

"My righteous-  
ness I hold  
fast, and will  
not let it go."  
— Job., 27.3.

# JUSTICE

"We ought to  
be just even to  
our enemies."  
— Pres. Wilson.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES GARMENT WORKERS UNION.

VOL. I. No. 48.

New York, Friday, December 12, 1919.

Price 2 Cents

## CLEVELAND CLOAK SITUATION STILL UNSETTLED

With the expiration of the old agreement between the Cloak-makers' Union of Cleveland and the Manufacturers' Association of that city, December 24, the situation is becoming more tense.

The old agreement between the cloakmakers and the manufacturers was under the supervision of three referees, Judge Mack, Meyer Rosenzohn and J. R. MacLaine, who were appointed by Secretary of War Newton D. Baker, at the time of the last Cloakmakers' strike in Cleveland. The terms of this agreement fail to meet the living conditions today.

The Union has therefore formulated definite and concrete proposals for the improvement of the various branches of the industry, of that city. The question of week work for all workers in the trade is the principal demand in the new agreement. This demand had been adopted, at a referendum vote, by a large majority of the members.

Here are the demands of the Cloakmakers:

1. A preferential Union shop.
2. Improvement of machinery for adjusting compaints.
3. Week work for the entire trade.
4. Abolition of sub-contracting.
5. Control over out-of-town shops.
6. Equal distribution of work.
7. Equal pay for men and women doing the same work.
8. Abolition of the bonus system.
9. Scale of wages.
10. General increase in wages.
11. Improved classification of the trades in the industry.
12. No individual agreements.

Informal conferences had already taken place between our Union and representatives of the manufacturers. President Schlesinger has participated in these conferences before his departure for Europe. Secretary Baroff and Vice-President Perstein, who specially came to New York for these negotiations, were the other representatives of our Union.

It is difficult to predict the actual outcome of the negotiations. But the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union in Cleveland is making all preparations to enforce the demands. Many weeks ago the members of the Union had voted for a special tax, 7 dollars for men and 5 dollars for women, to meet any emergency of the Union.

The Cloakmakers in Cleveland are determined to win their just demands.

## Cloakmakers Demand Wage Increase

Conference with Protective and American Associations Held.

SECOND CONFERENCE TO BE HELD THIS WEEK.

Baroff, Sigman, Feinberg, Metz Among Speakers at Conference.

Forty-five thousand New York cloakmakers submitted demands for a general 30 per cent wage increase from the American Cloak and Suit Manufacturers' Association.

The Joint Board of the Cloak, Suit, Dress and Reefer Makers' Union have prepared a detailed statement, with a complete set of figures, showing the cost of living had grown out of all proportion to the present wage of the New York Cloakmakers. The wage increase which the Union demands is in accordance with the increased cost of living necessities which has gone up enormously since the signing of the existing agreement five months ago.

The Cloak Makers' Union was represented at the conference

with the Protective Association and the American Association, by Ab. Baroff, general secretary-treasurer of the International, Morris Sigman, general manager of the Cloak Makers' Union, Saul Metz, Louis Langer, I. Feinberg, J. Halperin, H. Wander, S. Ninf, J. Breslaw, M. Gorenstein, D. Rubin and H. Huebschmann.

The representatives of the Associations will submit their demands to the membership of their Associations at special meetings which are called for this purpose. Following these meetings another conference between representatives of the Union and the manufacturers will be held. It is hoped that the negotiations between the union and the manufacturers will result in an amicable settlement.

## Autonomous Locals Under One Board to be Formed

ITALIAN LOCAL ORGANIZED.

The new Executive Board of the Ladies' Waist and Dress Makers' Union, Local 25, has, after careful deliberation and discussion, decided to submit to its membership a plan of an entire reorganization of the Union. This plan would bring about the establishment in the industry of autonomous local unions according to the different trade branches, forming one general Joint Board. This form of organization will mean individual control by each union department over its own branch and unified control of all locals over the entire industry.

It is proposed that Loc. 25, consisting of about 30 thousand members, should be reorganized according to their trades as, for instance, operators, finishers, drapers, tuckers, hem-stitchers, etc.

It is hoped that the members will endorse this decision of their Executive Board, and will realize that this reorganization will instill new life into their organization.

A step in the direction of reorganization had already been taken by the organization of the Italian members into a separate local.

At the last meeting of the General Executive Board of the International, the demand of the Italian members was favorably voted, and a charter had been granted them. The new local is known as the Italian Waist and Dress Makers' Union, Local 89.

The Italian local is already completely organized. An Executive Board and all other officers are already elected. Brother L. Antonini is elected Secretary. Saturday, November 30, the Executive Board and the other officers were installed. Our Italian brothers and sisters of Local 89 are working with zest and enthusiasm in gaining new members. And they are successful in their endeavor.

## OPENING CELEBRATION OF WORKERS' UNIVERSITY

Members of the International will assemble to celebrate the opening and reunion of students, prominent educators and friends of Labor Education, at Washington Irving High School, Saturday, December 13, at 7:30 P. M.

As a unusually fine program has been arranged for this occasion, consisting of violin selections, vocal solos and organ numbers. In addition, there will be short addresses by some prominent teachers and friends of labor education, among whom are Dr. Charles A. Beard, Miss Margaret Bondfield, member of the parliamentary committee of the British Labor Party, S. Yanofsky, Meyer London, Dr. Harry Dana, Dr. M. J. Olgin, Miss Fannia M. Cohn and Dr. Louis S. Friedland, the educational director of the International.

Admission is free to all mem-

## TWO OFFICERS & EIGHT MEMBERS OF LOCAL 20 SENT TO JAIL

Louis Waxler, manager of the Raincoat Makers' Union, Local 20; Sam Freedman, secretary-treasurer, and six members of the union were sent to the Richmond County jail to serve 30 days for being found in contempt of court for alleged violation of a strike injunction. The names of the other six "prisoners" are Herman Altman, Dave Tanenbaum, Louis Berman, Lina Cabela, S. Santurula and A. Salabely. The last three are women.

The injunction was obtained several weeks ago by the Silber Raincoat Company of 111 Richmond Terrace, Staten Island. Its employes have been on strike 18 weeks, since the last general strike in the industry. The restraining order stated the strikers were interfering with the business of the concern.

This decision was upheld by the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court despite the request of the union for a stay.

Abraham Baroff, secretary-treasurer of the International, will supervise the work of Local 20 during the time the officials will serve their prison sentence.

## PRESIDENT SCHLESINGER IN ENGLAND

The General Office of the International is in receipt of a cable from Brother Schlesinger telling of his safe arrival to England from where he will directly proceed to Holland where the Congress of the garment trades will be held.

Brother Schlesinger sends greetings to all members of the International.

Members of the International, and tickets can be obtained at the headquarters of the locals or at the office of the International.

Before 8 o'clock only members who have secured tickets will be admitted. After that the doors will be open to members without tickets.

The Educational Committees of the locals will act as ushers.

## SECRETARY BAROFF AT THE SPECIAL A. F. OF L. CON- FERENCE

Brother Ab. Baroff, Secretary Treasurer of our International will represent our organization at the special conference of the American Federation of Labor, which opens Saturday morning, December 13.

The conference will take up the present critical industrial situation in this country.

# Topics of the Week

By N. BUCHWALD

## Germany and the Peace Protocol

LAST week Germany has refused to sign the Peace Protocol which, if signed, would mean that peace between Germany and the Allies is finally established. Germany offers as her reason for not signing this peace document the oppressive demands of the Allies.

The readers must certainly remember that a great part of the German fleet, which was temporarily handed over to England soon after the armistice, had been sunk by the German crew. The German Government has stated that it had nothing to do with it, that the ships had been sunk without its knowledge or consent. But the Allies insist that the German Government and the German people are responsible for this 'crime,' and they therefore demand compensation for the damage they had suffered by the loss of the German ships.

The Allies insist in their demand not because they actually suffered loss by the destruction of the German fleet; they insist in their demand because... Well, if Germany fails to submit, the Allies will occupy Germany, flood their country with their troops, and assume control over Germany. This is explicitly stated in the ultimatum Marshall Foch sent to Germany. Sign, or we occupy Germany.

The stand of the German Government and the resentment against the Allies is clearly and poignantly expressed by Gustav Noske, War Minister of Germany. We quote from a statement issued by him to the Associated Press:

"The limit has been reached. Let the Allies occupy the country if they like. The peace now presented us is not peace, but a prolongation of war."

Were such a treaty accepted, the German nation would rise up and avenge itself upon those who signed it, and it would be right. Great Britain and France are deliberately planning the destruction of Germany. All the confidence I ever had in the pledges of the Allies is gone forever.

By deceit and trickery the British and French Governments are working up opinion in their countries to cripple Germany still further beyond the crushing effect of the first treaty. We have yielded too often, and now must resist. Let the Allies do what they please.

"Great Britain is out to cripple Germany and demands our last dredges and cranes so as to prevent the revival of our mercantile marine."

The French doubtless will march into Germany. Let them come. The Allies know that Germany is without means of resistance. Allied officers are all over the country. Spies are shuffling about everywhere. All the scare talk about German armaments is a deliberate press campaign to prepare public opinion for aggression.

There is, of course, nothing new in what Noske said. But what is significant is the firm stand Germany has taken against the almighty victors. But if Germany will not sign the protocol, the Allies will either bring their threats into effect and occupy Germany, or they will somewhat

soften the oppressive demands. The latter alternative is more likely to happen as the Allies are hardly in a position to perform such a task. There is great unrest in the Allied countries. Italy oscillates between the militarists and the Socialists, who have grown into power. America has not yet ratified the peace treaty, and will certainly not help England and France to flood Germany with their troops. Germany is fully aware that, at this time, she is in a position to stand up for her demands and have, at least, a breathing spell.

## Wilson Message to Congress

ACCORDING to custom, President Wilson sent a message to the opening session of Congress. In his message, he spoke of the necessary legislation which, in his opinion, Congress must take up. As usual the President recommends various laws being, at the same time, aware that Congress could not, with the best intentions, pass all these laws in one session. But custom is custom. That, however, is not the point we are after. What we should like to deal with in the President's message are the ways and means suggested in dealing with the present labor unrest, the relation of employers and workers, and the policy of the Government with regard to labor disputes.

His message, like his other speeches and writings, abounds in penetrating remarks about justice, democracy, general well-being. But, like in his other messages there is no definite formulation regarding the causes of unrest in this country, nor is there any suggestion as to the remedies to be applied. As was to be expected, the President said that when the Peace Treaty will be ratified, order will be established and the chief causes of unrest will be removed. The League of Nations will help to establish the fundamental rights of labor the world over. The relations between economic groups will be built up on a solid basis, and the social equilibrium will be restored. Congress must therefore "endeavor to bring our country back speedily to a peace basis, with ameliorated living conditions under the minimum of restrictions upon personal liberty." But at the same time he would "arm the Federal Government with power to deal in its criminal courts with those persons who by violent methods would abrogate our time-tested institutions." It means more freedom by the side of restrictive legislation. President Wilson further recommends:

"With the free expression of opinion and with the advocacy of orderly political change, however fundamental, there must be no interference, but toward passion and malevolence tending to incite crime and insurrection under guise of political evolution, there should be no leniency."

Clear and familiar language. The inquisitors of the Lusk Committee argue in approximately the same way.

In general terms, Wilson admits that the Government must recognize the rights of workers to deal collectively with their employers. But he hastens to correct this opinion which might have an un-

favorable effect on the business world by saying:

"Labor not only is entitled to an adequate wage, but capital should receive a reasonable return upon its investment and is entitled to protect at the hands of the Government in every emergency. No Government worthy of the name can 'play' the elements against each other, for there is mutuality of interests between them which the Government must seek to safeguard at all cost." It is interesting to note that the President mentions just the capitalist class that "is entitled to protection at the hands of the Government in every emergency." The workers are not entitled to such protection.

In this spirit of "yes and no," the President speaks of the attitude of the Government to the strikers: "The right of individuals to strike is inviolate and ought not to be interfered with by any process of government, but there is a predominant right and that is the right of the Government to protect all of its people and to assert its power and majesty against the challenge of any class."

Wilson's last message offers additional evidence that the working class cannot expect help from our president; that Wilson's "idealism" will do very little toward freeing the workers from their present burdens. Even if Congress should bring into effect the Wilson program, living conditions will not be improved, but it will still be left to the workers, and the sword of the "superior rights" of the Government will hang over the labor unions.

## No War With Mexico

IT looks as if we are not going to war with Mexico. The Mexican Government released Jenkins on bail, and this has vastly improved the strained relations between the two countries. The resolution introduced in Senate by Senator Fall that our Government break diplomatic relations with Mexico will, in all probability, not pass. And it is unlikely that President Wilson himself will take such a radical stand.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Times says the following regarding the Mexican dispute:

"One of the most important elements in the Mexican situation now was the deadlock between the Carranza Government and American companies in the Tampico oil district as a result of which the oil controversy not only remained unsettled but was in such a stage that operation of some of the American oil properties had been seriously interfered with."

"An official in a position to know the facts described this oil situation as being a most serious factor in the situation."

We had long known this to be the case.

## The Miners' Strike at Its End

WHEN these lines are written the conference of the miners' leaders over President Wilson's proposal to settle the strike is still on. The terms of the proposal are not known. Both the representatives of the Government and the miners refuse to divulge the conditions of President Wilson's proposal.

But it is certain that the proposal does not go beyond Gar-

field's 14 per cent wage increase. For Garfield, himself, said that the Government is not prepared to compromise, and since the 14 per cent wage increase is the official offer of the Government, it is quite safe to assume that Wilson's proposal holds no promises beyond those already offered by Garfield. According to press reports, Lewis and Green, the two chief officers of the Miners' Union, have accepted the President's proposal, and they will endeavor to influence the other leaders to adopt this proposal.

Meanwhile there is a terrible shortage of coal. Many railroads have cut their transportation. The people of New York ride in unheated cars. Theatres cannot flash their electric signs more than an hour each evening. Many states organize volunteer strike breakers to dig coal. The Federal Government is trying to break the strike through injunctions. People are dragged to court for disobeying the sacred injunction of Judge Anderson. Those who will dare to oppose Anderson's ukase are threatened with prison. Yet coal is not being dug.

## MINERS VS. GARISM. PARALLEL IS DRAWN

Washington. — Edgar Wallace and Walter James, representatives of the United Mine Workers of America, have issued a statement in which they compare the government's opposition to the proposed miners' strike with the steel strike, which was caused by Judge Gary's ironclad attitude. "It seems remarkable to the miners," the statement says, "that the government should feel called upon to use such extraordinary powers when dealing with workers while the same government finds itself powerless in any way to coerce such great aggregations of capital as are represented by Mr. Gary."

"Instead of publicly rebuking Mr. Gary for refusing to confer with the men in his employ, the government honored him by placing him on the public committee in the industrial conference."

"If the war is still on, as the operators and the government claim, the contract which the miners have caused of violating was first violated by the operators, and the government not only sanctioned this violation by the operators but made provision for it when the fuel administration removed the price restriction on coal."

"The contract was predicated on the selling price of coal. Being made in war time, when coal was so urgent a necessity, the selling price was placed at a figure on which the high-cost mine could operate. The low-cost mine that could produce at low figures was able to make enormous profits. Since the withdrawal of the price limit by the government the operators have been able to procure much higher prices than under government regulation. The operators who are accusing us of violating the contract today are refusing to fulfil contracts made at lower figures."

"Recognizing that they can sell their coal at the mines at any price, the reason that many public utilities are suffering from lack of coal is that the operators are selling it at auction prices—the highest bidder getting it."

"We, the miners, see in the operators' position the position taken by all employers of labor, the intent to Welsh on promises made during the war, the intent to use the advantages that we, in our desire to help the government, furnish them to crush the hope and aspiration, of all men who work."

## THE WEEK'S NEWS IN CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10

By SAM. B. SHENKER

## Call Special General Meeting

At the Tuesday meeting of the Executive Board it was decided to call a special meeting where the Constitution Committee will render its report on the amendments it drew up. These will be submitted to the membership for final reading and adoption.

In order that the amendments to the constitution may be adopted this year it was necessary to change the date of the general meeting as advertised. According to the notice the general meeting should have been held December 29th, which is the fifth Monday of the month, and on the fourth Monday a good and welfare meeting was to be held. The union, however, is anxious to dispose of the amendments and print the constitution for distribution in January, hence the Executive Board decided that the fourth Monday, December 22nd, will constitute the regular general meeting where the amendments will be read for the first time. And on Monday, December 29th a special meeting has been called where the membership will take the amendments up for discussion and adoption.

The members are urged to attend these meetings as it is very necessary for every cutter of the Union to have in his possession a copy of the constitution which will help him in acquainting himself with the rules and regulations governing the Union.

## Union Confers with Cloak Associations

Two important conferences were held this week by the Joint Board of Cloakmakers with the American and Protective Manufacturers' Associations in the Cloak Industry. The Joint Board took up with the first the question of employers doing the work of cutters. The question discussed with the Protective was the increase, as reported to the membership by Manager Gorenstein at the last meeting of the cloak branch.

Gorenstein states that as yet no thing definite can be reported, except that another conference will have been held by he time this paper reaches the members. One thing was certain, Gorenstein said, and that is that the members are in bad need of an increase in wages and that the union would have to help the men find ways and means of meeting the high living cost. A letter inviting the union to another conference on the wage question was looked at at the time of this writing.

Among the questions taken up with the American Association was the ever-recurring question of the employment of at least one cutter by employers who belonged to this association, most of whom did nearly all of the cutting themselves. The union has adopted a plan that makes it compulsory and inexcusable for an employer to do his own cutting. This plan is being enforced by Max Margulies. Up to now, Manager Gorenstein, stated, hundreds of dollars have been collected from employers who violated this clause of the agreement, which was secured by the Union for the sole protection of its members against privation. This money goes to a fund created by the Joint Board. Where cutters have been deprived of work the money goes to them.

Following the conference at which this matter was taken up the American Association made public a statement in which their members are practically forced to put cutters on to cut the work.

The statement follows, in part: "The question whether all the members of the American Cloak and Suit Manufacturers' Association must employ cutters, was finally decided in the affirmative a few days ago, when the Association agreed to make it compulsory for all the manufacturers belonging to it, to employ at least one cutter."

Another question taken up, was that of unionizing examiners and designers. Locals 82 and 45 have jurisdiction over these workers. This request grew out of the fact that many examiners are said to be foremen and do not come under the unionizing rule. The truth of the matter is that they are examiners and only claim they are foremen when asked to join the union. Designers must join the union because a charter has been granted them sometime ago and they are in need of a union as much as any other worker.

## Dress Cutters Hold Meeting

Dress and Waist cutters held their regular meeting last Monday, when reports of the past month's activities were heard and reports of the Executive Board were reheard.

One of the problems reported and discussed by the cutters was the problem of the small shops, some owners of which are members of the Association. On the one hand the employers' organization has received and accepted the application of some big dress houses, and on the other hand the union finds the association as ever affording protection to employers who are not only practicing cut-throat competition to the detriment of the fairer manufacturers but they actually are the means of depriving workers from securing a job and making a living.

Dozens of complaints have been filed lately to the effect that employers are doing their own cutting. Where the union is able to place a cutter with the willingness of the employer, the association agrees accordingly. Where, however, an employer refuses to put a cutter on, being desirous himself to cut and save the expenses of a cutter, the association disagrees and makes no effort to compel the firm to hire a cutter. This attitude is quite aggravated and is causing a great deal of dissatisfaction.

An important report was rendered by the Executive Board of an interesting nature, where Manager Gorenstein, of the Cloak Branch, reported that the Joint Board is requesting an increase in wages. The report also stated that a committee was appointed to confer with a committee of Local 25 on the same question. A meeting of Dress and Waist cutters be called as soon as any definite steps are taken.

## Preparations for Election

Preparations for the coming election of officers of Local 10 are complete. Ballots will be printed shortly. Members are urged to place themselves in good standing in order to be entitled to vote. Elsewhere in this issue will be found a notice of the election and

## THE COAL INJUNCTION

By ROBERT SMILLIE

Chairman, Triple Alliance of Miners, Railwaymen and Transport Workers of Great Britain

It is not for me to criticize nor scold, but out of my experience I can feel certain things in the air. One outcome of the situation in America seems inevitable—intervention by the government leading to the nationalization of mines on a just basis of wages, hours and prices.

## American Capital Lacks Soul

Conditions differ in England and America. Here we have reached an almost understanding with capital. After centuries of struggle, there are still many points of conflict, but I believe there is more soul in capitalism in England than in America. Strikes are entered into here with a calmer spirit.

The miners simply quit work and settle down to 10 or 35 weeks of unemployment while leaders confer and ultimately reach an agreement. The thing is done more hot-bloodedly in America. Owners and workers expect an adjustment in a few days. If this is not accomplished, the most drastic measures are taken and bitterness increases on all sides.

The government's injunction commanding miners to return to work would have meant a revolution in England. We deal exclusively with native labor, and operators well understand that Britons never would tolerate such coercion.

## Strike at First Raised Hope

When I read of the strike, I rejoiced. I saw no possible outcome save the improvement of the workers' position through nationalization of the mines, if in no other way. I felt, mind you, that even with a 40 per cent wage increase and the six-hour day, the American miner would not be as well off as his British brother because in the States, capital fields more power over labor than it does here.

But just as I was congratulating the American miner for making a single great stride toward the position that the British miner has gained through generations of struggle, the government by training the law, forced leaders to withdraw from the strike.

## Puzzled by Labor's Mildness

I cast about for some explanation of the mildness with which American labor generally accepted this move. I figured that the miners must have felt assured of the good faith of Secretary of Labor Wilson, whom I know well, and believed he would obtain for them a satisfactory compromise.

Yet Mr. Garfield offered them a 14 per cent increase, while Mr. Wilson had promised 31 per cent. The government, in refusing to back up the 31 per cent offer, has brought things to an impossible deadlock, I believe.

a list of the candidates who are eligible and will run for election.

## A Correction

An item appeared in this department in last week's issue in which the name of a business agent appeared whom a cutters' committee thanked for securing an increase. The writer disclaims the authorship, since he did not write the item and has not seen it until the page came out.

## That Way Lies Revolution

America fought for the preservation of democracy in its own country, and throughout the world. Yet still it is emerging a slavery parallel to that for which a war was fought in the United States half a century ago, unless the government intercedes and operates mines not for profit but for output and with fairness to the workers and the public as well as to the holders of the properties.

I cannot see what other alternative there is to revolution unless your miners emigrate to European countries where conditions are more favorable to labor.

## INJUNCTION JUDGES CAN'T STOP UNREST

"There are between 1,500,000 and 2,000,000 men on strike in this country and the person who attempts to ascribe that condition to the agitator is indeed superficial," says the Capital Times, which declares that "the real reason for this condition is economic exploitation of the people."

"Government authorities who seek to cure this condition with the injunction and the machine gun are but adding fuel to the fire," says the editor.

"Shallow, indeed, is he who seeks to dismiss present industrial conditions in this country to the work of agitators, 'reds,' soap box orators and the overworked bolsheviks.

"To attribute present conditions to the handiwork of these individuals is giving much credit where it is not earned.

"It is time to stop this delusion present in the mind of the American which is being fed by the American people by a press that is perverting the real situation and to look at this condition calmly and with an eye to the underlying currents that are bringing the present day conditions?

"Is there anyone so obtuse as not to know that after all, the present unrest has found birth in deep seated wrongs in our economic system?

"What other conclusion can a thinking man arrive at than that our present situation is due to the fact that we have come to the breaking point with an industrial autocracy that has overstepped the mark in the exploitation of the people?

"There is no doubt but that influences that control the American newspapers have prejudiced the American people against the miners. It is because that sentiment has been established that government authorities have had the audacity to follow the course which they are now following."

## COSSACKS ENRAGE MINERS

Wheeling, W. Va.,—Governor Corweller sent state cossacks to guard three non-union mines in this state and the miners became so enraged they suspended work. When the mine boss at a Warwood mine saw the cossacks on guard he declared it was the first time in his life he found it necessary to work under a guard. He quit and 300 miners joined him. At Edgewood the miners quit and joined the union. At a mine located near Metchen nearly 200 quit work.

"A wave of resentment is sweeping through the community at Governor Corweller's action," says the Wheeling Major, which declares that the appearance of the cossacks has caused unorganized miners employed at the properties "guarded" by the cossacks, to quit work.

## EDITORIALS

### THE JOINT BOARD OF THE CLOAKMAKERS' UNIO PRESENTS NEW DEMANDS TO THE CLOAK MANUFACTURERS

The truth of the old proverb that "necessity knows no laws" is strikingly illustrated by the new propositions that the Joint Board of the Cloak Makers' Union together with the International have begun with the representatives of the Cloak Manufacturers' Protective Association.

The subject of the negotiations is no other than the raising of the minimum wage scale for all grades of workers in the cloak industry in New York, as it was agreed to by representatives of both sides some five months ago.

The manufacturers were astonished when our Labor Committee, consisting of Brother Morris Sigman and General Secretary Treasurer A. Baroff, submitted our demands. Was not an agreement signed five short months ago which was to hold good for three years! What then is the sense of agreements when new demands are being submitted?

It must be stated here that neither the International nor the Joint Board of the Cloak Makers' Union have called this conference and submitted these demands with an unperturbed conscience. The attitude of both the International and the Joint Board toward an agreement is by no means a slight matter. They are not of the opinion that an agreement is only a "scrap of paper." They believe that under ordinary conditions an agreement must be observed. But the truth is that present conditions are extraordinary.

Who could ever think that during the period of five months the dollar would shrink to half of its former value, that is, it could only buy half, and sometimes less than half, of the necessities of life. A minimum scale of 44 dollars for operators, and the minimum scale in other sections, have seemed, five months ago, to be a considerable wage. But now, we all know that this minimum is not sufficient for anybody to make a more or less decent living.

No matter how astonished the manufacturers might have been when they learned of the new demands submitted by our representatives, they should have realized, after further consideration of the matter, that the demands are, in no way, irrelevant. They should have realized that there are very good reasons for these demands.

They live on the same earth with us. They certainly must be aware that the price of everything kept mounting higher and higher, beginning with the daily bread and ending with the monthly rent for which the worker must pay.

Of course, the bosses could firmly insist in their demand for their "pound of flesh." "We have signed an agreement with you for a given time," they may argue, "and we insist that the agreement be unconditionally observed to the letter." Under these conditions the Union would perhaps be compelled to withdraw her demands. But it is extremely doubtful whether the employers would have benefited by such an act. It is true that the union has a great influence over her members, and that every member willingly recognizes her authority, there nevertheless is and must be a limit to such authority. The union cannot demand of her members to work for a starvation wage in the name of an agreement which had been adopted under totally different conditions. The union could not say "no" to the workers who will, at their own risk, refuse to work on the basis of the former minimum scale.

Consequently, if the employers should insist on continuing the agreement, a strike may be expected to break out at any moment of the busiest period in the trade which would destroy the entire season. Is this a pleasant prospect for the cloak manufacturers? Is it not in their own interests, now, before the season begins, to accede to the demands of the Union, and assure themselves that when the working season begins, they should not be hampered by sudden strikes and unexpected "stoppages?"

These were approximately the arguments presented by Ab. Baroff, Morris Sigman and the other labor representatives to the employers; and who can find the slightest fault in these arguments?

That the economic situation today is strikingly different from what it was six months ago is incontrovertible; that the former minimum wage scale is meaningless under the present conditions is also clear, that the control the Union has over the members is not and cannot be absolute, particularly, when it is a question of bread, must be admitted by everybody. It follows that if the cloak manufacturers are to act in a spirit of fair play, and according to sound common sense, they will not abide by this agreement and will take in consideration the new demands submitted by the workers. They must certainly be aware that these demands are not due to a whim of the workers, but are the results of conditions for which the workers are not, in the least, responsible.

We like to hope that the cloak manufacturers will act, at this time as they had acted at the time of the strike, several months ago, tactfully, reasonably and will accede to the just demands. We only wish here to call their attention to the fact that due to the

changed economic conditions it is much easier for the manufacturers to raise the minimum scale than it is for the workers to remain at the same scale in the name of the agreement. Let them have this in mind that while many of them have become richer, or have, at least, amassed greater wealth, since they had signed the agreement with the union, the same could, under no stretch of the imagination, be said of the workers. Their conditions are far from being improved. They still lead a life from hand to mouth. And when the slack-time approaches it is the same great and difficult question that is staring them in the face, how to pass the terrible times.

It would therefore be unjust to demand of the workers that they work for the same wage they had received five months ago, when it would be a relatively simple matter for the cloak manufacturers to raise the minimum scale, without the least damage to themselves or the industry, in accordance with the rising cost of living.

The Joint Board will probably during the next few days receive a definite reply to these demands, and we hope that the reply will be completely satisfactory. Simply because it is unthinkable that the cloak manufacturers will act against their own interests, and do things which must eventually lead to results damaging to the manufacturers, to the workers and to the cloak industry as a whole.

### NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE JOINT BOARD OF THE CLOAK MAKERS' UNIO IN PHILADELPHIA AND THE MANUFACTURERS

When these lines are written, the final outcome of the negotiations between the Cloak Makers' Union and the manufacturers of Philadelphia is not yet known. Apparently, they must be still dickering over the minimum scale that the workers in Philadelphia demand. It is true that the scales are considerably higher than those agreed to by the Cloak Makers in New York, six months ago; and the employers argue why and how should they pay according to a higher minimum scale than do the cloak manufacturers in New York.

On the surface the claim appears to be just and logical. But a more careful consideration of this matter will show it to be unfounded.

Let the cloak manufacturers examine the different agreements entered into by the Cloak Makers' Union with the cloak manufacturers in many other cities, shortly after the Cloak Makers' strike in New York had been settled, and they will see that the minimum wage scale is considerably higher than that of New York. Why? Because even then the economic conditions grew perceptibly worse. The cost of living was mounting ever higher, and consequently the minimum scale was proportionally raised.

Now, the cloak manufacturers could learn from what was said regarding the demands of the cloak manufacturers in New York that the minimum scale will also be raised there, so that the Philadelphia cloak manufacturers will have no reason to assert that they must pay higher wages to their workers than is paid in New York.

It is therefore very likely that this week, before this issue of the Justice will reach our members,

the dispute in Philadelphia will be adjusted to the satisfaction of the Cloakmakers of Philadelphia. It is unbelievable that after the manufacturers and the workers had agreed, in principle, that the cloak industry must be placed on a basis of week work and minimum wage scale, there should break out a struggle only because an understanding could not be reached regarding the minimum scale of the different workers in the cloak industry.

### THE PLANNED JOINT BOARD OF THE LADIES' WAIST AND DRESS MAKERS' UNIO

At the beginning, when the Ladies' Waist and Dress Makers' Union was in the first stages of growth and organization, no one ever thought of distinguishing the different trades within the same industry. The cutter, the presser, the finisher, all joined the union, and the organization grew and developed. But later, when things have settled down, one was forced to the conclusion that in order that the organization could better achieve her aim, there must come about, as it always does in the case of developed society, a certain process of differentiation. What is differentiation?

When the organization was young and the daily struggle for existence was going on there was little time left for thinking that the existence of the Ladies' Waist Makers' Union by the side of the Dress Makers' Union may prove to be unhealthy for both, for although there is much in common between them, there is something which divides them and forms, to a certain extent, a cleavage between them. But when the organization is developed, differences are more strongly felt, and the process of differentiation becomes more evident.

This process is now taking place in the Ladies' Waist and Dress Makers' Union. The same story is repeated there as in the Cloak Makers' Union. At first Cloak makers, cutters, finishers, pressers, operators, belonged to one union. Later they were differentiated into distinct and separate unions, with a Joint Board serving as a central organization for all unions, so that each local union has full autonomy to conduct its business in its own way, but they, at the same time, form one great body which is the Cloak Makers' Union. Anyone familiar with the history of the Cloak Makers' Union knows that the vigorous and effective life of the Cloakmakers' Union practically begins with its process of differentiation. The same is now being repeated in the Ladies' Waist and Dress Makers' Union, Local 25. The first task of the new executive of that union was to decide to reorganize the Ladies' Waist and Dressmakers' Union in the manner indicated above.

On our own part, we regard this decision as the result of mature deliberation of all its conditions, and when this will become an accomplished fact, the great Union will indeed rest on a sound foundation. A Union consisting of 25 thousand members, of different trades and different interests, cannot, under the prevailing conditions, function as it should. But when the different workers, will be organized in their own local unions, according to the work they are doing in the shop, and will all be united in a Joint Board which will consist of elect-

# The High Cost of Housing

By A. C. M.

A recent letter from a wealthy manufacturer in Germany bemoans the fact that on account of the house famine no less than five working class families have been quartered in his home. Evidently the troublesome ideas of the communists are creeping westward. It is not very long ago that the problem of housing in all countries was merely to remove the worst plague spots that festered in the slums and crookeries of the industrial districts. Lightless and airless rooms, overcrowded dwellings, cellar habitations were the usual lot of the working people for homes until the middle class discovered that the plague and disease that germinated there spread its devastating touch to their homes. This was born the science of public health in the slums of Manchester and New York a half century ago.

The war has brought a great change in the matter of housing. The right to a home is one of the new conquests of the people in Socialist countries. When sugar and flour, bread and bacon are rationed out impartially, it is hard to say why the same principle shouldn't be applied to living quarters. If there is not enough butter to go around, all that there is divided equally. According to the egalitarian principle of war time, Why should not rooms be divided equally? The right of private property which is dying a sudden and violent death in most countries of Europe persists longest in the matter of housing. The Englishman's house is his castle was an ancient principle of the common law, but was scuttled along with many others in the stress of war. Russia, Hungary and Germany solved the housing question for the time being by taking a census of all available living quarters and dividing them equally among all in need of shelter regardless of the feelings of previous owners or occupants.

The easy road of confiscation is no remedy for the housing question in capitalist countries. In our present difficult situation it is impossible to see light ahead. The rent problem is one of the worst aspects in the increasing cost of living. Proper housing is even more important for the welfare of the working people than food itself or clothing, although we usually give it second place. The human organism is dependent upon its environment not only for the physical requirements of light and air, but also for sanitary protection, for moral welfare and for spiritual inspiration. Not only do tuberculosis and other diseases flourish in the dark and fetid atmosphere of the tenements, but sexual demoralization results from the overcrowding, nervous strain and lack of privacy of the over-

crowded districts of great cities. Happiness, the joys of home life, the pleasures of social and intellectual life are impossible in the holes and dens where people are herded together at the behest of the landlords. Life is degraded and crushed in such surroundings.

Let us look at the problem of the high cost of shelter for a moment from the economic side. Rents have increased throughout the country during the war-period 50 or 75 per cent, sometimes 100 per cent and above, and they are still soaring. This increase does not represent any greater cost to the landlord of production or distribution as does the increased price of some other commodities to the manufacturer. The landlord is simply taking his pound of flesh.

New building especially of working class dwellings has practically ceased owing to the high cost of materials which will probably go still higher. The landlords thus have a "corner" on the commodity of housing. They are monopolists safe from the competition of new building. Rents have risen not only to the level of the high price of building materials but to a monopoly level for which "the sky is the limit." These difficult conditions are further complicated by the natural increase of the population which demands increased housing space every year. This increase of the population acts as a strong stimulant in the demand for houses, and when the supply is limited as under monopoly conditions, the rents tend to rise as fast as the population increases.

It thus appears that the working people are being squeezed between the upper and nether millstone in the matter of rents. The rent trust exacts its toll from the wages bill as well as from the body and spirit of the worker. In order to pay the landlord the food of the family must be cut down, warm clothing, medical attendance, recreation, and all the other necessities of moral life must be curtailed.

Here in America the housing question is being badly neglected. Along with all the other serious problems of reconstruction after the war, it has been left to take care of itself. Every other civilized country of the world today has a program for meeting this urgent situation. The new government of Belgium in which the Labor Party will be very influential has a vast housing program involving the construction of sanitary, wholesome and pleasant homes in all the industrial centers with funds provided by the state. The British government, though in a bad financial state, has been compelled by the needs of the people to make similar provisions. America alone does nothing. Our legislators spend their energy in wails about Bolshevism while the people are being driven slowly to desperation by their intolerable conditions of life.

The easy philosophy of "let-it-alone" has been the policy of this country in housing as all other things. The economic problem of rent and landlordism was always avoided by the tribe of investigators who inspected and charted and

inspected again for the hundredth time the pest-holes where the working people lived—and died.

The conditions in New York are only a sample, a little worse, and in some ways a little better than the rest of our country. For decades the evil of bad housing thrived unchecked. It was about 1850 when the spread of contagious diseases from the slums awakened a few of the public to the conditions in which the other half lived inquiry of that day speaks of the working class districts as of some newly discovered lair of wild animals. The old residences of the rich when abandoned were split up into tenements, and, says the report, "they soon became filled, from cellar to garret, with a class of tenantry living from hand to mouth, loose in manner, improvident in habits, degraded and squalid as beggary itself."

For overcrowding the report pictures a condition not unusual: "One room, 12 by 12 in which were five resident families, comprising twenty persons of both sexes and all ages."

Similar pictures have been drawn for us by every housing commission in every part of the country since that day. In extent the evil has greatly increased. A report of 1865 estimates a half million people living in 15,000 "tenant houses" while 15,000 lived in cellars, many below the surface. In 1884 there were 26,000 "tenant houses" and 3,000 room houses. In 1894 the number of tenements had risen to 39,000, while in 1900 two thirds of the entire population of New York City more than 2,000,000 people lived in about 80,000 houses. Overcrowding under the domination of a merciless landlordism has been steadily on the increase.

During the wave of paternalism which swept over the country during the war the problem of housing came to the fore. It seemed as if the let-it-alone system might finally be abandoned. In August, 1917, a Housing Section was appointed of a Sub-Committee on Welfare Work of the Committee on Labor of the Council of National Defence. This elaborate committee confined itself to the problem of housing only where it affected the production of munitions of war, and the total result of all the hopes of progressiveness and the plans of architects and artists for garden cities on the English style, has done nothing of any account to relieve the housing situation. The hundred millions appropriated by Congress for housing employees of the Shipping Board and other war workers has little effect on the needs of peace time. The Governor's Reconstruction Commission of New York State has advertised its good intentions in the matter of housing but so far without result.

The only possible remedy for the present desperate condition must be a desperate one. America must abandon her let-it-alone philosophy and shoulder the social burden. Federal and state governments should take up at once the question of financial assistance to housing projects. The state and the government at Washington should be prepared to advance

large sums of money for building houses and model apartments for the working people. But this money should be placed not in the hands of private landlords, where it becomes simply the means of fresh profiteering, but in that of government departments, or still better as loans to co-operative building societies. Restrictions should be placed on the soaring price of land in large cities. Land should even be bought by the city governments as in Germany to prevent rent-exploitation. Slum districts in the great cities should be torn down unmercifully as they have been in London and other large cities of Europe, and replaced by wide avenues and sanitary, beautiful houses for the working classes.

Such a program although it represents the absolute minimum for decency although it has been accepted by other countries as the least that can be expected even from a capitalist, government, sounds like a veritable Utopia in America. Only active pressure from the suffering people will bring it within the realm of possibility. On the other hand much could be done even without government assistance by co-operative housing organization. The funds of the great trade-union organizations which are placed in the bank and from there often to employers and manufacturers could be put to much better use if sent directly to organizations of the workers for the purpose of building decent homes for themselves. Even without such assistance co-operative organizations of workers if earnest and energetic could secure the needed funds elsewhere. For lack of co-operative effort only the workers themselves can be held responsible.

## CAN'T STRIKE AT WILL

Harrisburg, Pa. — While trade unionists believe they have the right to strike, this right is not absolute, according to Attorney General Palmer, in a speech which sustained the Cummins anti-strike theory, made before a meeting of state municipal officials. "While the right to strike in all ordinary industries, under normal circumstances, cannot be denied," said the speaker, "there are some callings so closely related to the life, liberty and security of the people that the right to strike in these cases must be subordinated to the superior right of the public to enjoy uninterrupted service."

The speaker emphasized the rights of the public, but he made no mention of the duties of the public when wrong exists and the silence of the public in these cases until employees are forced to suspend work.

In opposing the declaration of the Pennsylvania state federation of Labor for a general strike to secure free speech in this state, the attorney general said "The guaranty of free speech must be carefully preserved," and that is not necessary to strike, because "lawful remedies are at hand."

A delegation of Pittsburgh, trade unionists recently called on the attorney general at Washington in the interest of free speech, but as yet the lawful remedies he referred to have not been applied and gag law, enforced by mobs of business men and the police, prevails throughout western Pennsylvania.

# IN JUDGE ANDERSON'S COURTROOM

(Concluded from last week)...

The miners' lawyer drags in the fact that back of stopping the railroads is the true purpose: the improving of hours and wages. I begin to think that perhaps he will say something about what they actually are, and about what the Government has or has not done about them and about what the responsibility of the Government may be and about what course, if any, was really open to the men to get the improvement desired. But he seems to be as scantly interested in those things as the listening lady in the picture on the wall in front of him. He is presently saying something about a bridge, and then about another bridge. He is in a tourt of legal equity. But he does say that if the operators would consent to negotiate for a new contract there would be no strike, and he raises his voice, with despair now evident in it, to inquire:

"If the operators refuse to negotiate an agreement under which coal can be dug, are they conspirators?"

The judge waves his hand and settles back and smiles and says: "Give me one case at a time." The chorus of citizens advances to a titter. The judge is soon leaning back on his desk and stopping the miners' lawyer again.

"That's neither here nor there." "Unless you're particularly anxious to read that case, don't waste your time." "Now I've told you that I'm going to hold the Lever Law valid, so what's the use of talking?" "I've read the Debs case quite as often as you have."

His remarks spatter out like a metal spray from one of Captain Teflow's favorite weapons. One feels that he is venting his own conscience as well as his own legal certainty and economic indifference. The miners' lawyer was to talk forty-five minutes. He has talked only a few of those minutes. The rest of them are being spent on colloquy in which he is not only silent but mangled. He pleads—really, in the ordinary sense of the word, pleads—to be allowed to make an argument about the right of the court to issue injunctions in labor disputes. As he stretches out his hands they are now shaking. He does not seem to be certain that he will make that argument. He does not make much of it. The judge refuses to listen long to diminishments of the injunctive powers of the courts of the United States. He manifestly conceives those attempted diminishments to be simply silly. He breaks in with:

"The Constitution puts the 'judicial power' into the courts. Do you think that Congress, by statute, can take it away?"

I perceive that if this judge is going to be stopped from issuing injunctions in the field of the "judicial power," it will have to be done by two-thirds of both Houses of Congress and three-fourths of the states and then in words that really do it. He will scan those words with a devastating mind and a fearless will. He comes now to saying that will.

He will issue the mandatory injunction and he will do more. I listen to him then with a feeling that this judge, a very American person, has suddenly become something else. He will issue the injunction, and:

"If they do not obey it, I will make them."

He will make them. He will make them? I can understand that he can punish them, he can jail them, for not obeying the injunction. But if they refuse to obey the injunction, if they refuse to sign the order cancelling the strike order, how will he make them? Will he take a piece of paper and take their hands and make them sign? How? This seems an Oriental moment, with slaves appearing to bastinado Mr. Lewis till he obeys the law.

It is the end. The Government's lawyer is looking at the miners' lawyer and repressing a smile! He brings forward a suggested form of injunction. Its details are discussed and arranged. The chorus of citizens behind the rail and the public characters in front of it begin to buzz a bit. The defendants are quiet. The picture on the wall holds its place. And it makes me think back to one certain remark by this manifestly able and conscientious, even if dictatorial and violent, judge. He put it to the miners' lawyer with a contemptuous smile—not of contempt for the lawyer, but for the idea the lawyer had touched.

"What did you mean by all that about the Government not coming into court with clean hands?"

The miners' lawyer began a reply. But it did not go far. I began to try to finish it to myself.

I went over the long list of the Government's failures, since the armistice, to make the coal industry move one inch toward being a national service by the operators. I went over the Government's failures to make the coal industry a national service by or to anybody. I ended triumphantly.

Under what economic color then can the Government come into a court of equity to impose national service on the employees?

The argument died within me. In that room the Government could not fail in its economic duty. In that room the Government had no economic duty to fail in. In that room it was simply a political sovereign. In that room its economic hands could be as scarlet and its legal hands as snow.

I looked at the listening lady on the wall in her gloom, and I looked at the kneeling lady, and I gave a name to the kneeling lady. There was light painted streaming across her skirts as she knelt. I called her Outdoors. And I gave her some advice. She is wasting her time kneeling there. She is wasting her time kneeling in letters to waitmen dealing in platforms of principles purely political. She has to kneel, and rise from her knees, in her own economic self in the building with a dome at the end of Pennsylvania Avenue.—The New Republic.

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# IN OUR EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

Bulletin Week Beginning  
December 8, 1919

**EAST SIDE UNITY CENTER,** Public School 63, Fourth Street, near First Avenue, Manhattan.

Tuesday, Dec. 9th, 8.45 P. M. Fifth Lecture by Frank Tannenbaum on the Labor Movement.

Thursday, Dec. 11th, 7.45 P. M. Second Lecture on Health by Dr. Sara Greenberg.

**BRONX UNITY HOUSE,** Public School 54, Intervale Ave., and Freeman St., Bronx.

Tuesday, Dec. 9th, 9 P. M. Lecture by Mrs. Lillian Soskin Rogers on "Labor Organization in the United States."

Friday, Dec. 12th, 7.45 P. M. Mrs. Olga Marx lectures on Tolstoy's "Redemption" or "The Living Corpse."

Saturday, Dec. 13th, 2.30 P. M. Fourth lecture by Dr. Anna E. Roy-Robinson, "Food and Diet." Gymnasium practice under the direction of Miss Nasoff.

**Bonnais Embroideries' Union,** Local 66, Public School No. 40, 320 East 20th Street.

Friday, December 12th, 7 P. M. Lecture by Frank Tannenbaum, "Conservative Functions of the Labor Movement."

**BROWNVILLE UNITY CENTER,** Public School 84, Stone and Glenmore Avenues, Brooklyn.

Wednesday, Dec. 10th, 8.45 P. M. Fifth lecture by Frank Tannenbaum on "The Labor Movement."

Thursday, Dec. 11th, 7.45 P. M. Second Lecture on Health by Dr. Clara Rabinoff, "Personal Hygiene."

Gymnasium practice under the direction of Miss Mary Ruth Cohen.

Friday, Dec. 12th, 8 P. M. Lecture by Miss Ellen A. Kennan on Galsworthy's "Strife."

**WAISTMAKERS' UNITY CENTER,** Public School 40, 320 East 20th St., Manhattan.

Wednesday, Dec. 10, 8.45 P. M. Lecture by Mrs. Lillian Soskin Rogers, "Labor Organization in the United States."

Thursday, Dec. 11th, 8 P. M. Fifth meeting of class under Dr. Olgin. Discussion of play by Sholem Asch.

Friday, Dec. 12th, 7.45 P. M. Meeting of class for discussion on Music under Miss Mildred Rider.

Bulletin Week Beginning  
December 15, 1919

**EAST SIDE UNITY CENTER,** Public School 63, Fourth St., near First Ave., Manhattan.

Tuesday, Dec. 16th, 8.45 P. M. Sixth Lecture by Frank Tannenbaum on the Labor Movement.

Thursday, Dec. 18th, 7.45 P. M. Second Lecture on Health by Dr. Sara Greenberg.

**BRONX UNITY CENTER,** Public School 54, Intervale Ave., and Freeman St., Bronx.

Tuesday, Dec. 16th, 8.45 P. M. Second Lecture on Trade Unionism by Miss Margaret Daniels.

Friday, Dec. 19th, 8 P. M. Dr. M. J. Olgin will lecture in Yiddish, "The Workers and their Education."

**BROWNVILLE UNITY CENTER,** Public School 84, Stone and Glenmore Avenues, Brooklyn.

Thursday, Dec. 18th, 7.45 P. M. Sixth Lecture on the Labor Movement by Frank Tannenbaum.

Friday, Dec. 19th, Lecture by Miss Ellen Kennan on George B. Shaw's "Misalliance" (Relations between Parents and Children).

**WAISTMAKERS' UNITY CENTER,** Public School 40, 320 East 20th St., Manhattan.

Tuesday, Dec. 16th, 8.45 P. M. Third lecture by Mrs. Lillian Soskin Rogers, "Trade Unions and the War."

Thursday, Dec. 18th, 8 P. M. Sixth meeting of class for discussion on Drama by Dr. Olgin.

Friday, Dec. 19th, 8 P. M. Meeting of class for discussion on Music under Miss Mildred Rider.

**Cloak Finishers' Union,** Local No. 2.

Friday, Dec. 12th, 8 P. M. Concert and lecture at Pacific Hall, 200 East Broadway, Miss Louise Vermont, Contralto, Miss M. Gould, Pianist; Mr. C. Bailin will lecture on the Labor Movement in the United States. Humorous reading by H. Adler.

**Cloak and Suit Piece Tailors' Union,** Local 3, Saturday, Dec. 13th, 2 P. M. in Beethoven Hall, 210 E. 10th St. A lecture by Mr. H. Sherr on Labor and Injunction.

**Cloakmakers' Union,** Local 11, Friday, Dec. 19th, 8 P. M. in Brownsville Labor Lyceum, 229 Sacrament St., Lecture by S. Yafsky; Reading by Botvink; Soprano Solo, Miss Ostello Shreiner; violin solo by Max Jacobs.

**Cloak Finishers' Union,** Local 9, Saturday, Dec. 20th, 8 P. M., Brownville Labor Lyceum. A lecture on the Labor Movement. Lecturer to be announced.

The Educational Department of the International announces that it has distributed, to the Local Offices, season tickets for the Bramhall Playhouse. The ticket costs 5c, and it entitles the holder to two seats in any part of the theatre, at 50c each, for almost all performances at the Bramhall Playhouse.

By arrangement with the Jewish Art Theatre, our members can purchase, for 15c season tickets which entitle our members to two tickets at half price anywhere in the theatre, for performances on Thursday evenings and Saturday afternoons. Members are urged to avail themselves of these special privileges. These tickets can be obtained, either at the office of the Educational Department or at the Local Offices.

Have you got your ticket for the Opening Celebration and Concert of the Workers' University to be held at Washington Irving High School, Irving Place and 16th St., on Saturday evening, Dec. 13th. An unusually brilliant musical program, consisting of violin selections, songs, and organ solos has been arranged to regale our students and friends on that evening. Prominent speakers, such as Dr. Charles A. Beard, Dr. M. Olgin, Miss Margaret Bondfield, member of the Parliamentary Committee of the British Labor Party, Dr. Harry Dana and our Educational Director, Dr. Friedland, will address the audience. Copies of the curriculum of the Workers' University, giving full details and instructions for enrollment, etc., will be distributed on that occasion. Let us make this a landmark in our Educational history. Be sure to attend. Get your tickets at your Unity Center, or at your Local Headquarters, but be sure to get a ticket and be sure to come. You cannot

afford to miss the good music and the speaking. Let us co-operate in celebrating the third anniversary of our Workers' University. Come one and all.

On Dec. 12th, 2.45 P. M., at the Waist Makers' Unity Center, Public School 40, 320 E. 20th St., Miss Mildred Rider, a well-known music teacher and critic will lecture on the Philharmonic Concert given Saturday, Dec. 6th. Even if you were not present at the Concert, you should come to the lecture on the 12th of Dec., as Miss Rider will illustrate the music on the piano and you will learn how to listen to music from her discussions and illustrations.

The latter part of her lecture will be devoted to a discussion of the musical program of our opening celebration Dec. 13, at Washington Irving High School at 7.30 sharp. Let us welcome our new music teacher in large numbers. In addition to being a charming and interesting lecturer she is a fine pianist. Come to hear her talk and hear her play.

Waistmakers' Unity Center, P. S. No. 40, 320 E. 20th St.,

Activities at the Waistmakers' Unity Center were unusually large in number this week, as well as unusually attractive. Beside the regular English classes, and the Thursday gymnastic and recreation class, there were a number of lectures.

Tuesday evening, Dr. Robinson gave the third of her series of lectures on health. Her fourth lecture will occur on Dec. 29th, and will be on "Food and Diet." Next Tuesday evening Lillian Soskin-Rogers will give a lecture on Trade Unionism. The lecture on Tuesday evening began at 8.45 to allow the English students to attend. Wednesday evening of this week Mrs. Rogers gave an additional lecture, making one lecture a week on economics.

Dr. Olgin has proved so popular to the large audiences which have heard his four lectures on the Drama, that he consented to give two additional ones. Thursday of this week he discussed Tolstoy's "The Living Corps," and the topic for his talk next Thursday evening, Dec. 18th, will be announced later.

The opening for the Center will take place Saturday evening, Dec. 20th, and will be in the nature of an "Open House," where one may find a warm welcome to the center, and enjoy a happy Reunion with Unity Friends, as well as a good program, refreshments, and dancing.

LUCY RETTING,  
Supervisor.

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## OUR EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE- HEAR MISS BONDFIELD

It was an inspiringly open-minded, forward-looking group of men and women who gathered yesterday afternoon in the Civic Club at the luncheon of the educational committee of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. They were assembled to meet Margaret Bondfield, of the British Labor Party, to hear her story of the educational work among organized labor in Great Britain, and to tell about the aims and achievements of the labor education movement here.

Most of the members of the faculty of the Workers' University of the Union and many of the teachers in its unity centers were present. Miss Fannia M. Cohn, secretary of the educational committee, presided, and brief addresses by Dr. L. Ardzoomi, of the New School Research; E. Lieberman, manager of the Justice, the publication of the union; Lucy Retting, educational supervisor of the Unity Center of the Waist Makers' Union; Dr. H. Davidow, instructor in English in the same unity center; Sarah Shapiro, an organizer for the union; Miss McDowell, of the People's Institute; Louis Waldman, of the United Labor Education committee; Bertha Mailly, executive secretary of the Rand School; Ellen Kenon, instructor in literature at the Workers' University, and Dr. L. Friedland, educational director of the university. Messages were received from Vice President Baroff and from Algoner Lee and Prof. James Harvey Robinson.

Miss Bondfield said in part: "The educational work of the British workers has been the result of practical experience rather than of theories. We have struggled along, and we have made mistakes; but we have learned from our mistakes; and when a problem came up that we did not know how to meet, we looked around for an expert who could show us what to do.

"It isn't so much your classes and lectures that will count, it is the going back into the shop and passing on your knowledge to your co-workers that will spread enlightenment and promote solidarity in your labor movement. Everywhere in Great Britain, at every street-corner meeting, in every party branch and union local, the workers are discussing the problems of the day, so that when a deputation goes to Parliament on a certain question its members really express the great body of opinion of the rank and file.

"In many respects you in America are ahead of us, and we want to keep in close touch with you and learn from you. We hope that you will send some of your representatives to us; I hope that the British workers will send me to you again; and will send others. Through this mutual visiting and conference we can get to understand one another, we can prevent the capitalist press from dividing us, and we can help toward the international unity of labor."

"It may be that when I come again, you will not merely be making waists, for example, for the profit of the manufacturers, but you will be making waists under splendid conditions in your own co-operative factories and selling those waists to shops where

## LADIES' TAILORS AND ALTERATION WORKERS' UNION, LOCAL No. 80

## ELECTION FOR OFFICERS

will take place on

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1919

From 6 P. M. till 9.30 P. M.

At MOUNT MORRIS HALL, 1362-5th AVENUE.  
(Corner 113th Street)

Every member is requested to participate in this election and so elect the best and most capable members to the various offices.

ELECTION COMMITTEE.

## Ladies' Tailors and Alteration Workers' Union, Local No. 80

H. HILFMAN, Secretary.

P. S. The union card must be presented at the entrance to the meeting. Otherwise the member will not be permitted to participate in the election.

## SKIRT AND DRESS MAKERS, LOCAL 23 ATTENTION

According to the decision of the local, all members will have to pay 25 cents as their weekly dues, beginning with January 1, 1920. You are urged to pay your arrears before January 1, for after that date you will have to pay your arrears according to the new rate.

Executive Board, Local 23.

H. WANDER, Manager.

## LABOR PROBLEMS

Lectures by

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MOVEMENT IN FRANCE

On Thursdays

Lectures begin 8.30 P. M. Sharp.

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## 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 & Milins,  
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 Kobler,  
322 Fourth Ave.  
Deitz & Ottenberg,  
2-16 West 33rd St.  
J. & M. Cohen,  
6-10 E. 32nd Street.

the miners' wives can buy them through their own co-operatives. You will not only be using your

own for the enrichment of a corporation, but for the benefit of the whole community."



## CUTTERS' UNION OF LOCAL 10, ATTENTION.

### NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETINGS MISCELLANEOUS:

**GENERAL (All Branches):** Monday, December 15th

**SPECIAL GENERAL (All Branches):** Monday, December 22nd.

**Constitution Committee to Report**  
Monday, December 29th.

**CLOAK AND SUIT:** Monday, January 5th.

**DRESS AND WAIST:** Monday, January 12th.

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

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## NOTICE OF CUTTERS' ELECTION

The Election of Officers for the Cutters' Union,  
Local 10, will take place

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27th, 1919**

in

**ARLINGTON HALL, 23 ST. MARKS PL.**

**Polls Open 12 O'clock Noon  
Close 5 P. M.**

Only those who are members for six (6) months or over, and owe not more than twelve (12) weeks dues are entitled to vote.

Members must present their dues book to be entitled to a ballot.

### LIST OF CANDIDATES

President	Vice Presidents
Sidney Rothenberg	David Dubinsky
Inner Guard	Jacob Lukin
Sam Masover	General Secretary
1 Financial Secretary	Elmer Rosenberg
Julius Samuels	2 C. F. U. Delegates
Harry Berlin	Max Gorenstein
	Samuel Perlmutter
CLOAK AND SUIT BRANCH	6 Joint Board Delegates
Manager	
Max Gorenstein	Meyer Tunick
4 Business Agents	Morris Steinsberg
Denj. Sachs	Harry Zaslowsky
Julius Bender	Harry Bloom
Louis Lipschitz	B. Rubin
Max Silverstein	Ben. Elfrman
Ig. Fischner	
Meyer Scharp	Executive Board
Arthur Weinstein	Samuel Kerry
Isidore Nagler	Benj. Elfrman
WAIST AND DRESS BRANCH	2 Executive Board
Manager	
Sam. B. Shenker	Max Stoller
4 Business Agents	Emil Wilder
Sam Kahn	
Samuel Sadowsky	Abr. Lebowitz
Adolph Sones	Hym. Goldberg
John W. Settle	Chas. Stein No. 2.
Isidore Brenner	Louis Ostrover

### MISCELLANEOUS BRANCH

Manager	Executive Board
Samuel Perlmutter	Jos. Machlin
Business Agent	Sam. Bokser
Jacob Fleisher	Samuel Dunalef

**INSTALLATION TAKES PLACE  
JANUARY 3rd, 1920.**

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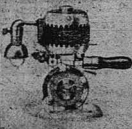
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