hits them hardest of all.

As to our brave strikers, both the Waist Makers and the White Goods Workers, they feel as alert and cheerful as on the first day of the strike. If the bosses could visit the strike-halls and witness the enthusiasm of the strikers; if they could but see the determination of the strikers to fight on and on to victory, no matter how long they have to be in the struggle, they would perhaps understand—stupid as they are—that it is hopeless to expect that these people will ever be defeated.

The strikers and the Union are doing their best, and the strike will soon be won. But it is the solemn duty of every Waist Maker working in the settled shops and enjoying the gains

which our brave strikers are still fighting for, to aid the strike as much as possible and more. They must remember that as long as their comrades are still in the field their own victory is not secure, and they must do all in their power to make their victory safe by aiding in making it a common victory.

Let all of them pay the 10 per cent of their earnings to the Union! This will enable the Union to pay out larger strike benefits, which many strikers are in need of. It is also urgent that those who work help the strikers picket the shops. In brief, let all members of the Union do their duty, and the glorious victory will come even sooner than some expect.

STRIKE OF THE WHITE GOODS WORKERS NEAR END

When we write these lines we do not yet know the result of the conferences that are taking place between the Union and the

manufacturers; but according to all indications the Bosses' Association have come to realize that it is bad policy for them to let their shops remain idle. It may, therefore, be hoped that the conferences will lead to an understanding between the bosses and the Union.

In one thing they have already given in. Last week they were so cock-sure of themselves that they issued a statement to the effect that they would go into no conferences with the Union. This week they have changed their minds about it. When Mr. Moscovitz invited them to a conference with the Union they accepted the invitation, and at 4 P. M. last Wednesday a conference between the representatives of the bosses and the Union began.

About the possible outcome of the conference Brother Shorr, the manager of the Union said the following:

"It is difficult to foretell how the conference will end.

"If the representatives of the Association really want to have peace in the trade, we will be able to come to an understanding. We feel that our demands are just, and if the manufacturers are not seeking a fight for the sake of fighting, they will agree to our demands.

"At any rate, the conference is in itself a considerable victory for the Union, for only a week ago the Association adopted a resolution not to confer with the Union."

In addition to the representatives of the White Goods union the conference was attended also by Ab. Baroff, secretary of the International, and by Cutters' representatives.

AN IMPORTANT LETTER

FROM THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION AND THE JOINT BOARD, CLOAK, SKIRT AND REEFER MAKERS' UNION TO THE CLOAK, SUIT AND SKIRT MANUFACTURERS' PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION

March 19, 1919.

Cloak, Suit & Skirt Manufacturers' Protective Association,
Mr. Saul Singer, President,
220 Fifth Avenue, New York City.
Gentlemen:—

Although the agreement between your Association and our organization, entered into three years ago, will not expire for some months to come, we take the liberty to propose that in view of the fact that the start of the work seasons in our industry have changed materially during the past years, (thus the fall season begins now early in May instead of midsummer), it would be desirable that committees of our respective organizations begin, as speedily as possible, to confer and to draw up a new agreement and to insure future harmony in our industry.

The advisability of early conferences is even more augmented by the consideration of the fact that heretofore our agreements were usually concluded after protracted strikes or similar periods of excitement, when, in order to restore normal industrial conditions as quickly as possible, questions of broader policy and constructive industrial problems were left untouched. With sufficient time on hand and without undue pressure from without, due attention might be given to problems which are growing daily in importance in our industry.

We cordially suggest that conferences begin at the end of this month, and trust that you will find this suggestion convenient.

Expecting to receive your favorable and early reply, we are

Very truly yours,

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION
(Signed) Benjamin Schlesinger, President.
JOINT BOARD CLOAK, SKIRT & REEFER MAKERS' UNIONS
(Signed) Morris Sigman, Manager.

IN OUR COUNTRY

By HARRY ROGOFF

Hunting Imaginary Bolsheviks

There is no let-up in the hunt after "Bolsheviks" in America. Every day the police "discovers" a new nest of these terrible revolutionists. The newspapers keep up a hue and cry, the priests hold sermons on the "red terror" which is coming to this country. Congressmen at Washington are planning new laws against these "dangerous individuals."

It goes without saying that the owners of mines and factories are more than pleased with this "bolshevik"-baiting. They take advantage of the "red terror" to heap mud and slander upon unions, upon socialists and all those who seek to enlighten the workers and aid them in gaining better wages and attaining better conditions of life.

Documents were submitted to the Senate Committee investigating Bolshevism in Russia and in America, purporting to show that Bolshevist propaganda has spread throughout the country. The documents include charters, periodicals and other literature of the Industrial Workers. There are 334 such unions in the United States and Canada. The detectives who gathered the evidence assert that the Industrial Unions urge the overthrow of the government by violence. They also maintain that, all told, there are in America about 15,000 organizations spreading Bolshevism, and by Bolshevism the detectives understand the bloody uprising against the government.

They also emphasized the fact that two thirds of these organizations consist of foreign-speaking elements; that two thirds of the Bolshevist periodicals in the United States are published in foreign tongues, and only one third in English. By this they seek to prove, of course, that the immigrants are to blame for the movement, and that in order to stifle it, measures must be adopted against immigrants.

It is for this reason, that the Chairman of the Senate Committee declared that as soon as Congress opens a bill would be introduced to prohibit the publication of foreign-language periodicals in the United States.

At about the time these "dangerous documents" were made public at Washington, the police of New York City raided a club of Russian workmen and arrested about two hundred persons. The newspapers immediately came out with big headlines to the effect that: "Two Hundred Bolsheviks were caught in a Net." Before anything definite could be learned, the newspapers sentenced those arrested to be deported. It was alleged that the police were in possession of evidence showing that the arrested Russians were organized in a Soviet and were in communication with Soviets in other cities; the newspapers rejoiced at the fact that the arrested were not citizens and that most of them could not speak English.

The whole sensation turned out to be a soap bubble. After a brief examination practically all taken in the raid were released. Only four were detained, and the evidence against them

is also very flimsy. The club, it appears was merely an educational organization of Russian workmen.

A similar thing occurred in Buffalo. One morning the papers came out with the news that an army of unemployed was preparing to make a revolution in Buffalo; that they were going to overthrow the government of that city and establish a soviet government instead. The papers of Buffalo reported that the Mayor was going to ask the governor to send a few army regiments to the city. Soon after came the news that the revolutionary army was holding itself in readiness and that as soon as the soldiers would arrive, war would break out in Buffalo.

We need hardly say that the whole story was nonsense from beginning to end. Buffalo as well as other cities has thousands of unemployed. It is true that these unemployed asked the city government to do something for them; it is also true that the city government ignored their demand. But there the matter stopped. The unemployed wanted to arrange a demonstration, but the local authorities refused to grant a permit. There was no thought of calling out troops. The mayor and the police knew very well that the workers would bow their heads and, as usual, swallow down the insult.

The only semi-bolshevist voice in the country came from two miners' locals in West Virginia. The legislature of that State is bent on passing a state police law, similar to the one in our state. The object, of course, is to aid in breaking strikes. The two unions, realizing that this bill, if passed, would be a direct menace to them, adopted a resolution in which they threatened violence against the legislature, if it would go too far. The language of the resolution is really vigorous. The resolution reads in part:

"When the necessity will arise we will not refrain from coming out against our enemies in the battlefield, and there, amid the crash of cannon and the groans of the dying regain our liberties, which we fought with our blood."

It is worth noting that the newspapers gave little prominence to this serious event. They reported it under small headlines and made no comments on it. Is it because those unions in West Virginia consist of Americans? Or is it because the language of the resolution sounds as if the workers really meant what they said?

The Western "Agitators"

The 54 workmen who were brought to Ellis Island from the West to be deported "because they are both aliens and revolutionists" are still locked up at the Island. The Secretary of Labor held a hearing concerning 31 of the group, and of these 12 were ordered released. Officials wanted to release them last year when they were in a western prison, but they refused to leave the prison without the rest of their comrades. We do not know how they will act now, whether they will stand by their comrades and go with them into

IN THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR WORLD

By M. KOLCHIN

Investigation of the Coal Industry in England.

The English government appointed a special commission to investigate the coal industry in connection with the demands of the miners. These demands include not only the usual items of shorter hours, higher wages, etc., but also and mainly the demand that the government take over the coal mines. The commission which investigated the conditions in the industry has gained some useful information. Among other things, the commission has established the fact that during the war the average annual profits of the companies were above 25 per cent; this in spite of all the profit-curling such as war-profits-taxes, price regulation, etc. Such profiteering, under such circumstances, and in such a time is almost impossible to imagine, but it is a fact, and the representatives of the miners have made use of this fact.

At the hearings that were held last week representatives of the miners declared that now, after the investigation, averting the strike was out of the question, unless the government declares its readiness to take over the mines. They pointed out that if the government had taken over the mines four years ago, as the miners had then demanded, they would have long been redeemed. The government would even be in a position to sell coal at lower prices for the profiteering not only of the mining companies but also of the wholesalers and the retailers would be eliminated under government ownership. The miners are ready to strike, but the government is not yet prepared to nationalize the mines.

In Ireland

We have been hearing so much about the Sinn-Felners that we might think they are the only inhabitants of Ireland and the struggle for independence is the only struggle that is going on there. But this is not so. The Sinn-Felners are doing their part in the struggle

exile or take advantage of the official ruling.

New Jersey Car Strike Won.

The car strikers in the towns and villages of Northern New Jersey, within a period of only four days, won a desperate fight with the car companies. The strike broke out Wednesday morning, and on Monday afternoon it was already settled. The terms of the settlement are not yet known; but the main point at issue, the recognition of the union, was won by the strikers.

The car companies tried with all their might to break the strike. They advertised for cabs and offered nine dollars a day. Their hope was that now, with so many men idle, they would have no trouble in getting cabs. But they were disappointed. No cars were running during the strike.

The War Labor Board sent one of its representatives, and, after a few conferences, he succeeded in bringing about an agreement between the two parties.

for independence, and they are really supported in this struggle by the majority of the population, but a struggle of a different nature is taking place there at the same time. The workmen fight for a better living and fight not only against the English capitalists but also against the Irish patriots. The class struggle, it seems, makes no distinction of nationality.

Ireland is chiefly an agricultural country, very little developed industrially and with a feeble labor movement. But the agricultural workers play a very important part in Ireland and industrial organized labor is not totally lacking. The transport workers, who a few years before the war conducted such a gigantic strike, are well organized. The textile industry employs a considerable number of workers. Where there are workers there is sure to be labor strife, and, indeed, labor unrest in Ireland is so serious at present that the London Daily Mail says that it alone is sufficient to force the British government to satisfy the demands of the Irish nationalists. "Labor unrest is growing," says this journal, and the government is unable to check it. Everywhere in Ireland the workmen are preparing to strike and they are going to make demands which no employer will be in a position to meet."

The Strike of the Port Workers in Argentina.

The strikes in Argentina which in the last few weeks have assumed the proportions of a labor uprising and which were accompanied by actual military operations on the part of the government against the strikers, will, it seems, soon come to an end. The most important strike was that of the longshoremen and the ship workers. Of course, there have also occurred lesser strikes. Even the telephone girls went on a strike one week and held a demonstration at Buenos Aires, demanding higher wages and an eight hour work day. But the banner carriers, so to speak, were the port workers.

The strike of the port workers began after the shipping companies had locked out numbers of union men and wanted to hire non-union men in their places. The workmen struck, and the government intervened, with guns and arbitrators, but of no avail. The companies were willing to take the men back, but on condition that the unions do not "butt in" and do not interfere with the right of the companies to hire non-union men.

The strikers, of course, refused to return to work on such conditions. But the losses to the companies are great, and those of the foreign exporters are greater still. The English ambassador, therefore, offered his offices as mediator, and both sides accepted the offer. The strike may thus soon come to an end.

The minds of some of our statesmen, like the pupil of the human eye, contract themselves the more, the stronger light there is shed upon them.

—Thomas Moore.

AMERICAN LABOR ITEMS

PRESIDENT OF MINERS' UNION DEMANDS A SIX-HOUR DAY

Frank J. Hayes, president of the Mine Workers of America opened the first session of the Policy Committee with a speech in which he demanded a six-hour work-day, five days a week. He made another important recommendation to the Policy Committee that the latter demand the nationalization of mines.

The United Mine Workers of America is one of the strongest labor organizations in the country.

SNOBISHNESS GIVING WAY TO COMMON SENSE

Our "professional" wage-slaves are beginning to realize the disadvantage of regarding themselves as a superior caste and keeping aloof from the organized labor movement.

About 200 civil, mechanical and electrical engineers of New York attended a meeting in this city to discuss the question of unionizing their professions.

In Fort Worth, Tex., Federal employees in the city are discussing trade unionism, as are stenographers, mattress makers, messengers, unskilled workers and other employees.

NEW CHILD LABOR LAW.

Charles L. W. Va.,—The state legislature has passed a new child labor law, which its friends declare, places West Virginia among the leading states in child protection.

The new law prohibits the employment of children under 14 in any gainful occupation, except agriculture and domestic service. Children under 16 cannot work in mines, quarries, tunnels or excavation, and no child may be employed in any occupation deemed by the state commissioners of health, labor and schools dangerous to life or limb or injurious to health or morals.

No child under 16 may be employed for more than eight hours a day or 48 hours a week, nor before 6 a. m. and after 7 p. m.

HARBOR STRIKE NOT QUITE OVER

The strike of the harbor workers still continues in part. The situation became complicated through the settlements made with the government departments. The Railroad Administration was the first to settle with the union, and the men on railroad ferries returned to work. The Army and Navy departments came next in effecting a settlement with the strikers. But the private companies continue their resistance to the demands of the workers. The situation is doubly complicated because the government departments are often obliged to make use of private boats. The union demanded that the government charter these boats and settle with the strikers. The government departments negotiated the matter with the companies, but the latter refused to charter the boats. At one time it was thought the government would compel them to do it, but nothing came of it.

The harbor strike is thus still on against the private companies. The longshoremen aid the strikers by refusing to handle

the freights of ships manned by scabs.

LONG HOURS A MENACE TO HEALTH OF NATION

Washington.—In a survey of long working hours of women in Indiana, the woman-in-industry service of the department of labor says that "long hours for the workers have been recognized by the United States Supreme Court as a serious menace to the welfare of the state."

"Recent investigations show that not only in the dangerous trades, but in all industries, a permanent predisposition to disease and premature death exists in the common phenomenon of fatigue and exhaustion. This is a danger common to all workers, even under good working conditions, in practically all manufacturing industries."

"In ordinary factory work, where no special occupation diseases threaten, fatigue in itself constitutes the most imminent danger to the health of the workers because it undermines vitality and thus lays the foundation for many diseases."

TELEPHONE OPERATORS TO STRIKE

Washington, D. C.—The organized telephone operators of the United States have voted to strike, in protest against the administration of Director-General Burleson.

The date of the strike will be fixed by the Executive Board of the International Brotherhood.

Trouble in the wire administration has been brewing practically ever since the Government took control, according to Mr. Purcell, International representative of the Brotherhood, because of Mr. Burleson's attitude toward the organized employees. In spite of President Wilson's proclamation recognizing the right of all worker to organize and to bargain collectively, Mr. Burleson has denied the telephone workers that right by refusing to meet their committees, and in some instances where the telephone companies themselves were willing to deal with the union, Mr. Burleson has prevented their doing so.

WISCONSIN IN DANGER OF COSSACK LAW.

"Some of our reactionary legislators," says the editor of the Capitol Times of Madison, Wis., "would do well if they would take some cognizance of the fundamental principles of psychology these days."

"A war has just been concluded which had for its aim the death blow of militarism and all its offshoots and accompaniments. And yet here we have a serious proposal by a member of the assembly to set up a sort of cossack proposition in Wisconsin. Instead of putting away the instruments of war we hear of a plan to resort to force by having a gang of state-subsidized uhlands to brow-beat the peaceable citizens of Wisconsin."

"The legal machinery that we already have is ample for all requirements. We need no Prussian auxiliary to our police and state authorities."

Are we to begin setting up here in Wisconsin the very principles that has been crushed in Germany?"

BRUTALITY OF POLICE AGAINST GIRL STRIKERS.

The following letter, written to Mayor Hylan by an eye-witness of one of the scenes of brutality, describes an incident that has become typical of the picket line:

"The writer begs to call your attention to an incident that occurred on the corner of Prospect and Tremont avenues, at 7 p. m., Monday night, involving the brutal clubbing of two little girl strikers by one 250-pound bulk of vicious stupidity, robed with the immunity of brass buttons and blue coat."

"That I am not in jail or in a hospital in consequence of my personal feelings as a spectator is due to the fact that I became impotent under the spell of utter revulsion and horror, and could only stand by, trembling with outraged passion."

"How the clubbing came about, and what was the provocation for it, I have not attempted to ascertain. But this I know, that in an enlightened community, where the 'red terror' did not exist, the crime of murder itself should not have merited such a display of animalism. And upon such weak little creatures, so small that the huge fist of the policeman could have crushed them into powdered bits like so much egg-shell. He chose to use the club instead."

"I could hear the dull whack of the leaded stick crush in the nose of one girl and send her spinning to the sidewalk in a heap. I could hear the duller thud of the stick as it fell on the nose of a slin, and my neck. I could see the little body reel, crumple up and sink to the flagging."

"I could hear the shrieks of women and children, and the heavy breathing of men who cursed and stood impotent, like myself, at the inhumanity of the scene."

"I saw the thick blood spurt and trickle from the ugly bruises, smearing the flesh of the faces, smearing the clothes and the sidewalk, and the hands that dared the giant's insanity to bend over and help revive his fallen prey."

"Mr. Mayor, I swear to you.

their blood was red—bright, deep red; so red that the flushed jowls of the towering policeman was yellow in comparison. Mr. Mayor, I saw red—and so did every man, woman and child in the crowd that gathered around."

"It might interest you to know Mr. Mayor, that on that same corner, during the last Socialist campaign, Socialist speakers stood and pleaded with the very same spectators of Monday night to join in a political protest against the brutality of the present system. Slow progress was made—as was the vote showed."

"But last night a Tammany policeman, with three swings of a club, drove home the old Socialist argument with emphasis that will be unforgettable."

"Perhaps the effect will be a deeper one. Socialists are such cold, calculating creatures. They prefer reason to violence."

"The spectators last night received a rabid lecture on terrorism, direct action and the efficacy of violence, the like of which no red-eyed Russian nihilist ever delivered in his most frenzied moments."

"I confess that, in spite of my love for peace and quiet and order, my years of training in self-discipline and bourgeois beliefs in ethics, morals and reason, all the time I stood and watched the enactment of this Turkish, Prussian and Cossack outrage. I burned with a passion for atavistic revenge."

"It appears that it remains for a Democratic administration in a democracy to demonstrate with every perfection of cruelty and realism how the Prussians battered the rebel Belgians into submission."

"I ask you again to remember that the blood of those two little girl strikers was warm, and red—God be my witness—red, bright red. Yours truly,

S. A. DE WITT."

POISON GAS AS A MEANS OF PROMOTING INDUSTRIAL PEACE.

Evidently the war against Prussian militarism and in resentment of German atrocities has not been in vain. For one thing we have learned something of German "efficiency"; and official science, which is quick to adapt modern inventions to practical uses, is not slow to make use of our war lessons. Take a little thing like poison gas. The layman, in his ignorance and naïveté probably thinks that this inhuman invention of torture has already gone down in history as the cruelest thing in the arsenal of the men of war; that even the German militarists are beginning to regard this implement of war with abhorrence. But not so, ignorant layman! "Science" says that poison gas is an "efficient tool and its use in times of peace should be encouraged. "Ah—the clever layman is quick to guess—"they want to use it as a disinfectant, to fight disease, or as a fungicide, or something. Well, layman, you are wrong again. Poison gas is to be used and used extensively but not against germs or vermin. It

is to be used against "striking mobs". This is the prediction of Colonel Roy Bacon *) of the Mellon institute, who recently returned from France, where he has been perfecting various gasses for the United States government. He suggests the use of tear gas to be used in dispersing what he terms "striking mobs". This gas, he said will replace clubs and revolvers. He said that one drop of the gas would be sufficient to kill from 20 to 30 men."

It goes without saying that we endorse most cheerfully the suggestion of Colonel Bacon, and we are sure that organized labor throughout the country will express approbation of the plan. But we confess our sentimental failing—we are sorry to see the beloved chivalric order of Strike Cossacks, known to the uninitiated as State Constabulary, give way to a mere chemical device.

*) We have, as authority, the Weekly News Letter, published by the American Federation of Labor.

JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly.

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FROM THE EDITOR'S NOTE BOOK

The Ostrich Policy of the Bosses of the Ladies' Dress and Waist Manufacturers' Association.

You probably heard of the foolish ostrich, who, in order not to be seen, buries his head, the smallest part of his body, in the sand, thus depriving himself of the possibility to observe the course and manoeuvres of the pursuing hunters, which renders him an easy prey to them. The foolish bird thinks that since he cannot see anyone, he cannot be seen himself. This is just the kind of policy the Bosses' Association is pursuing in the present struggle.

We are in receipt of a booklet, meager and emaciated like the brains of a boss, or, to use a better simile, like the present income of the Association bosses, — a booklet entitled "Dress and Waist News."

There the bosses try, as best they can, to cheer up and give new heart to those of their kin, who have been so worn out by the fatal idleness in their shops, once so humming and bustling with activity, that they can hardly stand on their feet. In addition to this "heart tonic," the booklet contains a bit of slander and malicious gossip directed against the Union and its leaders.

The booklet is highly amusing from beginning to end. We intended to reprint it word for word, so that our readers might see how spiritual and mental poverty reigns supreme in every nook of this bosses' journal. But on second thoughts we discarded the idea. We cannot afford to waste our precious space on the imbecility of the bosses. A few instances will suffice for our purpose.

A few weeks ago we wrote that Brother Schlesinger usually looks a bit too stern, but that when we spoke to him one morning his face was beaming with the consciousness of the coming victory. The bosses' pen-pal grasped at this remark of ours, and with the lack of scruples characteristic of his masters, he quotes the first half of our sentence, that Schlesinger never smiles, and proceeds to explain it on the theory that Schlesinger at last has come to realize that he and his union are knocking their heads against the stone wall of our determination not to concede to a single unreasonable demand of the union.

How do you like this mock-heroic style? "The stone wall of our determination!" It may be stated as a rule, that when one begins to spout flowery language it is either to conceal a lie or a piece of nonsense. It will be worth our while to unearth this lie, for a lie it is.

The stone wall of your de-

termination? What wall do you mean, Messrs. Bosses? Before the strike your Association counted 190 members. How many of them have you now? How many dress manufacturers remained in your Association? How many waist manufacturers have deserted it? How foolish it is of you to brag about this "stone wall of determination," when, even before the printer's ink dried on your sorry little journal, one of your pillars, a member of your executive committee, the chairman of your labor board, Mr. S. Fahrer settled with the union and turned his back upon your "stone wall!"

Whom do you mean to bamboozle with your ostrich policy? Do you think that if you yourselves pretend not to see the breaches which the union howlers made in your "stone wall" others, too, will fail to see them? What foolish ostriches!

And then, what unreasonable demands are you babbling about when the bosses are determined not to concede to? Whom are you trying to fool? As to wages and hours, you yourselves declared publicly that you would not dicker much about them. This you announced quite openly in the hand-bill which you issued, ostensibly in the name of the workers. This you also admitted in your many other statements. What other demands has the union made that you call "unreasonable"? The discharge question? But this is a demand on your part that the Union give up that which it gained six years ago. For six years you have been conducting your business complying with this demand of the Union. How, then, can you proclaim a thing which has been in operation for six years, as a brand-new unreasonable demand?

No, Messrs. Bosses. The unreasonable resides not in a single demand of the Union but in you. There is not a particle of you that may rightly be called either reasonable or sensible.

In another "article" you say that the outside world does not know that the Ladies' Waist Makers are the best paid workers in the needle industry. You state that in the knit-goods industry and in the underwear industry girls earn no more than \$14 to \$15 per week, but that in the waist industry girls who work six months in the year earn on the average \$18 to \$20 per week throughout the year.

And you think that you can fool the public with these figures. Girls earn an average wage of \$18 to \$20 per week working only six months in the year. Tell us, Messrs. Bosses, what did you mean by the word "girls"? How many girls are there in the waist industry who earn from

\$36 to \$40 a week during the six months that they work? Are there not as many as a whole dozen in the entire waist industry which employs 35,000 workers? Do you mean to say that all girls in the waist industry earn an average wage of \$18 to \$20 per week throughout the year?

You know, as well as we, that you are lying, and you expect to mislead the strikers and public opinion with your lies. Foolish ostriches! You are deceiving yourselves, and you think that the outside world, too, is deceived.

In a third very profound treatise you refer to a speech that Secretary Wilson recently delivered before the conference of Governors and Mayors at Washington, and you state that you will never permit the introduction of Russian methods in your shops, and that you will never give consideration to a demand which smacks of Soviet rule.

If you bosses had the slightest idea what Soviet rule means you would be thoroughly ashamed of this daub that somebody smeared in your name.

Naturally we will not waste our efforts in explaining to you the meaning of Soviet rule. But you might have understood at least one thing: that if Secretary Wilson thought the strike of the Ladies' Waist Makers is an attempt to establish Soviet rule he would not be slow in coming to your rescue. Would he not grab the head of the revolt, the arch-Sovietist, B. Schlesinger, and deport him to your great joy? Would the Seldmans and the Baroffs be so unhampered in conducting the strike if their demands contained a ghost of Soviet rule?

You heard the word "soviet" and you repeat it parrot-like, and you expect through such methods to break a strike which is conducted with such determination and clearness of purpose.

In a fourth "article" you tell a fish story of how an independent manufacturer inquires of an official of your Association whether he, the "independent" will get the benefit of the privileges which your Association will (?) win. And the official rules that he will not.

The whole thing is written in such an idiotic way, that we consider it below our dignity to dwell on it. The story is, of course, fiction, and miserable fiction, from beginning to end. There was no independent manufacturer inquiring and no official replying to his inquiries. But one thing in the article is really true, and this is that: "the union never yet gave up that which it once gained."

This is as true as the multiplication tables. It never happened yet that the Union be fickle enough to let go of what it once gained. The Union holds on to the positions it conquered for the workers, and we will add that never in the future will the Union give up any of its gains.

Remember this, bosses! The Union won for the workers the right not to be fired by a boss without a just reason, after a long and bitter struggle years ago; and never, never will it part with this right. In your own words you confirmed the determination of the union and your own inevitable defeat.

In vain is your boast, in the next daub, that every manufacturer realizes that to give in to the union in the point of dis-

charge means virtually to let the union leaders run his business. In vain is your boast that businessmen throughout the country are with you, that many manufacturers of other trades are with you. Even if this were true, it would be of small avail against the determination of the workers, but it is not true, either. Public opinion is entirely against you. Your lies have aroused general contempt and indignation. Name one decent person who is with you! Name one newspaper which is with you! Everybody and everything is against you. Your boast that anybody is with you is as glaring a lie as the many others which you make use of to injure the strike.

There is but one extenuating circumstance in your favor: you cannot afford to utter a word of truth, for this would mean to condemn yourself. Lies are your only weapon, but lies will not ward off your inevitable defeat.

A Warning to the Public.

We are in possession of a stamp, printed in red letters, of the following content and form:

Soviet at work in U. S. A.

10c.

Issued by the Waist and Dress Workers Council of New York City.

We do not know the origin of this stamp. We do not know whether it is a trick of the bosses to discredit the union and the strike, or the work of a few unscrupulous individuals who want to profit at the expense of the strike that thousands of workers are conducting against the Bosses' Association.

But whatever its origin, we warn the public that the stamp is a piece of swindle, pure and simple. The union pays to each striker the weekly benefits that each is entitled to. The Union never was, and let us hope, never will be, in such financial straits, as to be obliged to resort to this method of begging for dimes.

The bosses know very well, and if they do not, they may as well know it, that so far the union did not have to resort to outside aid to do its duty by the brave fighters. Should it ever be in such need, it will openly appeal for aid to the entire labor movement, and we are sure that aid will be given with a lavish hand, will be given gladly, and without delay.

The end—pieces that are thus being collected—if this enterprise has met with the least degree of success—probably go into the pockets of a few individuals, who are merely petty parasites on the labor movement, if not worse.

But most probably it is a stupid trick on the part of the bosses, to convince some credulous and naive folk that the strike against the Ladies' Waist Manufacturers is but a guise for the introduction of a Soviet government in the United States, and also that the Union is so hard up financially that it must resort to begging dimes of every passer-by.

Let us add here that if this is not a trick of the bosses, it is very characteristic of our "Soviet-followers" to promulgate the Soviet cause in the United States in this manner. It shows what conception they have of the work of the Soviets.

THE RIGHT TO WORK

By ARTURO GIOVANNITI

The chief bone of contention in the death grapple now going on between the Ladies' Waist Makers' Union and the Dress and Waist Manufacturers' Association is the insistence on the part of the employers to discharge their employees at will, and the determination of the latter that no such discharges shall take place without the sanction of a mutually selected board of arbitration. Both sides admit that they are deadlocked on this issue, all other controversial matters, such as the 44 hour week and an equivalent raise in wages, being admittedly adjustable without any further continuation of hostilities.

The question is therefore asked: Is the Union justified in carrying on a struggle that entails so much suffering and hardship on the part of the workers and great financial losses on both sides of the trenches, just to win out a point that seemingly has no bearing whatever on the economic relations between workers and employers? What difference will it make to the Union if the bosses discharge a number of workers, when they are compelled to substitute them with other union men, unless they want to curtail production and, thereby reduce their own profits?

This captious argument is met by asking and answering another question. What is the main purpose and function of a labor union, even such as has no social vision and does not predicate the ultimate control of all industrial processes by the workers?

Function of A Labor Union.

Ask any conservative labor leader and he will answer you at once that the first and foremost aim of a labor organization is to protect the worker in his job. Indeed, the more conservative the leader, the more he will insist that the question of hours and wages, and even that of sanitary conditions, are subordinate to the preservation of the job for each member of the union. There is nothing revolutionary about this, to raise the cry of Bolshevism in connection with this elementary principle of labor unionism, as the manufacturers have done, is simply another glaring instance of their notorious bad faith. But let us be more specific. Labor union is primarily an essentially an instrument for the protection of the economic life and welfare of the workers. It has nothing to do with the workers as citizens, for this is the province of the state, nor can it regulate their social, religious and political activities. Its function is purely confined to the economic field, that is, that specific sphere of human activity wherein the means of subsistence are obtained.

Now, the first problem of economic life, so far as the worker who has nothing to market save his labor power is concerned, is the steady maintenance of occupation, which is the worker's only insurance against want and starvation and the sole safeguard of his life. Whatever his original motive in joining a la-

bor union, he assumes and takes for granted that his job will not be lost, but will rather be consolidated by reason of his combining with his fellow workers. Nobody will ever join a labor union on the mere chance of bettering his conditions at the risk of losing his job, for nobody ever stopped to consider conditions when the actual fact of employment was at stake.

If union men ran a greater risk of being driven from their jobs than non-union men, then, with all the burning faith I have in the working class, I doubt whether there would be any labor unions at all. It is self-evident to even the bitterest enemy of unionism that no organization can survive which is not basically concerned with the preservation of employment, and on this score all unions, whatever their principles and aims, are completely agreed. Indeed, the main difference between conservative unions and radical in this matter is a difference of condition rather than principle—the conservatives want to hold jobs under a mutual agreement with the bosses, the radicals want to own jobs under the sole proprietorship of the union. Neither of them can exist unless the stable tenure of these jobs is essentially and unequivocally assured. To pretend and demand a different attitude would be tantamount to asking any labor union to commit suicide for the love of the employers and their bewildering conception of justice and fair play.

The First Demand in All Strikes.

Since labor struggles began, the restoration of all strikers to work has been the first term of all treaties of peace—it has been, in fact, the only article of agreement that has never been a matter of debate and never, so far as I know, has been submitted to arbitration. A victorious strike never left a single striker out of the shop; more still, it always took great pains to see to it that no one was discharged afterwards on any specious reason, lest the best and most militant elements of the union be made to pay for the victory of the less combative ones.

As to the question that, provided union men are employed or given preference, the union ought not be concerned as to who is discharged and why, the tiquit of the theory behind this argument is so appalling as to elicit anger rather than discussion.

A Bona Fide Labor Union.

A bona fide labor union is not a business firm which deals in goods and commodities, nor an employment agency which furnishes help on certain conditions and at a certain fee—but it is a free and voluntary association of human beings who have certain interests and aims in common and are bound to absolute mutual protection. A bona fide labor union (there are others, unfortunately) signs contracts with the employers not in the name of the union, as an impersonal organism, but as the appointed agent and attorney, as it were, of all its members, the

moral and material interests of each of whom it is bound to protect and safeguard, singly and individually, much in the same fashion as a corporation is bound to protect the interests of all its stockholders. A union that enters into an agreement with the employers on any other basis would not last a week; it would be a union in name only, and after the first strike even the employers themselves would no longer deal with it, having no solid basis of stability and no means for carrying out its stipulations.

The Ethical Side of It.

But there is also another element involved in this controversy, one of a purely ethical order, although I fully realize that ethical arguments will not change a jot in the attitude of the bosses.

Human beings can only live peacefully together on a contractual basis, that is by giving and taking, yielding and receiving to and from each other what is accepted by both sides as full equivalents. No fair and equitable human relations are compatible otherwise, unless one party is avowedly determined to either subjugate or altogether dispossess the other. This is not to-day the intention of the Ladies' Waist Makers' Union, which does not yet pretend to drive the Manufacturers' Association out of business. Whether this is the aim of the Association towards the Union is, of course, a thing that I don't know, but as they outspokenly disclaim such evil intentions, I shall take them at their own word. It follows therefore, that neither side being out to suppress the other, the only thing that can take place between them is a common ground of agreement.

This agreement must, of course, be mutual in the sense that it must not put either party in a situation of inferiority. It must not be unilateral, or it won't last a month, for the injured party, feeling duped or defrauded will break it at the first opportunity. Now what is this principle of equity and reciprocity that will insure to both sides the full exercise of their rights? It is simply this: Let the manufacturers realize and admit that their right to discharge the workers connotes the correlative right of the workers to quit their jobs. If they deny the workers this right and reserve the former to them, the contract would be a fraud—on the other hand if they grant both rights, the contract would be a farce, for no stable agreement would have been reached and both sides would remain in a state of actual belligerency.

Therefore the only solution is for the manufacturers to waive this right and submit all cases of discharge to revision. Any other course would be unfair. Their right to discharge, as they demand it now is morally untenable, for it is absolute. They can throw out any worker for any reason or for no reason. By eliminating by force of the agreement, as they want it, all possibility of reprisal on the part

of the union, they could exercise that right ad libitum. Having an iron-bound association of their own, the discharged worker would find himself practically blacklisted, sentenced to involuntary economic servitude. Worse still, after being on strike for months, he would be practically put out of the union, in the sense that he would be denied the fruition of his own union efforts. The union would cease to be an instrument of protection for him—it is a little while he would be a scab; it is that what the Manufacturers mean when they say that they do not discriminate against labor?

Right to Quit Work—A Mere Quibble.

On the other hand the right to quit work is only relative, so far as the workers as individuals are concerned. No worker quits a job because he objects to his boss belonging to the Association, or because he resents his employer's manners, or dislikes his looks, or is vexed by his English, or disapproves of his politics and his theology. The personal element very rarely, if ever, determines the worker to quit his job, for the very substantial reason that the worker functions merely as a force of production in the present social system, whose sole sphere of action is the place of production. Outside of that sphere he is nothing. He is actually much and potentially all only in so far as he remains in it. That is why he sticks to it, and often even at the expense of his very self-respect.

The conclusion is that no worker, no matter how militant, how radical he may be, ever quits his work on purely arbitrary ground, while most employers generally discharge workers on just such ground, unless restrained by a superior force. The right of the individual worker to voluntarily go out is just a legal quibble and academic bunk, while the one master to discharge him is an absolute prerogative. Therefore any agreement that ignores these facts and does not offer redress against the abuse of power on the part of the only side that possesses that power, is inherently unsocial and immoral.

Submission to A Third Party Or War.

But will the Manufacturers' Association be swayed by moral reasons? They will not, for morally implies the decision of a third party, and this third party, which the Union has invoked by proposing an impartial umpire in all future controversies, has been disdainfully rejected by the Association. What will the conclusion be?

Eliminate the arbiter, and all values are reduced to the common denominator of power and endurance. Which proves once more that the stronger will subdue and dictate to the weaker, regardless of all principles involved. The ultimate decision, now, as ever, on the side that has the most formidable elements of resistance and aggression. The question of right and wrong has nothing to do with it, so far as capital is concerned. Thus are the employers, who deny the class struggle, educating the workers along the lines of class-consciousness, and goading them on, by their own blind stupidity, towards the broader field of implacable social war.



REVOLUTION AND SUFFRAGE

By JULIET STUART POYNTZ



Since the days of Saint-Simon the Socialist movement has been the foremost champion of the rights of women. August Bebel, the great German leader was surely right when he prophesied that through Socialism and only through Socialism would the emancipation of woman be achieved. The extraordinary events of the last few months of revolution have shown in striking fashion the truth of that great phrase with which Bebel ended his book on *Woman, Past, Present and Future*. "The world is ours in spite of everything, for the worker and for women!" All honor is due the revolutionary labor movement for the recent victories of the cause of woman suffrage in Europe. Even *Jus Suffragii*, the journal of the conservative woman suffragists in all countries, is forced to admit, albeit rather sourly, that the victories in each case "have been due to the Socialist and Labour element, whose unrest forced the hands of the conservative governments, and who include in their demands the granting of woman suffrage."

Only a word here and there that trickles through the censorship gives us any intimation of the great upheaval that has been developing in Europe during the last few months. In all countries the masses have been flinging their challenge to the world, and everywhere that challenge has included a demand for the emancipation of woman. Russia, Germany, Poland, Austria, Italy, France, Belgium, Holland, Switzerland, Sweden, practically all the countries of Europe in fact, have witnessed changes in the position of woman which might have required a century for their completion in normal times. The first great achievement of the revolution was the liberation of the women of Russia. Those of other countries are breaking their bonds in the revolutionary conditions that followed the armistice.

Sudden Emancipation of German Women.

The women of Germany awoke the morning after the revolution to find themselves enfranchised. Their victory was so sudden and so unexpected that they hardly knew what to make of it. To judge from their own words: "In the storm of the revolution," says one, "at one stroke full citizen's rights have fallen into our lap—not limited in any direction, universal, equal, secret and direct suffrage, in Empire, State and municipality, for all men and women over twenty years of age. There has however, not been the jubilation that in normal times would have greeted this event of immeasurable import. The fulfilment of our warmest wishes has come in the darkest hour under the pressure of the harshest fate that was ever meted out to a great state. After 51 months of nameless sorrow and misery, of senseless murder and destruction, after the hard armistice conditions, confronted with the possibility, indeed the probability, of the bitterest, almost inconceivable destitution, we meet every day with the anxious question: What is there still to come? And now suddenly we must not only prepare the great mass of women to bear with patience the

terrible present and future, we must also rouse quite new powers and capacities in them, so that they may use intelligently the power that has so suddenly been placed in their hands."

From the German working women comes a message thru the columns of the *Gleichheit*, the working woman's paper edited by Clara Zetkin:

"The chains of centuries are burst in a night. Until yesterday the holders of power of a past age defiantly and blindly barred the way to the birth of a new age. To-day they lie overcome, rooted up, broken, falling, and will be swept away by the scavengers on the dust heap of history. Till yesterday German women were an oppressed race, which could with difficulty extort small concessions even from the wakening democracy. To-day German women are the freest in the world. They have full and unconditional equal rights with men."

"To whom do we owe this freedom and equality? To the great storm of revolution which broke out over Germany with tremendous and irresistible power on November ninth. It had long threatened in the sky. In German lands it became darker and more sultry. There was no lack of warnings but the powerful were blind. Only thus could the revolution attain its victorious might, and place in power those whose work gave them the first claim—the soldiers and workmen. But in the mighty upheaval neither forgot the third party, the women! German women, rejoice! You have cause! In the future you are the freest of the free. But, German women, reflect! Millions of men have had to fall in fearful fratricide before the course was clear for you. Show yourselves worthy and grateful for their sacrifice. Do not forget that it was democracy and socialism that gave you freedom and equality."

Hastening Suffrage in Holland

In Holland all parties have suddenly been converted to woman suffrage. It had been supposed for some time that the question would not come before the Chamber for consideration for at least another year and that then it would encounter, as usual, the opposition of the conservative parties. Now it has become a question of the day and will probably be brought up immediately for decision, while the conservatives have announced their support. What is the reason for this extraordinary change of heart? The revolutionary labor movement, growing daily more powerful and threatening, frightening the bourgeoisie into extending the right to vote while there are still such bulwarks of the old order as votes and parliaments to fall back upon as a last line of defence from the revolutionary workers. Dr. Alletta Jacobs, a leading Dutch suffragist remarks at the end of a letter announcing the new turn of affairs, "I have several reasons why I do not tell you how this sudden change of opinions is to be explained."

In Switzerland.

In Switzerland the question of woman suffrage at the signing

of the armistice was apparently dead. Suddenly it began to show signs of life and then in a day leaped forward to the front of the political arena as a matter of immediate importance. Why? The revolutionary general strike that broke out on the same day that the armistice was signed. When the Central Committee of the General Strike put forward their demands, the second on the list was political emancipation of woman. "Of course," remarked one bourgeois woman, "the situation was very embarrassing to us." It must have been. We feel some sympathy for the poor lady suffragists nursing their sick infant, woman suffrage, when they suddenly found it rising from its cradle to the mature stature of womanhood, and taking its stand on the side of the revolutionary workers. Nevertheless they felt it their duty as they said "to demonstrate their existence." At a congress of their association at Berne they supported the program of the radicals for an entire revision of the constitution including woman suffrage. Motions for woman suffrage and the admission of woman to all public offices were presented in the Chamber of Deputies by both socialist and liberal parties, and the prospects of the securing of the federal vote by women in Switzerland in the near future are very good.

In Belgium

In Belgium The Labor Party welcomed back their king to his capital, Brussels, with placards in all parts of the city demanding universal and equal suffrage, for in this supposed bulwark of democracy flourishes the evil system of the plural vote for property owners. The Belgian woman followed them with a claim for emancipation and sent a manifesto to the Labor Party demanding the inclusion of woman suffrage in their demands regardless of whether in the opinion of the workers such an enfranchisement of women would redound to the benefit of the reactionary Catholic Party or not.

Road for Woman Suffrage Clear in Sweden.

In Sweden revolutionary demonstrations have resulted in the abolition of the veil plural vote, and the granting of the plural vote vanishes the power of the conservatives in the reactionary second chamber to stifle all progressive measures, including general woman suffrage.

Woman Sinn-Feiner in English Parliament.

In England the recent elections, which were the first in which women voted, resulted in the election of only one woman to Parliament, although over twenty were candidates for seats. Humorously enough, that lone lady in Parliament is an Irish Sinn Feiner, Countess Markiewicz, who has announced her intention of taking her seat. The British imperialists are preparing however to exclude her on the ground that she is married to a foreigner and has thus lost her rights of citizenship.

"France Lagging Behind.

Even Poland under the Junker-pianist Padarewski has incorporated woman suffrage in her new constitution, and France, heralded as the liberator of the world, has the unenviable distinction of being the only im-

portant European nation which still refuses to emancipate her women politically in spite of their terrible sufferings and endurance during the war, and still worse, in spite of the fact that she has enfranchised her African negro subjects in recognition of their services in the war. The spirit of the French working women in the present situation was well expressed by Mme. Helene Brion, who addressed Joubaux, the chief of the French labor movement at a great labor demonstration in the Madison Square Garden of Paris a few weeks after the armistice as follows:

"In the program which you have just read you have thought of everything except the rights of woman, while in Russia and Germany the revolution has proclaimed the equality of sexes. You content yourself with demanding the rights of working men without saying anything about those of working women. You prate of liberty for nations, for peoples, but 'peoples' means your men comrades. By the side of the Right of Man must be inscribed the Right of Woman."

Woman may well be grafted at her recent conquests not merely as a grant of political power but as a recognition of her social importance. She may, if satirically disposed, be inclined to smile at this feverish effort on the part of all governments to make up for the past by giving her political power in legislative assemblies at a time when both political power and legislative assemblies are rather going out of fashion. The working woman alone can be truly content, for she can feel secure of power either in a political government of the old style or in an industrial democracy of the new order.

YOU MAY FIND A GOOD ONE

GOOD BRAND

He—I think there are germs in kisses.
She—Have you tried one of mine?

COLORING MATTER

Fred—Don't you think that dancing heightens a girl's color?
Mary—No; it is what is said between dances.—Judge.

One of the sensations that is denied to the rich is the indescribable thrill the poor man feels when he buys something he can't afford.—Life.

"The coal situation doesn't worry me. I've managed to get four tons."

"But surely you don't expect four tons to last you all winter."

"Yes, I do. The hired man who runs my furnace used to be janitor of a city flat."—Boston Transcript.

A man went to the judge and wanted to have his wife arrested for rocking him to sleep.

"Why, man," said the judge, "you can't have your wife arrested for rocking you to sleep!"

"That's all right, Judge," replied the man, "but you should have seen the rock."—Boiler Makers' & Iron Ship Builders' Journal.

OUR EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

By S. LIBERTY,

A PIECE OF ADVICE

Dear Member:
You are a member of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union! Have you ever stopped to consider what it means to address the people working together with you, to address an audience of strikers, or other groups? Who knows but the time may be very near when you will be called upon to do such work. Learn to speak while the opportunity is offered to you. If you speak with a foreign accent, remove it! If you speak English well, come and learn how to express yourself clearly and precisely! The International Department has instituted the Educational Department to organize such classes and courses for you. Why not take advantage of them!

A Public Speaking class is conducted by Mr. Gustav F. Schulz of the City College of New York every Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock. The elementary class meets from 3.00 to 4.30 and the advanced class from 4.30 to 6.00 at the Washington Irving High School, Irving Place and 161 St. Street, Room 119. If you are one of those who attend the class regularly, you will not see that some of your acquaintances, members of the International, join these classes before it is too late?

In this class each student is given sufficient time to present a subject, after which Mr. Schulz corrects it from every angle.

Our Educational Committee is not sparing anything to make this class a success.

Won't you try to help?

Special attention is called to the following:

We have been fortunate in securing Dr. Alexander A. Goldenweiser of Columbia University to lecture for us on three successive Friday evenings beginning March 21st. The subject of this course is The Present Outlook, comprising:

1. Nationalism; Its Sources and Future.
 2. Internationalism: Its History and its present tasks.
 3. The Individual: His Rights, Duties and Aspirations.
- You can see from the outline that it is a course of unusual interest.

Dr. Newmann will begin a new course of six lectures on American Idealism on Thursday March 27th, 1919, the outline of the course will be announced soon.

The above courses, as well as the class in public speaking, are absolutely free to the members of the International.

THE STRIKE OF THE LADIES' TAILORS IN CHICAGO

By HYMAN SNEED

The Ladies' Tailors, Local 104, are on strike, and already they have quite a number of captured positions to their credit. They sent their demands to the bosses in the form of an ultimatum, setting Feb. 25th as the time limit. The bosses ignored the demands, with the result that the tailors, at a spirited mass-meeting, decided to declare a general strike.

The strike began on the 26th, and it was a clean sweep. Practically on the same day a number of bosses applied for settlements. Within the next few days the strike was 70 per cent won.

The demands of the Ladies' Tailors included an eight hour labor day, a minimum wage of \$3 dollars per week, no overtime, except to finish a special job, and several other things. At present there are about one hundred workers still on strike, but they, too, are sure of a victory. The season is knocking at the door; new "artists" are not to be gotten, and these strikers may well be confident of their victory.

It is true that the bosses who are still holding out are the "bears" of the trade, but they will come round, all right. They have no new hands, and they won't have them, either.

Yet it would not be a bad idea for the New York Ladies' Tailors to get after firms that have branches in New York like Rochell and Ferguson Willard.

The Ladies' Waist Makers' Union Local 100 is now in full bloom. The work of organization conducted by the general organizer, Brother Hochman with the aid of Brother Ginsberg is proceeding even better than it was hoped it would.

As soon as the organization campaign was launched, the manufacturers became alarmed and tried in every way to stem the tide. They promised a 44 hour work week, to go into effect on April 1st (April Fool). They thought that this would keep the Ladies' Waist Makers from organizing. But their promise had just the opposite effect. The workers realized what power they could wield when organized and united, and they came in masses to the office and joined the organization.

Brother Hochman, of course, took advantage of the situation and started a campaign for a 44 hour week to be introduced a bit earlier than the time set by the bosses. The union manufacturers without much dickering conceded the 44 hour week and a raise of wages. Among the association manufacturers "civil war" broke out. Many of them revoked the previous "manifesto" to the workers, and conceded to the demands of the union.

The office is swarming with work of organization. With cheerful faces girls hurry to the office right from their shops and bring new recruits. New York is not the only union city. Chicago will soon show you what she can do. You may expect very glad news.

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AMONG THE CUTTERS

By MAX GORENSTEIN

Manager Cloak, Suit and Skirt Division Cutters' Union Local 10

Meeting of Miscellaneous Branch.

Last Monday the Miscellaneous Branch of the Cutters' Union held its regular monthly meeting, at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Marks Place.

After the routine of the meeting had been disposed of the discussion centered chiefly around the strike of the White Goods Workers, Local No. 62. Brother Charles Nagle and Brother Max Israel, respectively manager and business agent of the Miscellaneous Branch reported on the progress of the White Goods strike. In their opinion the situation is more than optimistic from the standpoint of the strikers. There are few scabs in the affected shops in the suburbs of the city, and practically none within the city. Spirited picketing is done daily by the strikers.

Preparations for the new agreement with the Cloak and Suit Manufacturers

Local 10 is tense with interest in connection with the renewing of the agreement with the Cloak and Suit manufacturers. The Joint Board of the Cloak-makers' Union is soon to enter into conferences with the manufacturers on the matter. The new agreement has been drawn up and submitted to the various locals for ratification.

The Cutters are busy drawing up a scale of wages and other demands pertaining to their side of the agreement.

A special meeting of all Cloak, Suit, Skirt, and Reefer Cutters will be held on Saturday afternoon, March 22, at 1 P. M. at

Arlington Hall, 23 St. Marks Pl. The special order of business will consist of the report of the Executive Board on the new agreement.

The proceedings of the meeting will be reported in the next issue of the "Justice".

EMBROIDERERS WIN WITHOUT A FIGHT

The Embroidery Workers' Union Local 6 of the I. L. G. W. U. won all their demands without a fight. The strike that was suggested in the last issue of the "Justice" as a possibility did not take place. The bosses knew better and agreed to the demands of the Union. The Embroiderers of New York City gained a reduction of hours from 5 1/2 to 48, an increase in wages from 10 to 20 per cent, and full union conditions.

Brother Manny Weiss, manager of the Union said that the Union asked for a 48 hour week, and not for 44, because of technical reasons. "Until technical improvements are introduced in the machinery of the trade," he said, "we must be content with the 48 hour week."

The New Jersey embroidery shops are next on the program.

"BIG SIX" CELEBRATES

Typographical Union No. 6 held a "victory" celebration, attended by nearly 3,000 persons, to commemorate the making of New York a 100 per cent newspaper city. Addresses were made by former presidents, including Hugh Dalton, who holds card No. 1 in this union, which has a membership of 8,000.

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Local 35, I. L. G. W. U.

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RAILROADS TO REMAIN IN THE HANDS OF GOVERNMENT AS YET.

The railroads will not be returned to private management by the president until Congress is given an opportunity to consider a permanent program of legislation.

This announcement was made by the director general of railroads in a letter to Congressman Sims.

"For your further information," the railroad executive said "I am glad to state that I have now discussed the matter with the president, and he has authorized me to state that not only will there be no sudden relinquishment of the railroads, but further that it is not his purpose to relinquish the railroads until there has been an opportunity to see whether a constructive permanent program of legislation is likely to be considered promptly and adopted within a reasonable time."

TWO OF OUR GIRL STRIKERS SENT TO WORKHOUSE

Magistrate Groehl, sitting in the Jefferson Market Court on Thursday sentenced two Waist Maker strikers to the workhouse.

The two strikers are: Sadie Wassenback, sentenced to 10 days and Lillie Ginsberg to 2 days. Both were charged with "assault" and both pleaded "not guilty". One of the ruffians, said to be a gangster in the employ of the bosses, was fined \$5, though he was brought before the magistrate on the same charge. The Manufacturers' Association paid the fine, according to Hyman Buschell the attorney of the International.

A civilization is possible in which the poorest could have all the comforts and conveniences now enjoyed by the rich; in which prisons and almshouses would be needless, and charitable societies unthought of. Such a civilization waits only for the social intelligence that will adapt means to ends.

—Henry George.

Keep your eye on those fellows who claim that they are friends of labor. The only good friends are a paid-up dues book and a bunch of union labels on your back.

Fighting to keep out of the war; fighting for democracy; fighting to get back home; fighting to get food to live on—just fight, fight and fight. What next?

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Special order of business
Report of the Executive Board on the New Agreement.

HARY BERLIN, President. MAX GORENSTEIN Manager.

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DR. HENRY R. LINVILLE, President
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Discussion

PEOPLES INSTITUTE
Cooper Union

Sunday, March 23rd, 8 P. M.
Prof. ALBERT BUSHNELL HART
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On
THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS
and
THE WAGE EARNER

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Speaker: GEORGE NASMYTH

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"CIVILIZATION
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Sunday, March 30th, 8 P. M.
"DOSTOEVSKI: THE MAN"



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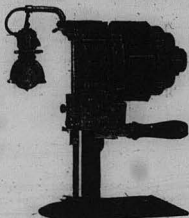
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