



JUSTICE



OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTER NATIONAL LADIES GARMENT WORKERS UNION.

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Price 2 cents.

Huge Victory in Chicago

A Brilliant Settlement in the Waist and Dress Industry. After Lengthy Conferences President Schlesinger Reaches An Amicable Agreement with the Two Manufacturers' Associations. Union is Recognized. Workers Gain 44-Hour Week, Minimum Wage, and Other Improvements. Agreement Ratified at an Enthusiastic Meeting of Strikers. President Schlesinger and Organizer Hochman Presented with Gorgeous Bouquets. Chicago Labor Rejoicing at the Victory.

Not a week passes but we have a victory to announce. This time it is in the waist and dress industry of Chicago.

Our members probably remember the stubborn Chicago strike of two years ago which had to be abandoned on account of the injunction judges and their czaristic edicts. The manufacturers were wild with joy. They thought that they defeated the workers and the union beyond any chance of recovery. Their joy was, however, short-lived. Like a phoenix from its ashes the workers rose from their defeat with undaunted spirits, ready to join forces once more, ready to give life and death battle to their conquerors.

It took some time to effect a reorganization of the union, to strengthen its weak spots and to prepare for the coming struggle. The workers responded to the call of their leaders and rallied to the banner of their union. The defeat had the effect of spurs upon these brave fighters for a better life. The shout "long live the Union" never left their lips and worked like an inspiration.

When Schlesinger set things to rights in Cleveland and came to Chicago to take charge of the situation the manufacturers of the skirt, dress and waist industries came to feel that this time they had no chance, that not even injunctions would stave off the sure victory of the workers. Willingly they met Schlesinger and a committee of local 100 Chicago at the green table and began conferring.

There were a few such conferences, and even if the reticent Schlesinger will not tell us what took place there, we will bear him no grudge. We know the results, which are:

1. Unqualified recognition of the Union.

2. A 44 hour week.
3. Time and half for overtime.
4. 6 1/2 legal holidays.
5. Price committees and shop chairmen in every shop.
6. Machinery to settle disputes arising in the shops.
7. Equal distribution of work.
8. Minimum weekly scales of wages:
Cutters, \$39; Drapers, \$23; Hemstitchers, \$20; Examiners, \$20; Finishers, \$17; Clearners, \$14; Sample Makers, \$26; Operators, (piece work) 85c. per hour; Pressers (piece work) 95c. per hour; Finishers (piece work) 60c. per hour.
9. Piece workers are to get an increase of from 5 to 20 per cent of the present prices.
10. Week workers are to be given an increase of from \$2 to \$5 a week over their present wages.

On Friday afternoon, August 1, the dress and skirt workers of local 100 held a mass meeting at the Empire Theatre to celebrate the victory of their Union and to ratify the agreement concluded with the manufacturers' associations of their industry.

On account of the Chicago car strike 1,500 of the workers came in trucks, jitneys, autos and on foot to attend the celebration in the Empire Theatre.

The old timers among the happy strikers, the pioneers who helped build the Union and had stood with and by it ever since its foundation, were beaming with joy that their efforts were finally crowned with huge success.

Women constituted about 90 per cent of the assembled. Both they and the men were tumultuous in their applause when the leaders of the Union appeared on the stage. Gorgeous bouquets of flowers were presented to Benjamin Schlesinger, President of the International and Julius Hochman, organizer.

Schlesinger was given a stormy ovation when he appeared on the platform.

H. Schoolman, vice president of the International and manager of the Joint Board of the Chicago Cloakmakers' Union presided at the meeting.

The victorious strikers were addressed by brother Schlesinger, organizer Ginsberg, Miss Agnes Nestor, president of the Women's

Trade Union League, brother Hochman, International organizer, and others.

All speakers were greeted with much applause.

Schlesinger spoke last. His speech, as usual, was marked by calmness, profound earnest and matter-of-factness. He read the agreement entered with the manufacturers' bodies and explained it clause by clause. When the agreement as a whole was submitted to the audience to pass upon it was approved unanimously and with bursts of applause.

Many of the independent manufacturers have consulted their better judgment and entered into agreements with the Union. There still remain a handful of manufacturers, 10 or 12 of them, who show fool-hardiness in holding out against the victorious union. They will be dealt with accordingly. Their shops will be declared on strike and the chances of long resistance on their part are nil. Local 100 is determined to have the industry 100 per cent organized and the industry will be 100 per cent organized before many days are over.

RAINCOAT MAKERS WIN, BACK AT WORK

The general strike of the Raincoatmakers' Union local 20 is at an end, and with the exception of 2 shops, the workers are back at work. The strike has been won in a brilliant manner. The raincoat-makers have obtained the same conditions of work as prevailed in the cloak industry of New York.

The principal gains are:
1. Week work.

2. A 44 hour week.
3. A minimum weekly scale of wages of \$44 a week for operators and cementers, \$39 for cutters, \$38 for pressers and \$25 for button sewers.

The remarkable thing about the strike is that it has been settled in the suburbs and the neighboring towns of New York as well as in the metropolis. The above conditions will from now on prevail in all the factories in and around New York where raincoats are made. The union has been fully recognized, and it may confidently be expected that the raincoat trade will become 100 per cent unionized.

The strike was settled on Saturday Aug. 2. A few days later the general strike committee was dissolved and the Executive Board of the Union resumed its pre-strike functions.

There is great rejoicing in the rank and file of local 20. The settlement has come up to their best expectations and this increased still further their confidence in the officers of the union.

WAIST STRIKE IN SCHENECTADY SETTLED

The strike of the employees of the E. & Z. Waist Shop of Schenectady was settled satisfactorily for the workers.

The firm agreed to increase the wages of all of its employees and to make \$10 the minimum initial wage.

The union has not been recognized formally but the workers will deal with the management through elected committees.

Under the circumstances it is the best settlement that could be obtained. As soon as the shop is organized more fully the question of union recognition will again be pushed to the fore. The union is determined to conquer that shop and we do not doubt that it will.

MAX FINKELSTEIN CHOSEN CHIEF CLERK OF LOC. 25

On Tuesday evening, Brother Max Finkelstein, for several years manager of the Protective Division of the Cloakmakers' Union of New York, has been appointed Chief Clerk of the Waist and Dress Makers' Union, Local 25 at a meeting of the Executive Board. Brother Finkelstein will be in charge of all the association shops of the Union.

The office of chief clerk is a highly responsible one and calls

for tact and discretion in addition to an intimate knowledge of the machinery for straightening out difficulties between employer and employee.

We extend our congratulations to brother Finkelstein and wish it our sincere wishes of success in his new office. From what we know of his record as chief of the Protective Division of the Cloak-Maker Union we think that local 25 has made a splendid choice.

THE WEEK

By S. Y.

THE RAILWAY WORKERS AND THEIR DEMANDS

The sensations of last week were not the treaty discussions in the Senate, nor by the fact that the Allies succeeded in forcing the resignation of Bela Kun and his communistic dictatorship in Hungary; nor the labor riots in Liverpool which had the looks of a revolution; nor the strike of policemen in England which seems to have ended in a fiasco. All these events have receded to the background to make room for the four brotherhoods of railway workers and their very radical demands.

Perhaps it was not the demands so much as the reason stated in support of them. The railway workers maintain that there is no sense for workers fighting for higher wages, because it is next to impossible to make a living no matter how high the wages are. They say that the greater the raise in wages the more they have to pay for living essentials, and they therefore came to the conclusion that under the present system of profits the workers always get the worse end of the bargain. And for this reason they demand a fundamental change in the management of the railways. They oppose the return of the railways to their former owners as proposed by President Wilson. They demand that the railways remain in the control of the government and that the railway workers have a share in the management of the roads.

They base their demands on Wilson's message of May 20, 1918, where the president says that our industries must be democratized, that the workers must have a voice in their management. President Wilson surely did not think that the workers would go so far in interpreting his words, but contrary to all expectations they did.

The plan of the brotherhoods, if carried out, would be the realization of Wilson's beautiful phrase in the best sense of the word. The brotherhoods demand that the profit system in the railways be abolished once for all. They want to do away with the capitalist in the management of the railways, who draws large dividends not because of his merit but because of his capital. They want the railways to be managed by government representatives in co-operation with representatives of the railway workers, and that the workers share in the profit derived from an efficient management of the roads.

Their plan appeals greatly to the general public, for the public knows that in the present high prices of living necessities the railroads are an aggravating factor. The transportation rates are inordinately high and every individual in the country must contribute to the profits of the railway capitalists. The new plan would do away with all this.

Naturally, if this plan could be confined to the railway industry, leaving other industries to their present methods, it would not have created such a sensation. But it is no secret that such a fundamental change cannot be confined to the railroad industry alone. The proposed plan of the railway workers means nothing short of a revolution in our entire system;

it amounts virtually to the abolition of capitalism and the establishment of a socialist order of things. It means a thorough change in the system of government in the sense that the workers through their representatives are to have a determining voice in the industrial and social life.

The plan, of course, is not a new one, except for a few practical details clearly worked out and well presented; but the important thing is that it is proposed not by socialist dreamers or by syndicalist hot-heads, but by the practical, sober-minded railway workers who are strongly united and who always know how to have their wishes respected.

Three years ago, a month before the presidential elections, these brotherhoods demanded an eight hour day law; they threatened a general strike if such law would not be passed within a short time. The capitalist press came out in vigorous protest, called the demand a hold-up and what not. But the threats and the entreaties of the press failed to sverve the brotherhoods. And they got the 8 hour day.

It is not difficult for the brotherhoods to gain their demands because they have in their hands the power of maintaining or paralyzing the industrial and social life of the country. They know it and they know that their demands are reasonable. They have come to the conclusion that the economic struggle which labor has been conducting has brought no results; they have come to realize that there is no reason why the railways which they operate should not be controlled by them in co-operation with the public.

Our press is going through the same stunts as it did three years ago. It appeals to the public and threatens all kinds of calamities. But it will hardly have any effect. American labor is behind the plan of the brotherhoods. At the convention of the A. F. of L. Mr. Plumb's speech in which he presented the plan was greeted with stormy applause. And if American labor is behind the plan the hopes are bright that it will be realized.

A FIGHT ON THE HIGH COST OF LIVING.

The second important event closely connected with the demands of the railway workers is the fight against the high cost of living which the government has undertaken. The congress was to go into recess and our law-makers have made all the preparations for a vacation when suddenly, like a bolt from the blue, came a message from the President stating that a situation is serious, that the cost of living is rising daily and that something must be done at once. The congress, of course, could not help but to go into session again and take up the question of the cost of living. We will have occasion soon to see what our law-makers have accomplished by way of curbing the prolifer.

We doubt whether congress will accomplish much in this direction. The general opinion is similar to that maintained by the brotherhoods, who think that the

time has come for fundamental changes.

President Wilson has a particularly hard time with the railway shophmen. They were promised a raise in wages but the promise was not fulfilled. The shophmen lost their patience and went on strike, before an official strike vote was taken. It is believed that the vote, when completed, will be in favor of a general strike, which may be called not later than September 2nd, according to Mr. Jewel, a representative of the shophmen.

A committee of the strikers visited President Wilson, who said that he had laid before congress a project for a wage board. This the workers emphatically rejected. They want a raise of wages and an immediate one.

The shophmen are in accord with the plan of the brotherhoods. They consider it the only way of coping with the present situation.

STILL PLAYING ANGRY

Things are not as smooth and peaceful at the International Trades Union Congress as some optimists expected. The German delegates have not expressed a sufficient degree of penitence to suit our American delegates, and so our amicable relations have not been re-established.

Samuel Gompers in one of his speeches rejected the Berne pro-

gram and said that the American workers would not adopt it.

He also stated that the Amsterdam Conference may decide things to its heart's content but the American workers would take part in the conference which would take place in Washington next October. He said this in connection with a resolution demanding that the United International Labor Conference in Washington invite representatives of all countries without exception.

Karl Legain, president of the German Labor Federation, protested against the exclusion of the Russian, German, and Austrian delegates from the conference while delegates of the South American states, of Liberia, and Japan, where children work 14 hours a day, are admitted.

Several important resolutions were adopted at the Amsterdam Conference. One call for the lifting of the blockade against Russia; another for socialization of labor, a term not explained in the cable dispatch. In a third resolution the labor view of the League of Nations is stated, but we do not know as yet whether the Conference expressed itself for or against it. The fact that this detail is omitted in the dispatches may be taken as an indication that the Amsterdam Conference has manifested no great enthusiasm for the League for Nations.

THE LABOR PARTY OF THE NON-PARTISAN LEAGUE

By NEWTON JENKINS

(The Non-Partisan League Is a Very Interesting Venture in Progressive Politics. The Readers of The Justice Will, No Doubt, Be Interested in the Labor Program of This New Party of "Farmer-Socialism.")

One thing that stands out in the North Dakota program of the Non-Partisan League is the labor legislation that has been enacted by the present Legislature. North Dakota is in no sense an industrial state. It is agricultural. There are but two labor men in it—Malone, a coal miner, and O'Brien, a barber. In every other state any labor legislation that has been secured has been after long bitter fights, which have usually been conducted time after time before sufficient strength could be mustered in the Legislature for enactment.

There is hardly a bit of labor legislation in this country that has not gone through years of trying and vexing agitation prior to its enactment. The history of all such measures has been that session after session has been besieged by the workers until they have almost despaired. The political power of labor also has been a factor in securing such legislation. Legislators feared the active opposition of the workers at the polls. The vote tabulations kept by labor leaders showing how the legislator voted upon matters vital to labor have made legislators think twice before voting against the workers.

And now comes North Dakota with a complete set of liberal, forward facing labor measures all enacted in record time and presented to the workers of the state as a matter of justice. No long, bitter fights, no unfair lists, no coercion, no series of defeats, no substitute impotent measures. This assembly of farmers, under the leadership of the Non-Partisan League, has in one session enacted eight distinctly labor bills,

besides numerous measures concerning economics, industry and taxation which are akin to the interests of the workers and vital to all the people.

1. Disability compensation.
2. Eight hour day for women.
3. Minimum wage for women.
4. Inspection of coal mines.
5. Limiting the issuance of injunction.
6. Union label.
7. Full train crew.
8. Protection of employees.

DISABILITY COMPENSATION

The Disability Compensation Bill provides for a fund out of which employees and their dependents are paid in cases of injury or death in the course of employment amounts equal to two-thirds of their previous earning capacity. The bill is throughout perhaps the most liberal of its kind in the country. It makes provision for raising the allowance, in cases where minors are injured, in keeping with the increase in probable earning capacity save for the injury. The fund out of which payment is made is provided entirely out of assessment against the employers, and the employees contribute nothing toward it.

WOMEN'S EIGHT HOUR DAY

The eight-hour day for women is secured in a short bill of only three paragraphs. It provides that "no female shall be employed in any manufacturing, mechanical or mercantile establishment, laundry or restaurant, or telephone or telegraph establishment or office, or in any express or transportation company, in the State of North

Dakota more than eight and one-half hours in any one day, or more than six days or more than forty-eight hours in any one week; provided, however, that this shall not apply to females working in rural telephone exchanges or in villages or towns less than five hundred population."

MINIMUM-WAGE FOR WOMEN

The lives, health and morals of women and minors are given consideration in the minimum wage law. The term "minor" includes children of either sex under 18, and the terms "women" means women 18 or over. It is provided as unlawful to employ women or minors in any occupation in which the work is unreasonably long hours and in any occupation under such surroundings or conditions, sanitary or otherwise, as may be detrimental to their health or morals. To employ women or minors at wages inadequate to supply the necessary cost of living to maintain them in health is also unlawful. The Workmen's Compensation Bureau is authorized to set:

1. Standards of hours of employment for women workers and what are unreasonably long hours of employment for women workers.

2. Standards of conditions for women workers and what surroundings or conditions are detrimental to the health or morals of women workers.

3. Standards of minimum wages for women workers and what wages are inadequate to supply the necessary cost of living to women workers and maintain them in health.

A woman who will have much to do with working out the minimum wage law is Miss Aldyth Ward, who since 1917 has carried on investigation of the conditions of employment of women and minors. But the last Legislature placed the industrial commission in charge of the operation of the minimum wage law and Miss Ward's powers and opportunities are greatly extended.

INSPECTION OF COAL MINES

Extensive regulations of coal mining are made in House Bill No. 55, sponsored by Representative Malone, himself a coal miner. The state mine inspector, who is to be appointed by the governor, is allowed \$2,500 salary, with but \$1,200 additional to hire clerical help and assistance. This would not warrant a charge of governmental extravagance, it would seem. It is provided that in any county in which coal is mined a board of examiners shall be appointed to examine and issue certificates of competency to mine foremen and mine examiners, and any person who acts in the capacity of a mine foreman or mine examiner without a certificate of competency is deemed guilty of an offense. Any company employing an uncertified foreman or examiner is also deemed guilty.

Wash houses are provided for the miners. The men are privileged to employ their own check weighman. Hoisting devices must be equipped with safety appliances. Proper ventilation of the mines is insured, together with emergency exits.

INJUNCTION LIMITATION BILL

The power of the state courts to issue injunctions in labor disputes is limited, substantially as

WORKERS' EDUCATION NEW RUSSIA

By JULIET S. POYNTZ

"Whether the Soviet Government survives or not," said a well-known writer recently returned from Russia, "its work in the field of education will endure forever." This statement is supported by the decrees and reports on the subject of education which are gradually making their way into this country from Russia. They are the record of a tremendous effort and a great achievement.

When the workers' government came into power in Russia it found that not only had the education of the people been grievously neglected by the old regime but that the meager educational facilities that were provided were built and administered in a narrow class spirit. The masses of the people were trained from earliest childhood in mind and body for their serf-like position. In the view of the narrow minded pedagogs of the old type there were two great divisions in humanity, the saved and the lost, the aristocrats and the workers. And the children of the upper classes were educated to despise work and the workers, and to look upon idleness and the exploitation of others as the ideal mode of existence. Education was not for life, for intelligent and co-operative labor, but for status, for social position which should give security and privilege. The teachers were office holders, appointed from above, detached in spirit from the people. The old school system was not a channel of education, but an instrument for obscuring the minds of the people. The schools were used as instruments for the propaganda of reaction rather than the creation of a healthy modern philosophy of life.

The schools, according to the Soviet idea, must be conceived of as a preparation for life in the true sense. It should be society in miniature. Every school should be a labor commune in which the children would be trained for a life of co-operative labor. In so far as their strength allowed they should care for their own physical needs and reduce the number of servants to the minimum. Even the janitor should be animated with the zeal of a revolutionary teacher and should train the chil-

provided in the Clayton Act concerning the Federal courts. It is similar to the bill which has been introduced time after time into the Legislature of Illinois where, though an industrial state, it has been each time voted down.

UNION LABEL

All state printing must hereafter bear the label of the International Typographical Union, it is provided.

FULL TRAIN CREW

Railroads are compelled by Senate Bill No. 85 to man properly their trains to promote the safety of the railroad employees and the passengers. Freight trains of less than forty cars and passenger trains require five men in each crew.

PROTECTION OF EMPLOYEES

Shelter and protection must be provided by common carriers for employees while engaged in the repair or construction of equipment. Suitable buildings or sheds must be provided.

children to understand his own duties in their relation to the life of the group. In speaking of this question the Soviet report says, "The bourgeois school makes of its pupils privileged idlers, people unable to work, and, very often, even exploiters. . . . The school servants, placed in such a situation, developed a feeling of injury and bitterness toward these favorites of destiny. The new Labor School sets as its aim the cultivation of a high regard for all kinds of productive work, and a profound respect for the toiling masses. In the labor school-commune, therefore, the teacher and pupils should take upon themselves all those physical labors which the old system imposed upon others."

In the new system of education for the workers the responsibilities of parenthood are to be lifted from the shoulders of father and mother and placed upon those of the general community. In the present state of society the workman not only has to struggle to provide a living for himself but also for his children and for his wife because she must bear and rear the children. Now the children of the working class form the majority of the next generation just as their parents do of this. The result is that the terrible burden of raising the future generation falls upon the working class whose poverty makes it the least able to bear it. This is recognized in the socialist plan for rearing the young, and the responsibility for the children of the race is undertaken by all the citizens instead of one class only. The hours spent in school are much longer in order to free the parents and especially the mother from enslavement to the care of the children. Infants are cared for in communal nurseries in which the most scientific methods of child care are pursued. After this stage young children are cared for in kindergarten. Then come the school communes or miniature societies in which the children are organized into educational and productive groups and finally comes the free university in which the greatest opportunities for culture and special training are open to all at the age of sixteen without charge—and what is still more remarkable, without examinations. Even the economic burden of children is lifted from the parents through school feeding and care. Such a program liberates the father from the gnawing anxiety over bread for the children, and frees the mother who has been a prisoner in the home with small children to care for. Through this step alone humanity becomes emancipated for a new life of its own, aside from the burden of bringing up the next generation. Men and women specially of the working classes have ceased to live a personal life with the birth of their children. Their existence has been not unlike that of the low order of animal that lives only to reproduce and then expires. When parenthood is socialized, adults may hope for life and joy, for growth and development freed of the oppressive burden of the next generation. One can imagine the million mothers of our East Side set free for their entire time by fine communal nurseries and splendid domestic

schools. How different would be their lives! How much more happy and fruitful not only for themselves but for society as a whole.

Industrial education finds a place in the labor-commune school. Training for good work and efficient production in a country highly capitalistic like the United States is used for the purpose of creating more efficient slaves for capitalistic production. In the co-operative state of the future industrial knowledge is the source of greater comfort and happiness for all. The result is more goods and better goods—but he who profits thereby is the free worker and not the capitalistic state. The aim of socialism is not to eliminate work but to make it more pleasant and honorable. The aim of democratic education is not to afford opportunities to all for evading work and climbing out of the working class but rather to enable all to work hard for their mutual benefit. Therefore the Russian school system recognizes the necessity of industrial education, in fact makes all of its education industrial. It aims to mould the child into an effective co-operative unit in its group. Through his co-operative activity in his small labor commune he becomes familiar with all kinds of work—all industries and all processes. Then gradually he is trained more carefully in the special work that he will practice in the future.

While the child is learning to be an efficient co-operative producer he is being trained spiritually and aesthetically. The welfare of his individual soul and body are nothing neglected. Every opportunity is his for seeing and appreciating beauty in the world of art and music. And not merely for seeing it—but for creating it himself. He learns how to make his own small environment beautiful, how to paint and draw, how to design beautiful furniture and clothing, how to sing and play instruments, how to dance. All his capacities for joy are developed to their fullest. For in the labor-state the object is not money but men.

The worker's child in the worker's state is trained as a citizen not along the narrow jingoistic lines that make patriotic hysteria and war-fever possible but as a true internationalist with a reverence for the ideals of peace and international brotherhood. In the words of those who are working toward this noble end: "Only the socialist school is striving for a harmonious combination of a broad educational culture with a thorough industrial training, educating the students in the spirit of the international solidarity of labor. Only such a school has the right to say that it does not turn out a human being a skilled laborer but creates a man."

CORRECTION

A few errors crept into the Financial Report of the strike of local 25, printed in last week's issue. The errors and corrections are given below:

Total Receipts, \$636,782.4 should be \$637,782.40; Settlement Committee, \$597.29 should read \$497.29; Extra Help, \$8,192.40 should read \$8,135.11; Total strike benefit out-of-town \$34,450.65 should read \$34,450.75.

JUSTICE

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EDITORIALS

THE STORY TOLD BY THE FIGURES IN THE REPORT OF THE LADIES' WAIST MAKERS' UNION

The auditor's report of the historic Ladies' Waist Makers' strike, which appeared in last week's issue of the Justice is very interesting and instructive, and it would be regrettable if the members of the International and particularly those of the Ladies' Waist Makers' Union failed to read it and reap its true meaning. The first thing that strikes you when you look at the figures bearing on the income during the strike, is the feeling of genuine brotherhood, which is the spirit of the International.

You learn that almost a half of the strike expenses, amounting to more than half a million dollars, was paid by the strikers themselves, by those who were among the first to return to the settled shops. The 10 per cent tax paid most cheerfully by these strikers yielded over \$200,000. You also see that the various locals of the International advanced loans amounting to about \$70,000. Next came the contributions of the International, the Joint Board and of individual locals amounting to about \$151,000.

If you read the figures carefully you see at once that you have to do with an organization which expresses solidarity and brotherhood not in mere words but in terms of hard cash.

Nearly two thirds of the costs of the strike were the result of the unity among our workers, in other words, nearly two thirds of the strike costs would never have been raised if our workers had had no union.

When you read the items of expenditures you see that the money contributed was really of vital import, that but for this money the strike could not have lasted one hour.

Of course, the halls and the various committees aiding in the strike cost quite some money, but the sum is small compared with that paid in strike benefits. The total of strike benefits in greater New York and in the vicinity is over \$280,000. The total of strike benefits outside of New York is over \$34,000. To be exact the total of strike benefits amounts to \$328,630. This means that if this amount could not have been raised thousands of strikers would have been driven back to their shops by sheer hunger.

While we are at it we may as well say a few words about the out-of-town activities of the Waist Makers' Union during the strike. According to the financial report the out-of-town strike benefit amounted to \$34,450.75 and the expenses of the out-of-town committee were \$36,226.41. The total for the out-of-town activities is \$70,677.16. We see, from this that a great deal of the available energies and finances had to be de-

voted to the towns in the vicinity of New York, such as Jersey City, Long Island, Plainfield, Newark, Mount Vernon, West Hoboken, Perth Amboy, Troy, Kingston, New Haven, Hartford and others.

What were the results of these out-of-town efforts? This is of no consequence to us in the given case for even if the results were the worst the union could not afford to neglect those towns. Granted that not much was accomplished by way of organizing the out-of-town waistmakers, it is still true that the epidemic of moving the shops out-of-town was more or less checked, and the lesson learned is of the greatest importance both for the waist industry and for the needle industry as a whole.

And this lesson is very plain indeed. The provincial towns compete fiercely with New York. The workers of those towns put up with miserable wages and unspeakable sanitary conditions, and long hours of work. This circumstance constitutes a grave menace to the workers of New York and endangers all the gains they may have won. More than that, it turns all gains to losses, for with every new advantage gained by the New York workers there is a greater outflow of the work into the provincial towns, where the work could be done cheaper.

It is clear, therefore, that one of the most urgent and difficult tasks confronting the International is to organize the out-of-town workers. Had this work of organization been done in a systematic way before the Ladies' Waist Makers' strike broke out the strike in New York would have been of brief duration and the strike expenses for the out-of-town shops would have been considerably smaller. The fact that this work was neglected accounts for the negligible results attained by the Out-of-Town Committee, despite the fact that its expenditures amounted to one fifth the total cost of the strike. When a general strike is on the work of organization cannot be conducted properly. Shops go on strike for a day and then return to work, and all energies and money must be expended all over again to attain another short-lived stoppage. Good, systematic work of organization can be done only in times of peace. The work is not of an easy nature. It calls for much time, much patience, a great deal of money, and genuine organizing abilities. But the work must be done if the International is to retain its power and prestige.

And now we must point out a few more items in the report, those may mar the picture revealed to us by the figures given above.

Under the section of receipts we see that the balance of the union on January 1, 1919 was \$668.48. This means that three weeks before the Ladies' Waist and

Dress Makers' Union entered its historical struggle, which cost over half a million dollars, the treasury of the union contained only 668 dollars. This in itself would be sad enough and would explain why the ladies' waist manufacturers, who surely knew the state of the union's finances, were so eager to precipitate a strike in the firm belief that the union had nothing to fight with. But when you look at the section of disbursements you see the financial condition of the union was even worse. The balance on Jan. 1, 1919 was a liability and not an asset. "Expenses incurred in 1918—\$2,203.46." This item means that the union started the strike not only with very little money but with a deficit. And if such for the International the Ladies' Waist Makers' Union would have had to seek quick relief to save its very existence, let alone planning for a gigantic strike.

These figures show plainly that the members of local 25 simply neglected their duty toward their union. Few of them paid dues, which is the chief source of the union's income. Many of the waist makers did not even consider it necessary to belong to the union. You can see it from the fact that a few days before the strike was declared the receipts of the union for dues amounted to \$36,304.40 and for initiation fees \$74,961.35. This sum of 171 thousand dollars shows to what extent the waistmakers were neglectful of their duties, for all this money may be justly classed as arrears.

We do not think that further comments are necessary. The figures speak for themselves. They disclose to us the reason why the manufacturers did nothing to avert a strike and why the struggle was so bitter and hard fought. Let us hope that the membership of local 25 will never again let their union come to such a state. The financial condition of the union has greatly improved since Jan. 1, 1919, the financial report showing the balance on May 24, 1919, to have been 32 thousand dollars, but it is only an improvement over a critical condition. If the members will continue to do their duty there is no reason why this balance should not be increased tenfold.

OUR CONGRATULATIONS TO LOCAL 100 CHICAGO

The workers of the waist, dress and white goods trades of Chicago have scored a triumph at last. The brave men and women who withstood all the odds of a bitter strike of ten weeks two years ago have at last come into their own. There were many pessimists among us who thought that all the heroic efforts, all the sacrifices made in that ill-fated strike, all the hardships endured were in vain.

And so it seemed on the surface. But only on the surface. In reality the present victory, which was won without a strike, is the golden fruit of the lost strike of two years ago. But for that strike the present victory would have been impossible. The manufacturers came out victorious in the strike, but it was so dear-bought a victory that they dared not risk another match of strength and yielded without a fight.

The present victory is the result of the lost strike yet in another sense. Paradoxical as it may seem, it is, nevertheless, often the case that after the workers' trade score a victory their union begins growing weaker and weak-

er, and the victory ends in a fizzle. The converse is also true. A temporary defeat often spurs the workers on to greater activity and stimulates their interest in the union. Their union grows strong enough to try it again with far better chances of success than before.

This was the case with the Chicago waistmakers. Who knows what would have become of the union of the waist, dress and white goods workers if the strike of two years ago ended in a semblance of victory for the workers? But in the face of defeat the workers showed loyalty to their union. The International and its officials, on their part, worked hard to effect unity and solidarity among the defeated workers, so that when the auspicious hour strikes they may plunge into victory.

The manufacturers of Chicago have not changed during the past two years, but the workers have become more determined, better organized, and this is what decided the outcome of the present struggle.

The manufacturers could have made no greater tribute to the power of the union than agreeing to its demands without a fight. If they believed that there was the least chance of defeating the workers they would have welcomed a strike as they had done two years ago.

Need we point out the share that is due the International in the great triumph of its Chicago members? Need we speak of the part played by President Schlesinger, by Brother Hochman, manager of local 100 and other leaders? Hardly. The workers of the Chicago ladies garment trades who witnessed their tireless work on behalf of the Union know how to appreciate such leaders and advisers and they have good reason to be proud of the ability and devotion of their leaders.

But we consider it our duty to warn the happy victors of Chicago to guard their present gains, to make secure their victory, which can be done only by strengthening the union still further, for the Union is their only effective weapon against the manufacturers.

And while we rejoice with our Chicago members in their great victory we hope that it has not turned their heads. We hope that they still retain the sense of reality, that they have not been blinded into thinking that the millennium has come, and that the worker rules the earth. Such a day will and must come but as yet it is far away. This is worth hearing in mind. The victors of Chicago must insist on the fulfillment by the manufacturers of every provision of the agreement, but they must not demand more than that. They must not permit the manufacturers to treat them rule-ly, they must not tolerate the whims of their employers, but at the same time they must not, in their turn, be haughty or arrogant. Self-respect coupled with modesty is the spirit the workers must exhibit while in their shops.

But the main thing is—we deem it worth repeating—to take good care of the Union, to be good union men and women in and out of the shops. This more than anything else, more even than the signed agreement, will make the manufacturers keep faith and treat the workers with respect and fairness.

The American Federation of Labor

ITS SOCIAL PHILOSOPHY AND ITS POLICIES AS REFLECTED AT ITS LAST CONVENTION.

By S. YANOFSKY

As far back as I can remember I was always prejudiced against the A. F. of L. That I could not be an admirer of it in my young days goes without saying. At that time, when I did not think much of unions altogether and when I believed that every palliative is nothing but a hindrance for the social revolution, which I thought was near at hand, I surely could not regard the American Federation of Labor with its daily struggles to gain a few paltry cents, any too leniently. I sincerely hoped for its destruction and I stated so openly.

Later, when I began paying somewhat closer attention, even if from a distance, to this labor organization, my sternness has relaxed somewhat. I remembered, for instance, that it was Gompers who aided Comrade Learner of London in his tour of the United States. Comrade Learner, when his tour was at an end, told me of Gompers' generous aid. Since then I paid more attention to the activities of the Federation as a whole and found much in them to commend. But even if I permitted myself occasionally to say a good word about Gompers and the Federation, the prejudice against it, the belief that it was a seat of reaction was too deeply rooted in me to part with it. And when I accepted the position as editor of the Justice and the "Gerechtigkeit," one of my secret hopes was that perhaps it would be possible, through the medium of these journals, to undermine the influence of the Federation.

I went to the Convention at Atlantic City not only for the purpose of reporting the proceedings for the publications under my editorship. I knew that I could quite rely on friend Heller in this particular. I went there chiefly to get a close view and first hand information of the American Federation of Labor, to see what the Federation really looks like. To learn for myself whether it is a blight for the labor movement and has to be combated or whether it is a great constructive force which is to be supported.

And to achieve my purpose as completely as possible I resolved to judge the Federation by the convention only and to shun, as far as possible, lobby gossip. I did not want to visit Gompers and many of the leaders of the Federation, though I knew that they expected a visit from me. I did not want my judgment of the convention to be tinged with impressions of personalities. I realized full well that a favorable or unfavorable impression of a person connected with a great movement is very likely to prejudice one for or against the movement as a whole. I decided to fight shy of all meetings and visits that might unduly influence my opinions, and to confine my attention to the convention only. I did not miss a single session. I followed the discussions and debates with close attention and genuine interest, and I may as well say outright that the convention has completely wiped out my old prejudice against the Federation. I came to the conclusion that the American Federation of

Labor is a great force, a growing force, a constructive force in our striving for a better world to live in.

I hope to be able to prove this to the open-minded, but I will not be disappointed if these lines will not carry the full force of persuasion, for I know from my own experience how difficult it is to change a deep-rooted opinion, even if an erroneous one.

I do not want to convey the impression that I found nothing untoward at the convention. The readers of the series of articles, of which this is the first, will see that I was not blind to the faults and shortcomings of the convention and the Federation. But this has nothing to do with my general view of the Federation.

One more thing by way of introduction. The American Federation of Labor may be justly criticized by those who believe that the American working class is ready for a general strike whose issue is the complete remodeling of our political and economic systems. Also those who think that the workers must conduct their own political campaigns through the medium of their own labor party, and that such campaigns and such a party constitute the only means of emancipation for the working class, must come to the conclusion that the A. F. of L. is the embodiment of all evil. Such persons must see the Federation all black. And it is not against such views that I want to defend the Federation. Persons who hold such views are simply unable to see the bright side of this labor organization. Unconsciously, and perhaps in spite of their intention to be fair, they frequently misstate and juggle facts so that in their descriptions the Federations really looks like a sinister thing, a malicious organization that brutally thwarts every noble effort on the part of the individual worker, as well as of society as a whole.

But this is far from the truth. The first thing that must be admitted by an unbiased observer is that the Federation has its own principles, which, though different from the philosophies and principles of the socialists, anarchists and other isms, are far removed from the bourgeois ideology. The Federation has its own struggle also with the bourgeoisie. Though its policies differ materially from those of the radical parties they differ in no lesser degree also from those of the bourgeoisie.

A mere perusal of the report of the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. is sufficient to corroborate my above statements. It is worth noting that the report was not drawn up with a view of pleasing the radicals. It was meant for the convention delegates and for the general membership, yet we find in it any number of views and demands to which radicals will cheerfully subscribe.

This is, for instance, what the report says about militarism:

"The trade union movement is unalterably and emphatically opposed to 'militarism' or a large standing army. 'Militarism' is a system fostered and developed by

tyrants in the hope of supporting their arbitrary authority. It is utilized by those whose selfish ambitions for power and worldly glory lead them to invade and subjugate other peoples and nations, to destroy their liberties, to acquire their wealth and to fasten the yoke of bondage upon them. The trade union movement is convinced by the experience of mankind that "militarism" brutalizes those influenced by the spirit of the institution. The finer elements of humanity are strangled. Under "militarism" a deceptive patriotism is established in the peoples' minds, where men believe that there is nobility of spirit and heroism in dying for the glory of a dynasty or the maintenance of institutions which are inimical to human progress and democracy. "Militarism" is the application of arbitrary and irresponsible forces as opposed to reason and justice. Resistance to injustice and tyranny is that virile quality which has given purpose and effect to ennobling causes in all countries and at all times. The free institutions of our country and the liberties won by its founders would have been impossible had they been unwilling to take arms and if necessary die in the defense of their liberties. Only a people willing to maintain their rights and defend their liberties are guaranteed free institutions."

What do you think of the views of our "reactionary" trade-unionists! And this rebellious spirit pervades the entire report.

We want to give another extract from the report bearing on the question of education, for it is here where we can easiest tell a reactionary from a liberal. This is what the committee has to say after having studied the various educational systems in America.

"One of the things that impressed the committee in the classes of the Ladies' Garment Workers' Union in New York City was the feeling of the students that the classes belonged to them, that they were at home in them, and took a collective pride in them. That is high praise for those classes, but it is also an indication of serious shortcoming in our public schools, and in the attitude of the public, that is not limited to New York City. For that sense of part-ownership should be in the minds of students in all public school classes; whenever any citizen passes or enters a public school building he should feel, 'Here is an institution which belongs to and is created to serve my fellow-citizens and me. It is an investment which should yield returns not merely during the five or six hours, five days a week, when the children use it, but during as many of the twenty-four hours as we may find uses for it.' When that conception becomes general, the schools will be indeed a melting pot. That that conception is not more general is partly the fault of the public, and partly that of boards of education, which is again the fault of the public.

Your committee believes that the educational facilities described in this report should be provided by boards of education whenever requested by a sufficient

number, and should be open to the public. But this implies that the courses offered shall be selected in cooperation with the unions or other groups making the requests, that they shall meet the wishes of the citizens who are prospective students, rather than of the boards of education. And it also implies that the instruction and discussions must be unhampered. A teacher must not be open to the taunt, "Do you say that because you think it is true, or because if you said anything else you would lose your job?" It is a sad commentary on American education that it is necessary to state these conditions. But it is necessary. Boards of education in an alarming number of our communities are unresponsive to public opinion, forget that they and the teachers are simply fellow-servants of the public, and assume proprietorship over the schools, and the minds of the teachers. In such communities, before the goal of centering union educational activities in the public schools can be fully realized, labor and other liberal elements must secure effective representation on the boards of education. Meanwhile classes under union auspices will serve the additional purpose of demonstrating the existence of a demand which the schools are failing to meet. But such classes should be considered a stop-gap. The sound solution is a progressive board of education, responsive to the public."

To class people entertaining such views as reactionaries is sheer nonsense. And if the criticisms leveled by the radicals against the Federation have had no effect upon its policies it is because those criticisms contained more feeling and prejudice than reason.

If you want to judge fairly of the A. F. of L. and its activities you must not begin by excommunicating it from the realm of the radical and the progressive. For the Federation is both radical and progressive. The only thing is that it has its own methods and its own conceptions of attaining the goal which is the goal of all lofty minds of all times.

NOLAN WAGE BILL PASSES

Washington. — The Nolan \$3-a-day minimum wage bill has passed the house by a vote of 337 to 48, and is now before the senate. It provides that no government employee shall be paid less than \$3 a day. The bill was approved by the house at the last session of congress but failed to receive consideration by the senate. The bill has been urged for several years by Congressman Nolan of California, a member of the Iron Molders' union, and a member of the congressional labor group.

IN THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF LOCAL 25.

A meeting of the Executive Board of the Ladies' Waist and Dressmakers Union, Local 25, was held on Tuesday evening, July 22, 1914, at Beethoven Hall, 210 E. 5th Street, Brother E. Lieberman as chairman.

Installation of the newly elected Executive Board members was taken up and the following installed:

Jewish Branch—Ab. Yelnik, Miriam Morison, Mollie Friedman, Pauline Stein, Esther Silberman.

Italian Branch—Luigi Maggioni, Pasquale La Selva, Vigilante, Frank Liberti, Mrs. Laura DiGuglielmo was not installed because of absence.

Brooklyn Branch—Pauline Wilkin.

Brownsville Branch—David Stawchawsky and Meyer Ostrofsky.

Harlem Branch—N. Nalkin, D. Schuster.

Upon the request of a committee from "The Friends of Freedom for India," it was decided that the Executive Board adopt a resolution to protest against the deportation of Hindus endeavoring to gain freedom for their native land. It was further moved and carried to aid this committee financially.

The International Cigar Makers' Union who are now involved in a bitter struggle for the last four weeks with over 27,000 members out on strike not only in New York City, but all over the country, appealed, through a committee for financial aid, and it was decided to contribute \$100.

Finance and Relief Committee's report was taken up and acted upon.

A committee elected sometime ago to look for a suitable candidate for the office of Chief Clerk of the Union, reports that they have several people under consideration and will bring in a final report to the next meeting of the Board.

The communication sent by Bro. Lieberman was taken up and again read before the Executive Board. Also the communication from the Committee of Seven. Same was done for the purpose of the Board learning the distinctions of the recommendations in both reports. The first recommendation of the Committee of Seven which reads "that members meetings as such be abolished and their power given to shop representatives, one of each shop," gave rise to lively discussion in which most of the members of the Board participated. After a lengthy discussion, the recommendation was taken to a vote and voted down.

As the hour was late, Bro. Lieberman's recommendations were postponed for the next meeting of the Executive Board, same to be on the first order of business.

At another meeting held on Tuesday evening, July 29, 1914, at Beethoven Hall, with Brother Elias Lieberman in the chair. Brother J. Shapiro, Deputy Clerk of the Association Department of our Union, called the attention of the Executive Board to the conditions prevailing in that department. Upholding his report, it was decided to elect a new committee to look for a suitable candidate for the office of Chief Clerk for that department since some members of the committee left for their vacations. Elections for this committee were taken up and Brothers Davidson, Leibowitz and Sister Camen were

elected. They were instructed to bring in a report of their recommendations not later than at the next meeting of the Executive Board. They were also authorized to make arrangements in assigning someone temporarily in the office of that department until permanent arrangements are made.

The communication sent by Brother Lieberman was taken up and again read before the Executive Board. After a lively discussion in which most of the members of the Board participated, each and every recommendation was taken to a vote and the following decisions were reached:

1. (a) The creation of a committee on members' meetings. Such a body elected by the Executive Board should be held responsible for providing the order of business for the meetings and for the proper conduct at the meetings.

(b) This committee, known as the Committee on Members' Meetings, should consist of three members of the Executive Board and each branch meeting should elect one representative on this committee.

(c) This committee is also to have the duty of referring charges at the Grievance Committee against any member for misbehavior at member meetings.

2. Once a month there shall be a district meeting of shop representatives, two of each shop including shop chairman, where a report of the work done in the district shall be given and a general discussion of the affairs of the union should take place as provided by the Committee on Members' Meetings.

3. The down town branch is to be divided into an *Operators' Branch*; the *Finishers, Examiners, Droppers and Cleaners*, comprising another branch.

4. Taking into consideration the fact that the latter class is hardly participating in the affairs of the union in spite of the fact that they comprise a large number of our membership, the Executive Board is of the opinion that it would be advisable to provide an organizer for that branch.

The reason for creating this branch is because the membership responds easier to matters directly affecting them than to general affairs of the union. It was therefore decided to elect a committee for this purpose and to create a sentiment for organizing such a branch. The committee consists of Sisters Mollie Friedman and Esther Silberman and Brother Peer.

5. Regular branch meetings shall be held once every two weeks. The chairman and secretary for the branch shall be elected by the branch for a period of six months.

6. A general meeting of all representatives of the districts shall be held periodically where an exchange of views may be had by the shop representatives on general matters pertaining to the union.

7. All officers to be appointed by the Executive Board subject to the approval of the membership, with the exception of the heads of the departments such as managers. These should be elected by the membership ballot.

8. All standing committees except the Finance Committee and Board of Directors should be nominated at the general meeting by the shop representatives and should be elected by a ballot at

the branch meetings. The chairman and secretary of each committee will be appointed by the Executive Board.

A committee consisting of Bro. Guzman, Weissglass, Cabatti and Sister Morrison was elected to arrange meetings of various branches as soon as possible in order to present these recommendations for the approval of the members.

A communication was received from the Italian Advisory Board informing the Executive Board that at their last meeting held on Friday, July 25, 1914, they received an exact explanation of the aims and the general construction of the Italian Chamber of Labor. Upon hearing said explanation, they endorsed this new organization and in view of the fact that the Italian Chamber of Labor will greatly benefit the Italian element in our trade, and because many other organizations having a large Italian membership have already joined, the Advisory Board of the Italian Branch urged the Executive Board to ratify their endorsement and pay an initiation fee to this new body.

Action on same was postponed by the Executive Board until the next meeting, when the committee elected sometime ago to study the aims of this organization will bring in their recommendations.

Sister Celia Kaplow sent in her resignation as member of the

Executive Board. Same was accepted.

Upon an invitation from the Jewish People's Relief Committee, Brothers Schoenholtz and Lieberman were appointed as delegates to attend the Special Relief Conference which is called for Thursday evening, August 14, 1914 at the Stuyvesant Neighborhood House at Stuyvesant and Ninth Streets. B. Zuckerman, Max Pine and M. Gillis returning now from Europe will report.

Brother I. Schoenholtz sent in a communication in which he called the attention of the Executive Board to the conditions of the Finance Department. His report was discussed and upon his recommendation elections for an Organization Committee were taken up and the following elected: Max Guzman, Chairman; Mollie Friedman Miriam Morrison; Nathan Shechter; Pauline Stein; Frank Liberti; Mr. Ostrofsky. The committee was instructed to meet as soon as possible and work out their plans for an organization campaign for the coming season and bring their report in not later than at the next meeting of the Executive Board. As the hour was late elections for various other committees as proposed by Brother Schoenholtz in his communication were postponed to be taken up at the next meeting of the Executive Board.

THE WEEK'S NEWS IN CUTTERS UNION LOCAL 10

By SAM. B. SHENKER

REORGANIZATION OF MISCELLANEOUS BRANCH

Following the adoption by the membership of Cutters' Union Local 10 of the reorganization plans for the Miscellaneous Branch, which controls the Wrapper and Kimono Children's Dress and White goods cutting trades, the Executive Board has temporarily appointed Israel Lewin, Manager of the Dress and Waist Branch, to take charge of this Branch of Local 10.

It was with no small amount of surprise that the Board, at its meeting last week received the resignations of the business staff of the Miscellaneous Branch: Charles Nagle, Manager and Max Isaacs, Business Agent. What led to the resignations is hard to tell. The men seemed insistent upon their acceptance and declined to serve until successors could be found. Hence the temporary appointment of Lewin.

The Manager of the Dress and Waist Branch has not as yet laid any definite plans. However, from all appearances the much needed improvement in the three trades mentioned will be under way shortly. For the present the Executive Board is looking around for two competent assistants. And as soon as these can be secured the real work will be well on.

DRESS AND WAIST BRANCH

Due to the fact that the Dress and Waist industry is in an exceptionally prosperous condition there are few complaints filed now. Just now the full business staff is busy with the control of shops. The office is mainly busy with the enforcement by the membership of their obligations towards the Union.

Thus far the complaints handled against Association houses have been few. These have been adjusted satisfactorily. An im-

portant meeting of the Grievance Board took place recently. The meeting was important from two points of view. First because it was the first such meeting at which representatives of Local 10 were present. It should be remembered that within a few weeks of the settlement of the strike Local 10 refused to deal with the Manufacturers' Association because of certain of its policies, and it was only recently that relations were resumed.

The second point of importance is the fact that the case, purely a cutters' case, decided a point of great significance. An entire afternoon was consumed in arguments. It is as yet premature to state the issue involved and the result arrived at. The membership, however, will hear a report of the matter at its next meeting, which takes place Monday evening, August 11th at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Marks Pl.

PREPARATIONS FOR BIG CELEBRATION UNDER WAY

The Banquet Committee, which was appointed at the last general membership meeting for the purpose of arranging a Victory Banquet, announces that it has set Saturday evening, September 29, 1914, as the date and has secured Central Opera House, 6th Street and Third Avenue, as the place of the celebration. The committee has secured two halls; one in which the banquet will take place and a larger hall in which dancing will be held.

Members should under no circumstances fail to secure tickets to be held at the office, 7 West 21st St., for the big event. At no time in the history of the Local, with the probable exception of its creation, have the members had as much to celebrate as the inception of the 44-hour week. The garment

Labor Items

SET \$12.50 WAGE

Boston. — With living costs higher than at any other time in the nation's history, the state minimum wage commission has set a weekly minimum wage of \$12.50 for women workers in candy factories. The budget provides for \$1 for board and lodging. Each penny of the woman's income is accounted for except 25 cents for incidentals. She is allowed 50 cents for laundry, and is probably supposed to ask the ocean to launder other garments that the 50-cent piece doesn't cover. Other items will permit of these extravagances: Doctor and dentist, 30 cents; church, 11 cents; newspapers and magazines, 18 cents; vacation, 40 cents; saving and insurance, 40 cents.

MUST WORK 7-DAY WEEK TO GET MINIMUM WAGE

Spokane. — Superior Court Judge Hurn has ruled that women must work seven days a week if employers pay them the \$13.20 weekly wage fixed as a minimum for the state of Washington.

The court says: "It is practically the universal holding of the courts, in the absence of statute, that a week means a period of seven consecutive days." He dismissed a hotelkeeper who was fined for working a chambermaid seven days in one week.

"LEADERS" DID NOT LEAD

Sydney, New South Wales, Australia. — The Stove Molders Union has been fined on the ground that it was involved in an "illegal" strike. The government made the charge and the court of industrial arbitration, in announcing the decision blamed union officials for not "controlling" these employees.

trades throughout the country have been the first to institute this radical measure; a measure that spells increased earnings and more time for rest and recreation for the workers. The celebration will prove without a doubt a most fitting expression of appreciation and joy.

SHIPPING STRIKE IS WON

The strike of seamen, firemen and other transatlantic and coastwise shipping trade has been adjusted, the strikers claiming a victory. The ship owners deny this, of course, and insist that they intended to improve conditions, anyway. Under the terms of the settlement wages are increased, hours are reduced and promises made that other grievances will be remedied.

The men were defeated in their demand that the ship owners agree to employ American citizens, regardless of trade union affiliation, first; that trade unionists as such be given the second preference and non-union aliens the third preference.

Ship owners declared this is impracticable, and the workers were denounced by the public press for trying to enforce the "un-American closed shop in our merchant marine."

The strikers attempted to show that their demand was a test on the "America first" claim of these ship owners but the explanation was ignored and the untruthful claim of "closed shop" made against men who are trying to Americanize the nation's merchant marine.

The strike was the most successful ever waged by these workers on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts. In this city alone between 500 and 600 ships were tied up. During the strike the unionists agreed to man a fleet of cattle coats which carried several thousand milk cows to France.

STANDARD OIL STRIKE

Long Island City, N. Y. — Several hundred employees of a Standard Oil plant here suspended work when the company refused to raise wages 11 cents an hour. Officials point to their pension fund and sick benefit association, but the strikers say these are only "abstract things" and that they want more money for the hard work of making containers for oil shipments abroad.

APPEAL TO HELP SAVE OUR LIBERTIES

Our Liberties Are in Danger

Reactionary forces represented by such organizations as the Lusk Committee, the National Security League, and the Union League Club, are making a determined attack upon American institutions and upon our constitutional liberties. Without the shadow of an excuse they have attacked the Rand School, with the declared purpose of destroying it. For the present they have been defeated, but it is their intention to destroy, completely, every type of liberal and radical activity. They have brought to life the aims and methods of the Spanish Inquisition and of Czarist Russia! If they succeed in destroying the Rand School and similar institutions they will turn next to the labor unions. This is already indicated in the press reports of the doings of the Lusk Committee.

In this crisis it is necessary for all labor unions to stand together. The immediate attack is being made on the Socialist Movement and various Socialist organizations. But the outcome is of importance to every progressive labor group. There will soon be a determined attack on all that labor has gained during the war. The fight of the Socialists today is also the fight of the unions.

The attack comes at a time when the funds of the Socialist Movement are very low. Socialist and other radical speakers, organizers and officials, are in jail, or under indictment. The expense of defending them is heavy. These men have fought the battles of labor!—labor cannot afford to desert them!

To counteract the propaganda of the reactionaries a campaign of education must be carried on. Literature must be circulated and speakers sent out to put Labor's case before the people. Money in large sums is needed for this purpose. A movement to raise \$100,000 for a fund to be used against reaction in all its forms has been started.

We appeal to all labor organ-

izations to do two things: (1) contribute as generously as possible from the funds of their organizations; and (2) circulate subscription lists among the members through the medium of the shop chairmen. We appeal to all members of labor organizations and to all liberal-minded and public-spirited individuals to contribute as generously as they can.

It is a matter of high public duty for every one, Socialist and non-Socialist to come to the aid of progressive thought and progressive action. We are living in extraordinary times. The commonplace of American liberty are called into question. Those rights which for many years have been considered as peculiarly our own and which we have looked upon as ours for all time, are now threatened by men and by forces that have never understood the meaning of liberty and democracy.

Concerted work is necessary! We are counting on you! Let us know what you will do!

LABOR UNION CONFERENCE TO COMBAT REACTION

A. I. Shipplack, Chairman
Conference Committee.
Jos. Schlossberg, Chairman
Finance Committee
Abraham Baroff, Treasurer.

Picnic of Cincinnati Joint Board

The Joint Board of the Ladies' Garment Workers Union of Cincinnati, O., comprising Locals No. 30, 63, 90 and the Ladies Branch will give their annual picnic and outing at Madison Park, end of Oakley car line Sunday, August 31, 1919, the day before Labor Day. Tickets will be mailed to each member of the union and the arrangement committee assures all a good time. No member should be absent on this occasion.

DENNIS CRONIN, Chairman
Arrangements Committee.

MEETINGS OF CUTTERS' UNION, LOCAL 10.

DRESS AND WAIST

Monday, August 11th

MISCELLANEOUS

Monday, Aug. 18th

ALL BRANCHES

(General)

Monday, August 25th

CLOAK AND SUIT

Monday, September 8th

Meetings begin at 7.30 P. M.
AT ARLINGTON HALL,
23 St. Marks Place.

A. DELBON
Shear Expert
488-90 6TH AVENUE
NEW YORK
Bet. 29-30th Sts.

ATTENTION OF DRESS AND WAIST CUTTERS!

THE FOLLOWING SHOPS HAVE BEEN DECLARED ON STRIKE AND MEMBERS ARE WARNED AGAINST SEEKING EMPLOYMENT THEREIN:

Jesse Wolf & Co.,
105 Madison Ave.
Son & Ash,
105 Madison Ave.
Solomon & Metzler,
33 East 33rd St.
Clairmont Waist Co.,
15 West 36th St.
Mack Kanner & Milius,
136 Madison Ave.
M. Stern,
33 East 33rd St.
Max Cohen,
105 Madison Ave.
Julian Waist Co.,
15 East 32nd St.
Drezwell Dress Co.,
14 East 32nd St.
Regina Kohler,
352 Fourth Ave.

CUTTERS

LOCAL 10 I. L. G. W. U.

PREPARE

For The

VICTORY CELEBRATION

SATURDAY EVENING, SEPT. 29TH, 1919.

At The

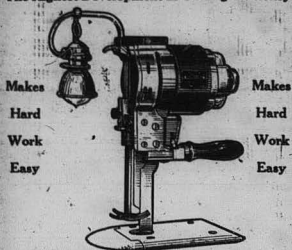
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