

"My righteousness
how I hold
fast, and will
not let it go."
— Job. 27.6.

JUSTICE

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

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS UNION.

VOL. I. No. 49.

New York, Friday, December 19, 1919.

Price 2 Cents.

New York Cloak Manufacturers Demand Their Pound of Flesh

The demand submitted by the representatives of the Cloakmakers' Union in New York, that the minimum wage scale for cloakmakers be raised for this spring season, in accordance with the rising cost of living, was refused by the Manufacturers' Protective Association.

In a letter to the union, the manufacturers make the following points:

1. The manufacturers refuse to accede to the demands of the union six months after making the agreement which was to last for a period of three years.
2. Substantial wage increases had been forced by the workers in many shops during the past season.
3. The public must be protected from unnecessary advances in the price of clothes.
4. The cloakmakers are among the most highly paid workers in the country and they cannot therefore claim that their wages are not sufficient to meet present conditions.

The Joint Board of the Cloak Makers' Union sent the following letter in answer to the specious arguments of the manufacturers:

December 17th, 1919.

Mr. M. R. Silverman, Pres.,
Cloak, Suit & Skirt Manu-
facturers' Protective Association,
920 Fifth Ave., New York.

Dear Sir:

We are in receipt of your letter of the 15th inst.

Your communication, coming after two weeks of waiting, contains, in our judgment, a great amount of irrelevant information. Your extensive recital of some of the terms and principles of our agreement, we believe, was totally superfluous, as reiteration of matter perfectly well known to us, and, in this case, tending to obscure and divert attention from the real points at issue.

At the end of our last conference with representatives of your Association, at which we presented to you a request for an increase in wages, we parted with the promise on your part that you were to give this matter earnest consideration on its merits—not on technicalities,—and that it would thereupon receive further consideration at the next conference to be held without delay, at which we were ready to submit to you and to discuss the facts and the data upon which the legitimacy, logic and reasonableness of our demand was founded.

Instead of discussing this matter in conference, you have chosen the method of addressing-us in writing. We maintain, in reply, that your contentions are wholly unfounded, that your assertions do not meet the real hard facts of everyday living, and, therefore, lack conviction.

1. It is not a "pretext" that compels our members to ask for an increase in wages. We are prepared to prove with facts and data that the cost of living since the signing of our agreement, last May, has gone up approximately 30 per cent. The increases granted to our workers at that time were far from squaring up with the cost of living that has been mounting steadily for years, and, of course, totally inadequate today. This should be quite a convincing circumstance to justify our demand, and it is precisely because we have regard for the integrity of our agreement and do not want that it become an empty, meaningless shell, that we ask for an equitable adjustment of an emergency situation.

2. Your reference to the extra increases which have taken place during the season in many shops, belonging to members of your Association, in excess of the scale rates, offers but an additional argument in favor of our demand. We take it that your Association is desirous of avoiding this practice, and we fail to see how the setting up of an artificial and technical barrier against a legitimate demand will in any way tend to eliminate it.

3. We emphatically reject your statement that it is the labor item, insofar as our members are concerned, that is responsible for the high advance made in prices of women's wearing apparel. We are not courting a thorough discussion of this particular matter at this

juncture, but public opinion in general knows of more valid reasons which are responsible for these advances. We emphasize that your attempt to seek refuge from facts and to justify your position on the ground of public interest is, in our sincere judgment, nothing short of evasion.

It has been the unwritten law in all our agreements with your Association in the past, to adjust increases of wages and other pressing problems not stipulated in the agreement, in conference, as the occasion would require. We are ready to prove that our contentions are based on concrete facts; that they can stand the light of day and discussion, and are not tainted with any arbitrariness.

Certainly, an arbitrary and inconsiderate attitude on your part can serve no other purpose than to create tension and irritation in our industry, a situation which has been our mutual purpose to avoid. We urgently submit, therefore, that you give this serious matter further and immediate consideration in the interests of peace and harmony in our industry.

Very truly yours,

JOINT BOARD OF THE
CLOAK, SUIT, SKIRT
& REEFER MAKERS'
UNIONS.

MORRIS SIOGAN,
Chairman.

ISRAEL FEINBERG,
General Manager.

First Steps Toward a Tailors' International

The international congress of garment workers was held in Amsterdam, Holland, last week, and was in session Thursday, Friday and Saturday, according to cables received by the International from President Schlesinger.

The following countries were represented: France, Belgium, England, Germany, Sweden, Denmark, Holland, Switzerland, United States and Canada.

President Benjamin Schlesinger, who was sent by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, was the representative of this country.

According to President Schlesinger's cable the Amsterdam Congress is preliminary to one to be held next August at Copenhagen, to which all tailor organizations of the world will be asked to send delegates.

The international organization of clothing workers has been in existence for a number of years. The last call for a Congress was issued in 1914 but it was not held because of the war.

The next congress, to be held in Copenhagen, President Schlesinger states, will reaffirm the workers' solidarity and will lay the foundation of a powerful Tailors' International.

FACULTY AND STUDENTS MEETING

Educational Director Dr. Louis S. Friedland and the faculty of the Workers' University of the International will meet all students and those who wish to register next Saturday, December 20, at 2 P. M. and Sunday, Dec. 21, at 10 A. M., at Washington Irving High School.

INSPIRING CELEBRATION OF THE WORKERS' UNIVERSITY

Despite the drizzling rain and sleet, people kept pouring into the auditorium of the Washington Irving High School last Saturday evening, December 13, where the International celebrated the opening of the Workers' University. At eight o'clock every seat and all the standing room permitted by the Fire Department had already been filled by members and friends of the International. Still more kept coming until the large gymnasium of that school was also filled. Many others had to turn back.

It was an inspiring gathering of students, teachers and organizers of this University, who came to celebrate their reunion as well as to plan and build for their future work.

Sister Fannia M. Cohn, secretary of the Educational Committee, as chairman, outlined the work of this University. She enthusiastically spoke of the great significance the University and the Unity Centers have not only for the members of the International but for the labor movement of the entire country.

Professor Charles A. Beard, who has been closely associated with the Workers' University from its inception, was the first speaker. He said that labor education is successfully meeting the challenge of 2000 years that art, science and literature should be limited to those who do not work with their hands. "One of the most striking things that I have observed," said Professor Beard, "is not the growing solidarity of labor but the growing passion for knowledge in order that labor may take possession of the earth and make it a beautiful place wherein to dwell."

Professor H. W. L. Dana brought to the students a fraternal greeting from the students of the Trade Union College of Boston, which he helped to organize. He said that the educational activities of the International has inspired and guided similar activities all over the country. After pointing out the failure of the prevailing educational system in our schools and colleges to meet the demands of the workers, Professor Dana said, "I take it that in your Workers' University we shall need no other propaganda than that of thinking; no other propaganda than that of the truth. The truth is making you free. The one hope of the world lies in education, and the one hope for education lies in linking it with labor, as you are doing here."

Our Educational Director Dr. Louis S. Friedland described in detail the courses of study of the Workers' University. "As Educational Director," said Dr. Friedland, (Continued on Page 7)

Topics of the Week

The National Labor Conference

A "declaration of principles" or a "bill of rights" has been issued by the national labor conference which was held in Washington, last Saturday, December 13. It was the conference of the executives of 119 national and international unions which had been called, on October 21, by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor and representatives of the railroad brotherhoods. "To agree upon fundamental principles and a program" which should "safeguard and promote the rights, interests and freedom of the wage earners."

If the need for a new policy of labor was urgent two months ago, it is still more urgent today. For since the call has been issued, significant events have transpired which makes the reconstruction of labor policies inevitable. There is the epoch-making miners' injunction, as well as the revolutionary statement issued by the Executive Council of the A. F. of L., defying the Government and reasserting the rights of the miners. There are the minor acts of repression of labor activities. On the other hand, there are many signs of the constructive forces of labor as, for instance, the founding of the National Labor Party at Chicago.

The declaration of principles which has been issued after one day's deliberation of over 200 labor representatives should be of utmost significance. It is an appeal not only to the organizations composing the A. F. of L., but to "all other organized bodies of workers, farmers and sympathizers, liberty-loving citizens of the United States, to carry into effect the principles and purposes set forth in the declarations of this conference."

The document follows in part: "The great victories for human freedom must not have been won in vain. They must serve as the instruments and the inspiration for a greater and nobler freedom for all mankind."

"Autocratic, political and corporate industrial and financial influences in our country have sought and are seeking to infringe upon and limit the fundamental rights of the wage earners guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States."

"Powerful forces are seeking more and more aggressively to deny to wage earners their right to cease work. We denounce these efforts as vicious and destructive of the most precious liberties of our people. The right to cease work, strike, as a final means of enforcing justice from an autocratic control of industry must be maintained."

"The autocratic and destructive action of the United States Steel Corporation and its subsidiary branches to oppress the workers by denying them the exercise of their freedom of action, freedom of association, freedom of expression, must give way to a better understanding and relation and to secure the wage earners in the exercise of their rights and liberties as free workers and citizens."

Right to Strike

"We realize fully all that is involved in the exercise of the right to strike, but only by the exercise of that right can industrial autocrats be compelled to abandon their concept of tyranny and give way to the establishment of freedom and justice in industry."

"We protest against the attitude and action of the majority of the representatives of the employers in the employers group who participated in the President's Industrial Conference Oct. 6-20, 1915."

"The protection of the rights and interests of the wage earners in national, State, and municipal service requires for them the right of organization. Since the interests of these workers can be best promoted through legislation and administration, their right to organize and affiliation with the American Federation of Labor must at all times be fully safeguarded."

"The paramount issues that concern all the people of the United States, and in particular the wage earners, are the perversion and the abuse of the writ of injunction and the necessity for full and adequate protection of the voluntary association of wage earners organized not for profit."

"Government by injunction has grown out of the perversion of the injunction process. By the misuse of that process workers have been forbidden to do those things which they have a natural and constitutional right to do."

Denounce Use of Injunction

"The injunction as now used is a revolutionary measure which substitutes government by judicial discretion or bias for government by law. It substitutes a trial by one man, a Judge, in his discretion, for a trial by jury. This abuse of the injunction process undermines and destroys the very foundations of our free institutions. It is subversive of the spirit of a free people working out their destiny in an orderly and rational manner."

"We declare, these abuses in the exercise of the injunction writ are clearly violative of the Constitution, and that this issue must be determined definitely in accordance with the guarantees of the Constitution of the United States."

"Workers are free citizens, not slaves. They have the constitutional right to cease working. The strike is a protest against autocratic management. To penalize strikes or to make them unlawful is to apply an unwarranted and destructive method when a constructive one is available. To reduce the necessity for strikes, the cause should be found and removed. The Government has a greater obligation in this matter than to use its coercive powers."

"Legislation which proposes to make strikes unlawful or to compel the wage-earners to submit their grievances or aspirations to courts or to Government agencies is an invasion of the right of the wage earners, and when enforced makes for industrial serfdom or slavery."

"We specifically denounce the anti-strike provisions of the Cummins bill and all similar proposed legislation as un-American, as being vicious in character and establishing by legislation involuntary servitude."

Upholds Coal Miners

"The United Mine Workers of America did all in their power to end an industrial controversy in the coal industry. The autocratic attitude of the mine owners was responsible for the losses and sufferings entailed. While the miners have returned to the mines and have only now been afforded the opportunity of having their grievances and demands brought to the

light of reason, it is our hope that a full measure of justice will be accorded them, even at this late date."

Would Hold Railroads for Years

"Since the Government has not worked out a constructive railroad policy, we urge for and on behalf of the railway workers and of the general public, that the railroads be retained under Government Administration for at least two years after Jan. 1, 1920, in order that thorough test-making made of Governmental operation under normal conditions."

Upholds League of Nations and Peace Treaty

"We insist that it is the immediate duty of the Senate to ratify the treaty of Versailles."

The following resolution was adopted by the Conference:

"Whereas, the American Federation of Labor is an American institution believing in American principles and ideas; and

"Whereas, An attempt is being made to inject the spirit of Bolshevism and I. W. W.-ism into the affairs of the American Federation of Labor; and

"Whereas, The American Federation of Labor is opposed to Bolshevism, I. W. W.-ism and the irresponsible leadership that encourages such a policy; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That this conference of representatives of trades unions affiliated with the A. F. of L. and other organizations associated in this conference repudiate and condemn the policy of Bolshevism and I. W. W.-ism as being obstructive to American ideals and impracticable in application; be it further

"Resolved, That this conference reiterate the action of the conventions of the American Federation of Labor in the advocacy of the principles of conciliation and voluntary arbitration and collective bargaining."

It could be plainly seen from

the foregoing that the document is an affirmation of the present policies of the Government of the Steel Trust, of the Coal Operators, of the Bolsheviks, rather than the feeblest suggestion of any constructive policy. In fact constructive policies are scrupulously avoided. The Labor Party, for instance, is ignored, and in making recommendation for the Government retention of the railroads, the Plumb Plan goes unnoticed.

"Peace" in the Coal Mines

THE miners' strike has officially ended December 10. The rank and file of the miners have followed the order of their leaders and went "back to the mines." The terms of settlement are far from the original demands, a six hour day, 60 per cent wage increase and the nationalization of the mines, adopted at the Cleveland Convention, last September. The terms of settlement are those dictated by the Government, not by Secretary of Labor Wilson, or Fuel Administrator Garfield, but by the Government par excellence, that is, by the President himself. These terms provide that the miners are to return to work under the conditions which prevailed when they walked out on October 31, except that there shall be an increase of 14 per cent over the wage scale then prevailing, and a commission of three, appointed by the President, will investigate and report conditions.

The miners' leaders had obeyed the injunction under protest. But they have grown meek and patriotic since then. After capitulating to the Government, John L. Lewis issued a long statement saying that "the action taken today should demonstrate to the people of our country that the United Mine Workers of America are loyal to our country and believe in the prosperity of our democratic institutions."

OFFICIAL STATEMENTS OF I. L. G. W. U.

Steel Strike

Some time ago the International Union forwarded to you a letter calling upon your organization to aid in the collection of funds for the steel strikers.

We beg leave in this connection to urge you again to collect all the levies that you have made upon your membership as promptly as possible and forward money to the General Office. The General Office has, in accordance with its promise to the steel strikers, advanced money on this relief fund, and we MUST MAKE GOOD.

Please, therefore, send us at once whatever money you have on hand and what you are expecting to collect within the nearest future.

Fraternally yours,

ABRAHAM BAROFF,
Gen. Sec.-Treas.

Amnesty for Political Prisoners

The General Executive Board of our International Union directs me to present to you the following matter:

There are thousands of prisoners in American jails, confined for offences of a political nature. Their offences having been connected with the state of war which is no longer prevalent, their confinement in jail at present has no sense or justification.

The organized labor movement of this country has taken up the (Continued on Page 7)

According to a decision of the General Executive Board, Secretary Baroff sent the following statement to all the affiliated locals of the International:

War Sufferers Relief

The beginning of winter finds all the locals of our International Union engaged in the launching of drives for war sufferers' relief among their membership. The International Union, as an organization, has fully endorsed this noble work, and has lent its heartiest co-operation and encouragement to our organizations in the execution of these drives.

The General Executive Board of our International Union has requested me to direct your attention to the fact that all collections, subscriptions and moneys gathered in the course of such campaigns and drives for war sufferers' funds should be sent through the General Office of our International Union for remittance to the proper channels. The International will give official and public credit to all the locals and joint boards which will collect such moneys.

• This is, as you will understand, done for the obvious purpose of centralizing the work, for the maintenance of the prestige of our International Union, and for the securing the proper recognition and appreciation for our locals.

Fraternally yours,

ABRAHAM BAROFF,
Gen. Sec.-Treas.

The High Cost of Housing

CO-OPERATION AND STATE AID—THE SOLUTION

By A. C. M.

II.
The problem of how to live decently under the present conditions of housing and rent is growing more serious with every month. The slums of America have always been a shame and a byword, but now even those slums are becoming too dear for the workman. Girls who work in the garment trades must pay twice as much for their poor lodgings as they did two or three years ago. A corner in a tiny flat sucks up a big fraction of their income without giving them a minimum of privacy or comfort. And the man with a family has a terrible problem before him. He wants his children to have sunshine and fresh air, and to grow up healthy and strong in body and mind. But he is compelled by the present high rents to crowd them into dirty, ill-smelling tenements, and to pay for these poor accommodations too large a part of his meager wage. If the advocates of "Americanization" would include in their program the duty of providing a clean and healthful abode for every worker they might win more respect.

The benighted and old world peoples of Europe have much to teach America in the matter of housing as in many things else. They laid down almost a century ago the principle that the first right of the workers was to a decent place to live in and that the state if necessary must step in and help them to make this fact. It was in 1841 that the terrible living conditions of the British working classes first attracted public attention through the spread of disease to other districts.

Philanthropic associations for improving housing conditions sprang up on all sides, such as the "Metropolitan Association for Improving the Dwellings of the Working Classes" and the "Laborers' Friend Society." In these efforts the lead was taken by Lord Shaftesbury who had been the pioneer in factory legislation and many other movements for the improvement of the condition of the working classes. Shaftesbury succeeded in 1851 in securing the passage of the Laboring Classes Lodging Houses Act in which it was recognized the all-important principle of state responsibility for housing of the people.

According to this act loans of money for the purpose of building houses for the working classes to cities, towns and private associations by the Public Works Loan Commissioners. While this act remained a dead letter for well nigh forty years, it is of historic importance, for it marks the first weakening of the great fortress of the let-it-alone philosophy which has not yet been broken down in America.

In later Public Health Acts the principle of public responsibility for bad housing was extended. In addition to the familiar provisions with regard to light, air and sanitation, authority was given for the clearing of slum areas with funds supplied by the government as in Lord Shaftesbury's Act. The "slum clearances" as they were called have removed from the English cities the worst districts where crime and disease raged unchecked. How was this done? In London, for instance, between the years 1876 and 1889 the London

government bought 42 acres of land in the heart of the slums covered with old ramshackle, filthy and disease-ridden buildings. The houses were torn down and the cleared land was sold below cost to philanthropic foundations which built model tenements at a cost of some \$7,000,000. Outside of London the government spent about \$12,000,000 in the same work. Liverpool, whose slums and rookeries and cellar dwellings were an eyesore, began extensive clearing and municipal housing schemes as early as the sixties.

The first step in cleaning up the English slums served mainly to awaken the public attention to the terrible conditions in which the working people were forced to live and in which they degenerated physically and morally. Due to these revelations a Royal Commission on the Housing of the Working Classes was appointed in 1884, and its report led to new and stronger legislation under which the modern constructive British activity in the matter of housing really began. Only a few years before the war the capstone was laid on this great structure through the Housing and Town-Planning Act which thru the authority of Parliament compelled city and town governments to provide proper housing wherever a shortage existed. In this provision alone we can see the tremendous gap that separates the British and the American methods of dealing with social problems.

Government aid to good housing works mainly in two ways: thru loans to building societies which may be philanthropic or co-operative, and secondly thru direct building and landlord supervision by cities. There is also an act passed in 1899 which provides for loans to individual workmen to build small houses for themselves, but this has not been used as much as the loans to societies. Furthermore about 6,000,000 working class houses are freed from taxation which tends to reduce the rents. But the main activity has been along the lines of community or municipal housing. Indeed a strong rivalry sprang up between the advocates of these two plans in the effort to exceed each other in the excellence of housing and cheapness of rents. This competition has worked for betterment of the new housing.

Strong attacks were made in England as in other countries upon the advocates of state ownership and operation of houses, on the ground, of course, that such measures were socialistic and paternalistic, that they killed private initiative, and involved the states in unnecessary financial responsibility. But when it appeared that the state was making a success as landlord, and was actually making money out of land and housing enterprises while greatly improving conditions, the opposition was compelled to hide its head.

The London County Council, which is the government of the

city of London, is now the landlord directly for no less than 38,000 people, while the total amount loaned by the government for housing purposes both to societies and to city governments amounted to about \$40,000,000 by 1917. In addition to this the English cities have spent about \$25,000,000 on clearing slums and \$25,000,000 more on building houses from funds which they borrowed in the open market. Up to 1907 Philanthropic societies had built housing accommodations for 125,000 persons and 47,000 houses had been built by 413 co-operative societies. The Housing Act of 1909 resulted in a tremendous increase of housing activity in the years before the war which is now being resumed on a greater scale than ever. In 1913 the London County Council had 1500 sub-subsidiary schemes on foot which were designed to house about 90,000 people, when the work was halted by the war. During the war period the new building was mostly for the housing of munitions and other war-workers.

No account of English housing reforms would be complete without a reference to the Garden City Movement. This movement for the reconstruction of cities along the lines of health had its start in 1892 with the appearance of the book of Ebenezer Howard, *Garden Cities of Tomorrow*. The Garden City Association was formed. In 1898 the London County Council built the Hampstead Garden Suburb and in 1903 Leetchworth was built by private association, the First Garden City Association, Ltd.

The garden city movement has grown through the efforts of co-operative groups and of enlightened employers. The first co-operative group, the Ealing Tenants, Ltd. was organized in 1901. By 1909 there were no less than 12 co-partnership villages already built chiefly with the assistance of funds provided by the government. There are now over 60 co-operative housing societies affiliated with the British Garden Cities and Town Planning Association which has built 80,000 cottages.

The famous garden suburbs of Bournville near Birmingham, Earswick near York, and Port Sunlight have been built by enlightened employers who realized that well-housed and healthy workers were good business investments.

The result of better housing are shown in a remarkable way in the improvement of the people's health. The human organism is as responsive to sunlight, space and fresh air as is the plant or flower. The death rates have taken a leap downward wherever attention has been paid to the matter of housing. Where 15 people per 1000 died in 1911 in London only 8 per 100 died in that part of it where the city was landlord. The death rate for cleared slums in 1907 sank from 40 to 13 per 1000. In two areas which were cleared in Manchester from 1887 to 1889 the death rate sank from 49 per 1000 to 29 in one case and from 51 to 33 in another. In Liverpool in a similar district the death rate was cut in two, and the cases of

berceliosis even further decreased. That children thrive on good housing is shown by a careful investigation into the condition of children who had been brought up in garden cities. The boys in the garden city of Bournville were 4 inches taller than those of nearby Birmingham, they measured three inches more around the chest and weighed 32 pounds more on the average at the age of 14.

While England has accomplished more than any other country in providing decent housing for its working classes, the other countries of Europe and even of South America are following along rapidly in its path. Belgium has had a fine housing law since 1889 which provides for state loans to cities, associations and individual workmen for building. The funds are provided by the General Savings Bank of Belgium up to 7 per cent of deposits. A life insurance plan is included in the loan scheme, and a tax exemption of 50 per cent is granted on the poorest working class dwellings. By 1913 there had been advances of \$30,000,000 in such loans which provided 115,000 homes for 300,000 people. Insanitary old houses are rapidly disappearing, and the new housing program of the Labor government will probably complete the work of cleansing and beautifying the homes of the people.

Germany has been very active in housing reform, and has introduced valuable new ideas such as the holding of land by city governments to prevent a rise in price and increase of rent. The statistics of overcrowding taken in Berlin during the elections showed a death-rate of 163 per 1000 in one-room tenements, 22 in two room 7 in three room, and only 5 per 1000 in four-room tenements. Active work was started, and money was provided from the state insurance funds for great housing undertakings. According to the law as much as 25 per cent of these funds could be used in loans for housing. The Empire and the separate states as well as most of the German cities provided housing for their own civil service employees. In addition housing for the working classes in general had been provided by 15 large cities with an expenditure of \$3,000,000. The garden city of Hellerau near Dresden was built by a co-operative housing company renting only to its own members. Karlsruhe undertook a similar effort two years later and at the outbreak of the war Rasthof, Nuremberg and Munich had extensive plans on foot.

In Italy too the movement for good and beautiful housing has made great headway, and accounts of fine co-operative houses with electric light and other conveniences combine with Montessori schools should put Mulberry St. and Elizabeth St. in New York to shame.

Thus have the governments and working people of Europe attacked their problem. The governments have admitted their responsibility for financial aid in loans from the public treasury, the workmen have busied themselves with co-operative effort. What has America done, government or workers?

JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly.

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A. BAROFF, Sec'y-Treas.

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EDITORIALS

WHAT DO THE CLEVELAND MANUFACTURERS WANT?

It seemed, a few weeks ago, that the cloak industry in Cleveland would not be disturbed by a struggle between the manufacturers and the workers of that city. The Cleveland cloak manufacturers had, to all appearances, learned their lesson, at least, most of them had realized that the time, money, energy spent in combating the demands of the workers are wasted.

The expectation was entirely justified that with the expiration of the so-called armistice, which had been concluded a few months ago, peace would be brought about in the cloak industry of Cleveland.

But, as it appears now, the Cleveland situation will not be settled in an uneventful way.

Who will be responsible?

Certainly not the Union. Her chief demands are decidedly moderate. There is no demand, as is the case in Europe, for the control over the industry. There is even no demand for a closed shop where only union men should be employed. There is not the feeble suggestion of anything which would lead to the demoralization of the industry, as for instance, the right to strike when the workers so desire.

On the contrary, the workers demand the introduction of machinery which would avoid strikes in the industry. Instead of the "terrible" closed shop, with which the Steel Trust had so frightened the American money bag, the Union in Cleveland demands a preferential union shop. It means, that if a manufacturer, for instance, wants to employ one worker and there are two candidates for the job, a union and a non-union man, the Union demands that the former should be employed. On the other hand, when it is a question of discharging a worker, it is the non-union man who should be discharged. It is quite clear, then that the Union does not demand control over the industry. What it does demand, however, is a share in the control over the outside shops, where, as had already been shown, the sanitary conditions and the wages are lamentably low.

The Union also demands that women doing equal work with men should receive equal pay. It demands the abolition of the bonus system, one of the chief causes of the inhuman sweat conditions. It should be noted again that the scale of wages for the different grades of workers in Cleveland is not higher than that of the cloakmakers in New York, or any other city.

If, however, a strike should break out in spite of these moderate demands, the workers could not be blamed for it in the least.

But are all the Cleveland manufacturers so blind and stubborn

that they will rather face a struggle than accede to the just demands of the Union?

We are not so sure about that. A considerable number of manufacturers, the most important among them, are not so irrevocably opposed to the Union demands. They have learned their lesson from what has occurred in Cleveland and elsewhere. They understand that the time when the Union could entirely be ignored is gone, never to return. They understand that in order that peace should prevail in the industry, the Union must be recognized, and that certain machinery to adjust disputes must be introduced. Generally speaking, they recognize the justice of the union demands. They may not agree with this or that detail; they may perhaps higgledy and bargain, believing that they will gain in gaining some advantage thereby, but they are prepared to negotiate with the Union.

This class of manufacturers could not be held responsible in the event of a strike. It is quite possible that these enlightened manufacturers, realizing that no good will come out of the blind and stubborn opposition of the other manufacturers, will withdraw from the Association of which they were members, and sign an agreement with the Union.

There are two other classes of manufacturers, but it is difficult to tell which of them is the greater evil.

One class consists of ignorant, vulgar individuals who have not the slightest notion of what a union might be. They only know that a union is something new and undesirable, and like their primitive ancestors, they are terribly frightened by anything that is new and unfamiliar.

It is impossible to reason with a manufacturer belonging to this class. He listens to you, but he cannot understand you. There is only one thing in his mind: Whatever the union proposes must be wrong. You will explain, you will reason, for example, that the outside sweat shops were his dangerous competitors; that through the control of the union they will either be eliminated from the industry, or manufacture under the same conditions as the large factories, so that they could not compete with him and ruin the entire industry. It is simple enough for a child to understand. But the manufacturer blankly stares at you and thinks: "Ah, there is an other trick of the union." He could not imagine any suggestion without some trick or scheme hidden behind it. He is obstinate as a mule. He shudders at the thought of signing an agreement with the union.

The second type of cloak manufacturer hates the union with his entire being, sees in it the cause

of all ills, and being unable to oppose it openly uses all sorts of underhanded methods to destroy it. It may look as if he is dealing and negotiating with the union; and things seem to run smoothly, when, suddenly, unexpectedly, he submits a demand which, if acceded to by the union, would mean the practical annihilation of it.

These two classes of manufacturers are now the chief obstacles in the way of putting the cloak industry in Cleveland on a sound foundation, has been done in New York, Chicago and many other cities.

We do not, of course, in the least, mean to say that there is the slightest danger that Cleveland would remain behind the other centers. This is far from being the case. What we mean is that instead of adjusting the dispute amicably, the union may be compelled to take up a fight.

That the struggle will be a bitter one, there is not the slightest doubt. But it is equally certain that if the struggle does come, it will end in a victory for the workers. For in addition to the significant fact that the Cloakmakers' Union in Cleveland is one of the most powerfully organized unions, a large number of the most important manufacturers are in sympathy with the demands of the union. This, no doubt, will prove to be one of the decisive factors in the impending struggle.

WHY SHOULD LOCAL 25 BE REORGANIZED?

We had the opportunity to talk to some members of Local 25, who have devoted much of their best energies for the growth and well being of the Ladies' Waist and Dress Makers' Union. They have frankly admitted that they are fearful of the outcome of the planned reorganization for the union as a whole.

They agree that the waist makers and dressmakers should be organized into two separate unions, for they readily see that there is little in common between these industries. But they don't see why a big union should be split up into small clusters of operators, finishers, etc., when they work in the same shop, and are closely knit among themselves.

This decision, they insist, will develop a local egoism and narrow mindedness, which will hamper the work in the interests of the organization as a whole. Instead of having Local 25 practically an industrial union, this reorganization, it is maintained, will split it up into several petty craft unions.

These arguments, according to our opinion, are altogether unfounded.

It is true that if there were no plan for a Joint Board to unite the different local unions, these arguments would deserve greater consideration. Even then the question would still be pertinent whether or not it is more desirable to have several small unions function effectively and democratically rather than have one big, unwieldy organization which, by virtue of its size would remain helpless and ineffectual, allowing only a few individuals to be active.

This, according to our understanding, is the chief cause of all the misunderstanding and annoyance in the Ladies' Waist Makers' Union. When a few dozen people are in control of an organization of 35 thousand members, very little place is left for the initiative

and energy of hundreds and thousands of others. Misunderstandings and general dissatisfaction become unavoidable.

What we are after is not only to have separate, autonomous locals which should function more effectively and more democratically, but to have a Joint Board which should consist of a certain number of delegates representing each local union. There can therefore be no talk of "splitting up" the union, as there can be no talk of the United States being split up, because each state has full autonomy regarding its own affairs.

It is true that each union has a tendency to develop a sort of local egoism. But it is much better to suffer from too much egoism than from too much indifference and apathy, which prevails, to a great extent, in the Ladies' Waist Makers' Union. This apathy naturally flows from the fact that this union does not provide for its members a direct and personal interest. A citizen of the United States, for instance, is not personally and directly co-operating with his fellows because of his citizenship; he may do so by joining a particular club, an organization, a society. Similarly, a member of a large organization could not directly and intimately participate in the activities of his union because of his membership.

An Italian, let us say, though he may be a good internationalist, may find no interest in a purely Jewish question discussed in his union. A presser may be bored when a dispute deeply concerning the buttonhole maker is going on.

Any attempt to hold them together will only result in making them indifferent to the union. Is it not more desirable from every standpoint to have workers organize according to the work they are doing?

This does not mean, however, that they will eventually become strangers, and not consider themselves members of one big organization. The shop, of course, will take care of that. And the Joint Board will do its share in discouraging the growth of local egoism which would endanger the well-being of the entire organization.

With all due respect for the expressed opinions to the contrary, we still believe that the reorganization plan proposed by the Executive Board of Local 25 deserves to be adopted.

We may again remind the reader that this proposal is not altogether an experiment. This form of organization has instilled new life and vigor in the Cloakmakers' Union. The many successful struggles of the Cloakmakers' Union amply show that it was never hampered by excessive egoism of any of its locals. And if there ever was such a tendency in this direction, if the egoism of any local has at any time raised its head, it was promptly and effectively restrained by the Joint Board, that is, by the united locals.

We believe that the system of organization which works so successfully in the Cloakmakers' Union, could and should be equally successful in the Ladies' Waist Makers' Union.

The Present Industrial Situation

The organized labor movement of America is, in my opinion, face to face at present with an extremely serious situation.

Fifty years of organizing work among the skilled trades of America has brought magnificent results. From five to six million of American mechanics are organized into powerful organizations and are, each of them, to a greater or lesser extent, rendering to the workers the full quota of benefits that labor organizations are capable of giving. The trade union movement has become a factor in national and economic life, — a factor to be reckoned with in the shaping and planning of industrial policies.

Nevertheless, the history of the past few years is proving abundantly to us that the big fight for the reorganization of labor's position in the industrial and social fabric of the country is still ahead of us. We must admit in full frankness to the labor world, to those who have been fighting and winning with us, as well as to the outside world, friends and enemies alike, that the labor's fight for recognition and a "place in the sun," in the pivotal industries of the country, is still to be won. With the same candidness we must admit that this fight, which is as inevitable as the obstinacy of organized labor's enemies is fierce and adamant, will become harder and harder and we may have to face defeat after defeat before a fundamental and a hard-earned victory is won.

Concretely speaking, the facts, the outstanding events of the hour are such.

The Trade Unions have fortified their position considerably during the war. A number of industries where collective bargaining was taboo have been organized, and owing to public pressure from the government and various social forces, the industrial magnates in these industries were compelled to deal collectively with their workers and with the organizations of their workers. It looked, for a time, as if the principle of collective bargaining and of the freedom of organization had been won completely, and that the continuous growth of the labor movement was not to be retarded by any obstinate struggle upon this cardinal principle.

The 1919 Convention of the Federation, in sanctioning the great organizing movement in the Steel Industry, had evidently acted, to an extent, upon this assumption and feeling. Later developments, nevertheless, have proved that the bulwarks of bourgeois society were still enormously powerful in the pivotal American industries. The mantle of the Fricks, the Carnegies and the Baers is adorning, with present day grace, the shoulders of the Garys, the Farrels and their like. It has also brought to light the fact that the entire press of the country, (the same press which has been wooing and flirting with the organized labor movement during the critical period of the last few years, and its mysterious ally, the "public") have ranged themselves solidly on behalf of the "bitter-enders" among the industrial barons of the country and are aiding by deceit, lies and cunningness to defeat the aims and aspirations of organized labor.

The steel strike, which is still pending, and the miners' strike

STATEMENT ISSUED TO THE LABOR CONFERENCE AT WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 13TH, BY ABRAHAM BAROFF, SECRETARY-TREASURER, I. L. Q. W. U.

which has just ended, offer a tremendous amount of food for thought and action. Whatever individual opinion one may have regarding the prospects of the great steel strike, one thing seems certain: This wonderful movement among the steel workers, the majority of whom are foreign born, is a tribute to these men, who were brought over here in great masses by the steel companies to forestall and prevent Unionism in their mills. It is the best promise, that no matter what the outcome, the steel workers are to remain in the organization, true to their demands and ready to take up the fight at the first next opportunity and win it.

The fight of the miners has proved over again that they have an admirable organization, regardless of the fact that they too have grasped the true significance and purpose of the labor movement.

The crux of the situation confronting us, however, lies in a somewhat different direction. The country is swept today by a craftily worked-up reactionary hysteria against the determination of labor not to allow itself to be driven to the wall by the maddening stride of the high cost of living and secure its position and influence in the post-war situation of the country. The organized industrial magnates, the profiteers and high financiers have been endeavoring to array the sentiment of the country at large, by a campaign of vilification, hysteria and slander, against every concerned attempt of the workers to offset the inroads which the increase of the cost of commodities was making upon their slender incomes.

The unparalleled, atrocious treatment of the steel strikers in Pennsylvania, West Virginia and other centers of industry, were made possible by this campaign of suppression of the truth and slander against the foreign workers. The total abolition of constitutional rights in hundreds of communities was the immediate outgrowth of this organized propaganda. The refusal of the courts and of the authorities to protect the rights of organized labor and the later attempts to break down the power of the resistance of the Miners' Union by governmental injunctions are only the culminating points of this situation.

With these strikes terminated, the next great question before the organized labor movement of America, upon taking stock of the situation, is **WHAT IS TO BE DONE?** Are we to endure repeated and constant suspension of constitutional liberties and guarantees every time a strike is organized and declared in the steel, coal, copper and several other principal industries of America, for the purpose of ruthlessly breaking down these strikes? What means of combat have we against strike-breaking by injunction in general and strike breaking by government injunction in particular, such as has staggered the labor world during the recently closed miners' strike? I do not doubt that this question has presented itself to every serious-minded leader of labor, no matter how

conservative or cautious his mind may be.

The Taft-Vale decision of fifteen or twenty years ago has proved to be "the straw that broke the camel's back" in England. It was the cornerstone of the great movement which has brought forth the present powerful and evergrowing Labor Party in England. Is not the now historic Anderson Miners' Injunction and the Pennsylvania orgies of lawlessness a sufficiently powerful stimulus for history-making decisions on the part of the organized labor of America?

This Special Conference of the heads of organized labor has been convoked by the Executive Council of the Federation at a very significant and auspicious hour. The feeling is ripe throughout the country that the organized labor movement is ready to make its voice heard in unmistakable terms on the present arrogant and high-handed attitude of the reactionary, concentrated attack launched against it by combined capital, high finance and subsidized press of the country, as well as the political parties who are a unit in raising the false cry of "law and order" and to develop the labor movement. Something big is expected from the organized labor movement today. Perhaps something distinctly different from what we have heard before. Labor, as a class, must begin to act for itself. The policy

STEEL STRIKERS' BENEFIT

Much interest has already been aroused among the trade unionists of this city in the forthcoming Steel Strikers' Benefit of Samson and Delilah at the Jewish Art Theatre.

The benefit is given under the auspices of the Neckwear Makers' Union who have responded to the appeal to create a publicity fund which will spread the truth about the steel strike among the great mass of people who are being misinformed concerning the situation by the capitalist press.

Other unions are actively engaged in selling tickets. Chief among these is the Waist and Dress Makers' Union, Local 25. The Committee on Arrangements, especially, desires to have a portion of the theatre occupied by workers representing shops, feeling that in this manner the solidarity of the workers will be more evident. These rows, or blocks, of seats may be obtained at the various ticket stations such as the Call, the Forward and the Rand School.

The steel workers are carrying on their struggle in face of unparalleled persecution, yet their spirit is unbroken. The strike in the Pittsburgh district is as strong today as when it was called on September 22nd. It is estimated that at least 200,000 men are still out. They cannot carry on the tremendous fight unaided. The truth of the situation must be spread broadcast so the entire labor movement may respond.

All workers who wish to help spread the truth about the great Steel Strike will not fail to reserve seats for the benefit performance and by so doing they

of political indifference is fairly outworn and should be consigned to past history. There is no other way of fighting injunctions except through an organized political movement, a movement that is a part and parcel of and controlled by the economic labor movement.

Some of the stages of the miners' strike have brought to light a jarring disconnectedness and a working in different directions between the Executive Council of the Federation and the leaders of the Miners' Union which has impressed painfully the labor world. We believe that such a state of affairs is injurious to the cause of organized labor and we also believe that it is high time that such manifestations of lack of unity of action be done away with. Whether this condition is the result of the organic relation of the Federation to its affiliated bodies or not, means should be found, particularly in times of great crises, to avoid their occurrence.

And finally, in this hour of maltreatment and taunting directed against the millions of foreign-born workers by the subsidized and labor-baiting agencies thru the press, platform and pulpit, — insincere and hypocritical as they are, and prompted, no doubt, by the fact that these millions who were enticed by greedy corporations into the mills and workshops of America with the ultimate aim of hindering the labor movement, — have proved a boomerang, this campaign of slander should receive its proper rebuke and reply from this Conference of the heads of America's organized labor.

will not only enjoy this artistic production of the Jewish Art Theatre, but will also add their bit to the Publicity Fund of the Steel Strikers.

TRADE UNION COLLEGE

The trade union college of Boston has started its first year as an institution of learning with an enrollment of 200 trade unionists. The college is under the auspices of the Boston central labor union and is managed by a committee representing that organization and the teaching staff. The courses include English composition, practice in discussion, literature, philosophy, history and government law, economics, labor and physical science. There is a fee of \$2 for each course. Some of New England's best known educators are on the teaching staff. The secretary of the committee in charge is Mabel Gillespie of the Stenographers' Union, 287 Washington St. Dr. Harry Dana, heads the faculty of the College.

A DEBATE ON SOCIALISM

On Sunday, January 4th, 1920, at McKinley Square Casino, 1609½ Street and Boston Road, at two o'clock, a debate upon the Significance of Socialism will be held under the auspices of the Socialist Party of the Bronx Second Assembly District. The subject of the debate is "Socialism, Promise or Menace." John T. Norris, famous anti-Socialist will argue for the negative, and Pro. Geo. R. Kirkpatrick for the affirmative. The cost of admission is 50c; reserved seats at 75 Cents.

IN OUR EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

Week Beginning Dec. 22nd, 1911.
EAST SIDE UNITY CENTER
 Public School No. 63,
 4th St., near First Ave.,
 Manhattan.

Monday, Dec. 22nd, 8.45 P. M.
 Lecture on Trade Unionism by
 Miss Margaret Daniels.

Bronx Unity Center
 Public School No. 54,
 Intervale Ave. & Freeman St.,
 Bronx.

Tuesday, Dec. 23rd, 8.45 P. M.
 Lecture on "Trade Unions and the War," by Mrs. Lillian Soskin Rogers.

WAISTMAKERS' UNITY CENTER
 Public School No. 40,
 320 East 20th Street,
 Manhattan.

Tuesday, Dec. 23, 8.45 P. M.
 Lecture by Dr. Anna E. Ray-Robinson on Health.

No classes or lectures will be held during the Christmas vacation, that is from Dec. 24th to January 2nd. In the next issue of the Justice, the Educational Department will announce the new schedule for the Unity Centers, for the year 1920. Look for these announcements.

This is Gala Week at the Waistmakers' Unity Center. The Educational Committee and Mrs. Retting, with the help of committees formed from the present students at the school have completed arrangements for a Unity Reunion and Open House to be held at the center on 20th Street, Saturday evening, Dec. 30th, at 7 o'clock. The festivities will open with a fine program of singing, dancing, and music, which will be followed by dancing for everyone. A committee of competent young men and women will offer refreshments at a low price. All Unity Friends are invited to participate in this attractive evening.

Beginning this week, a new class has been organized at the center in response to a demand from the students. Mondays and Wednesday evenings, following the regular classes in English, there will be one hour in Arithmetic. Although the class is already well filled, a few additional registrations will be taken. These should be given to Mrs. Retting at the center any evening but Wednesday evening.

WORKERS' UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM
 Session 1919-1920
 Wednesday, 7.30 P. M.
 (For Business Agents)

Washington Irving High School
 W 1. Intermediate English.

W 2. English I. Practical Grammar and Written Composition, Correspondence, etc.

W 3. English II. Individual Speech Improvement and Public Speaking.

W 4. Economics of the Industrial System.

Leo Wolman
 Albert Albrecht

Friday, 3 to 5 P. M.
 (For Business Agents)

Julia Richmond High School

F 1. Intermediate English.

F 2. English I.

F 3. English II.
 Henry Davidoff

F 4. Practical Psychology
 Dr. Horace M. Kallen
 Saturdays, 3 to 4 P. M.

Washington Irving High School
 Sa. 1. Intermediate English
 Sa. 2. English I.
 Sa. 3. English II.

Gustave F. Schulz
 Sa. 4. Tendencies in Modern Literature

B. J. E. Stolper
 Sa. 5. Labor and Management, and Labor and Corporation Finance.

Leon Ardsoni
 Leo Wolman
 Sa. 6. Course for Secretaries of locals; office management, and office accounting.

Sundays, 10 to 12 M.
 Washington Irving High School

Su. 1. English I.

G. F. Schulz
 Su. English II.

B. J. E. Stolper
 Su. 3. Practical Psychology

Dr. Samuel A. Tannenbaum

Elective Subjects—Sundays

Su. 4. Civics for Workers.

Su. 5. American History and Literature.

Su. 6. Elementary Science.

Su. 7. The Co-operative Movement.

Su. 8. Modern European History.

Dr. I. J. Schapiro
 Register for courses at the General Office, 31 Union Sq., Room 102, or at any of the local offices of the Union.

General Lockout in Spain

The conflict between labor and capital in Spain has assumed a new phase. The Barcelona Employers' Federation, an association of employers embracing many of the most important trades and manufacturers, has decided a lockout in the most important industries, the object being to bring the labor leaders to reason and hear them of their power. In the early stages of the lockout it was estimated that it effected about 30,000 workers and 950 factories, workshops, and ship building yards, and it has extended much since then.

How the Church Aids Labor

An illuminating example of how the Church aids Labor is furnished by the Methodist Episcopal Church at Houstonia, Mo. The pastor of the Church, Rev. Hargis, felt it his duty to bring order into the chaotic economic conditions in the mining industry, and he called upon his flock to volunteer as miners, in other words, to scab.

To House Workers

Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.—An elaborate housing scheme for the working people has been undertaken by the government at the instance of organized labor. Under the plan houses costing \$1,000 are constructed by the government and sold to the workers on weekly payments of \$6.00 or 5 per cent of the cost. The payment meets the cost of the building in 50 years and includes the premium on a state life insurance policy. The houses are restricted to wage earners whose net incomes, after tax deductions, are not more than \$1,350 a year. A deposit of \$25 entitles the wage earner to occupy one of the houses.

THE WEEK'S NEWS IN CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10

By SAM. B. SHENKER

The attention of the membership is called to the two meetings that are to be held within the next few days. Both of these meetings will take up matters that have long been pending and that should be disposed of.

This Monday, December 22nd, the regular meeting of the entire membership will be held. This meeting has been made a special one at which the first reading of the amendments to the constitution will be heard. On the following Monday, December 23rd, another special meeting takes place at which no other business but the adoption of the constitution as amended will be considered. Members are urged to attend as it is highly important that the constitution be printed and distributed.

Plans for Annual Ball Completed

Plans for the Cutters' annual ball have been completed. According to the opinions of the Ball Committee, this year's ball will surpass anything that Local 10 has held in the line of entertainments, excepting even last year's ball, which was a huge success mainly due to the celebration by the membership of the victory achieved in the last strike of the dress and waist, cloak and suit and miscellaneous trades.

The affair takes place Saturday evening, March 27th, 1920, at Hunts Point Palace, 953 Southern Boulevard, corner of 163rd Street. Professor Schiller's Jazz Band will jazz it for the membership. Tickets have already been printed and will shortly be distributed to the business agents and other officers for sale. They are 50 cents a piece per person including wardrobe; a nominal price, considering the high cost of everything, including jazz.

The Cloak and Suit Branch

The Executive Board meeting at which cloak and suit matters are taken up was not held at time of this writing and nothing definite can be said regarding the demand for a 30 per cent increase in the wages of the workers of these trades. However, this much can be said: The minimum scales must be increased. The present minimum of \$39 per week does not approach the weekly living costs of the workers. It may be true that some workers were able to have their wages increased. But these increases took place in the individual shops, in no way as the minimum is concerned it is the same inadequate minimum that was established months ago, during which time living costs have steadily gone up.

What the union is desirous of accomplishing and must accomplish is to increase the minimum, so that the less militant workers may be assured of a decent living. Should the employers flatly refuse the union's demand, it will have to devise ways and means of protecting the bulk of the workers against privation. Whatever steps are taken in that direction and whatever may be the reply of the association will be reported here and the cutters will discuss the matter at their meetings.

The Miscellaneous Branch

A meeting of the Miscellaneous Branch was held last Monday, December 18th, at which import-

ant reports of Manager Perlmutter and Business Agent Fleisher were rendered.

No doubt the membership is familiar with the injunction proceedings started by the Children's Dress Manufacturers' Association against Children's Dress Cutters' and Dressmakers' Union, Locals 10 and 50. These proceedings, Perlmutter reports, resulted from an impartial chairman's decision declaring the agreement abrogated because some of the workers quit their jobs for ones paying wages compatible with the cost of living; the association refusing to look into the meagre earnings of these workers. It also ordered its clerk not to deal with the Union. The union was asked to order the workers back to work, but it was unable, since their earnings were increased as a result of the new positions they secured.

At the present time the injunction, restraining the union from declaring strikes and from picketing, is pending. Meanwhile conferences are going on between the union and the employers with a view to settling the problems confronting them. The union has drawn up plans that mean decent earnings and decent working conditions for the workers. The hitch, however, lies in the fact that the injunction is still pending, thus the good faith of the employers is questioned. If the employers desire to be fair, one of the first things that should be done is to withdraw the injunction proceedings. The union would then be convinced of the good faith of the association. Here the matter rests, conferences are still going on, however.

Perlmutter also reported that the Wrappers and Kimono workers were asking for an increase. The union asks that the minimum be increased to \$42 per week and that those who get more than the minimum should get a flat increase of \$5 per week. The members of this branch as well as the members of the other branches in the Miscellaneous branch are the lowest paid workers in the ladies' industry.

Business agent Fleisher reported conferences between White Goods Workers' Union, Local 10 and 62 at which plans were worked out for the improvement of the conditions of the workers in this trade. Demands will also be put to the association of employers in this trade for an increase in wages. The minimum for the cutters in this trade is \$31 per week.

Election One Week Off

The election of officers for the ensuing term will take place next Saturday at noon. The attention of the membership is called to the notice printed in this issue, in which will be found the complete list of candidates, eligibility for voting and the time and place. While enough interest is already aroused, promising a big vote, nevertheless every member is urged to vote in order to make the number of votes unprecedented.

DELSON
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 NEW YORK
 Bet. 29-30th Sts.



OFFICIAL STATEMENTS OF I. L. G. W. U.

(Continued from Page 2)
case of these prisoners, and a vast body of public opinion is solidly aroused for their liberation and for the grant of a general amnesty to them.

We are quite certain that you will line up with the rest of organized labor and that you will forward the enclosed copy of a resolution, upon your own stationery, to each of the parties enumerated at the end of this resolution, and thus aid in the noble work of freeing these political offenders.

Fraternally yours,

ABRAHAM BAROFF,
Gen. Sec. Treas.

Amnesty Resolution

Whereas, the signing of the Peace Treaty finds in America civil and military prisoners, or under bail pending trial or appeal, large numbers of men and women whose offense or alleged offense is of a political nature, and

Whereas, the sole justification for such prosecution and imprisonment that of war-time necessity, no longer exists,

Whereas, in all democratic countries of Europe which have been associated with us in the prosecution of the war, full amnesty has been granted to the political, industrial and religious war opponents.

Be it resolved that it is the sense of the
assembled organization
local membership
meeting place

date that the further prosecution and imprisonment in the United States of a body of political offenders is contrary to the democratic idealism and the traditions of freedom to which our country is committed, and

Be it further resolved, that we accordingly urge upon the President of the United States, upon the Attorney General of the United States, the Secretary of War and the President of the American Federation of Labor, with all earnestness at our command the necessity of granting an immediate amnesty to all prisoners whose religious, political or economic beliefs formed the basis of their prosecution, trial and imprisonment.

INSPIRING CELEBRATION OF WORKERS' UNIVERSITY

(Continued from Page 1)
land, "I do not inherit the educational system, the teachers, the buildings, the administration that are usually inherited by college presidents. The path of labor education is unthrottled, and new methods have to be devised to meet the new requirements."

Secretary Baroff who was representing the International at the Labor Conference in Washington, sent a telegram of greetings.

These addresses were interspersed by a beautiful concert given by prominent artists, Alice Knowlton Hamrelough, soprano; Lucile Collette, violinist; Richard Loos, pianist; Harry Horsfall, organist.

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.

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Son & Ash,
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Clairmont Waist Co.,
15 West 36th St.
Mack Kanner & Millus,
136 Madison Ave.
M. Stern,
33 East 33rd St.
Max Cohen,
105 Madison Ave.
Julian Waist Co.,
15 East 32nd St.
Drexwell Dress Co.,
14 East 32nd St.
Regina Kobler,
352 Fourth Ave.
Deits & Ottenberg,
2-10 West 33rd St.
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7 East 15th Street, N. Y. City.

CUTTERS' UNION OF LOCAL 10, ATTENTION.

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETINGS

GENERAL (All Branches): Monday, December 22nd.
SPECIAL GENERAL (All Branches): Constitution Committee to Report Monday, December 29th.
CLOAK AND SUIT: Monday, January 5th.
DRESS AND WAIST: Monday, January 12th.
MISCELLANEOUS: Monday, January 19th.
Meetings begin at 7.30 P. M.
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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 Sidney Rothenberg	Vice Presidents David Dubinsky Jacob Lebin
Inner Guard Sam Masover	General Secretary Elmer Rozenberg
1 Financial Secretary Julius Samuels Harry Berlin	2 C. F. U. Delegates Max Gorenstein Samuel Perlmutter
CLOAK AND SUIT BRANCH Manager Max Gorenstein 4 Business Agents Benj. Sachs Julius Bender Louis Lipschitz Max Silverstein	3 Joint Board Delegates Meyer Tunkel Morris Steinberg Harry Zoslofsky Harry Bloom B. Rubin Ben. Hifman
Executive Board Samuel Kerr Benj. Hifman	

WAIST AND DRESS BRANCH Manager Sam. B. Shenker 4 Business Agents Sam Kahn Samuel Sadovsky Adolph Bonen Abr. Lebowitz Hym. Goldberg	2 Executive Board John W. Settle Isidore Bresner Max Stoller Emil Wilder Chas. Stein No. 1 Louis Oetrover
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MISCELLANEOUS BRANCH Manager Samuel Perlmutter Business Agent Jacob Fleisher	Executive Board Jon. Machlin Sam. Bokser Samuel Dunasof
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