

"My righteous-
ness I hold
fast, and will
not let it go."
— Job. 27.4.)

JUSTICE

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

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES-GARMENT WORKERS UNION.

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Price 2 Cents

Rousing Welcome to be Given President Schlesinger

PRESIDENT SCHLESINGER EXPECTED HERE SATURDAY OR SUNDAY.—HIS VISIT TO EUROPE CROWDED WITH IMPORTANT EVENTS.—ROUSING WELCOME TO BE GIVEN HIM, MARCH 12, IN CARNEGIE HALL.

According to a cable received at the General Office, President Schlesinger is due in New York this Saturday or Sunday. He left London last Saturday, February 21, on the Imperator.

President Schlesinger's visit to Europe has been a tremendous success. He went to Europe as a delegate from the International Union to the Tailors' Congress at Amsterdam. But at the close of the sessions he undertook a first-hand study of European labor conditions, particularly in the garment industries. For this purpose President Schlesinger went to London, Paris, Warsaw, Vienna and many other important industrial centers. He not only observed and studied, but he lent an active hand to the workers in Europe. He brought his rich experience to bear in settling a dispute of garment workers in London. He addressed labor meetings in London, Paris, Vienna, and Warsaw. His time was crowded with conferences with the most important Socialist and labor leaders. From cables and correspondence from many European capitals as well as from the Warsaw newspapers that reach this country, it is to be seen that President Schlesinger has been grappling with the vast number of problems that agitate Europe.

President Schlesinger's return home will be welcomed not only by the International Union but by other labor organizations in New York. Representatives of the General Executive Board, the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union, and of all our locals in New York will meet President Schlesinger at the boat.

But the reception and welcome of President Schlesinger by the large number of members of the International in this city will be reserved for Friday evening, March 12, in Carnegie Hall. All our New York locals are taking an active part in making this evening a fitting occasion for expressing their welcome to their president upon his return home.

There is, of course, a Reception Committee, of which Secretary Baroff, is chairman, and Brother Kaplowitz, Treasurer of the Joint Board, is Secretary. This committee has been tirelessly at work making the necessary arrangements for the evening. A rich musical program is promised, but the names of the talents are not yet divulged. The chief interest,

however, centers around the guest himself who will tell of his varied experiences and who will transmit to us the message from the workers of Europe.

The tickets for the evening will be distributed proportionally to all of our locals in Greater New York. Members must secure their tickets from their local unions.

HOUSE DRESS AND KIMONO MAKERS IN CONFERENCE WITH THE MANUFACTURERS

First Conference Between the Union and the Manufacturers
Began February 24.—Petticoat Makers' Strike Firm.

The House Dress, Kimono and Bathrobe manufacturers have finally realized that the strike in their shops is altogether too expensive even for manufacturers to indulge in, and some of them began to drop out of the Association and settle with the Union. This had an impressive effect on the gentlemen of the Association of this industry and they forthwith agreed to a conference with the Union.

The first conference between the Union and the manufacturers began on Tuesday, February 24th. Local 41 was represented by Secretary Baroff, Brother Goldstein, Manager of the Union, and a committee of the Executive Board of the Local. Indications show that an adjustment of the controversy will be reached soon. There is no other alternative in the settlement of the strike but to grant the demand of the workers who are determined to continue their fight with undiminished energy. As soon as workable terms of settlement will be reached by both parties, they will be submitted to the strikers for a vote.

The strike of the petticoat makers continues to be as determined and energetic as it was the first day. The manufacturers, however, remain obstinate and unyielding, using all means in their power to defeat the Union.

This stand of the petticoat manufacturers does not in the least discourage or surprise the workers. They know their employers very well. The unlimited exploitation of the manufacturers has been borne too long, and the workers are now determined to establish working conditions which prevail in the other branches of the ladies' garment industry. The manufacturers are now doggedly battling against a

fundamental right — the recognition of the Union—which is recognized by the other manufacturers of the garment trades and which "we" will be forced to do likewise.

The petticoat strikers are convinced of their victory. In fact, they regard the strike as won, for they know that all the resources of the International Union are at their command.

CLEVELAND CLOAKMAKERS TO BUILD THEIR OWN HOME

The Cleveland Cloakmakers are going to build their own home to house all the various activities, according to the telegram from Brother M. Perlestein received at the General Office.

"The corner stone of the Union Building has already been laid," says Bro. Perlestein in his telegram. The initial step was taken at a special meeting called by the Union last Monday, Washington's Birthday. It was an inspiring gathering of the members who were fully aware that this undertaking will serve as an example to be followed by other labor organizations the country over.

A Building Corporation of the members of the Cloakmakers' Union was created, and actual work has already begun. A hundred thousand dollars worth of shares, ten dollars each, are being sold to members. A splendid beginning was made at the meeting last Monday. Members enthusiastically bought shares for their own center. The girls have particularly distinguished themselves in being among the first who bought shares.

LOCAL 6 IN CONFERENCE WITH MANUFACTURERS

The agreement between the Embroidery Workers' Union, Local 6, and the manufacturers of this trade expires on March 17. On this occasion the Union has worked out a series of new demands in consonance with the changed living conditions, and has invited the manufacturers to a conference or the purpose of reaching a new agreement.

Brother M. Weiss, Manager of Local 6, stated that the manufacturers have already replied to the invitation of the Union expressing their willingness to come to a conference with the representatives of the workers. Negotiations are to begin these days.

The Embroidery Workers' Union has, with the help of the International, begun a drive to organize the shops of their industry in New Jersey, which have for the last several years been unorganized. This is being remedied now. According to Brother Weiss the organization campaign is conducted in a very energetic and successful manner. Several hundred of the workers have already joined the ranks of our organization. A special organizer has been appointed for this purpose, and the prospects are that the New Jersey embroidery workers will soon be completely organized.

BOSSSES SEEK TO IM- PRISON LEADERS IN LADIES TAILORS' STRIKE

The strikes of the Ladies' Tailors' Union, Local 80, against Milgrim Brothers, and Hickson and Co. are conducted with renewed vigor.

The firms, particularly Milgrim Brothers, with Judge Levy of Tammany fame as their legal adviser, are desperately struggling against the Union. They are resorting to the use of thugs, gangsters, "frame-ups," and every other underhand method they could think of to defeat the Union.

Brother Chazanov, business agent for the Union has been brutally assaulted by gangsters in the employ of Milgrim Brothers. The manufacturers were not satisfied with this. They had him arrested. But at the trial which has taken place in the West Side Police Court, it was a simple matter for the Union to show the real nature of their "evidence," and their "frame-up" against the Union has miserably collapsed.

A membership meeting of the Ladies Tailors' Union will be held next Tuesday, in Mount Morris Hall.

Topics of the Week

The Allies Hesitate

THE decision regarding Russia, reached by the Supreme Council in London last Tuesday, shows that the Allies have decided to move exceedingly slowly. They have decided to follow the one-step-forward and two-steps-backward diplomacy. They simply "cannot enter into diplomatic relations with the Soviet Government, in view of their past experiences, until they have arrived at the conviction that the Bolshevik horrors have come to an end, and that the Government at Moscow is ready to conform its methods and diplomatic conduct to those of all civilized governments."

Of course, "commerce between Russia and the rest of Europe, which is so essential to the improvement of economic conditions, not only in Russia, but in the rest of the world, will be encouraged to the utmost degree possible." And what is more the Allies will not advise the communities which border the frontiers of Soviet Russia "to continue war which may be injurious to their own interests."

But this means merely restating the resolution adopted by the Allied Premiers in Paris, Jan. 16, in favor of trading with the cooperative societies in Russia. There is, however, a new note in the present decision. It is this:

"The Allies agree in the belief that it is highly desirable to obtain impartial and authoritative information regarding the conditions now prevailing in Russia. They have therefore noted with satisfaction the proposal before the International Labor Bureau, which is a branch of the League of Nations, to send a commission of investigators to Russia to examine into the facts. They think, however, that this inquiry would be invested with even greater authority and with superior chances of success if it were made on the supervision of the Council of initiative and conducted under the League of Nations itself, and they invite that body to take action in this direction."

The urgent question that followed the Paris announcement was how the Allies will trade with Russia without dealing with the Soviets. It was confidently expected that the Supreme Council would answer this question. But it was totally ignored. There is not the slightest suggestion of any ways and means by which the proposed trade would be carried on. In fact the concrete plan of the Supreme Council to deal with Russia via the cooperatives was left out from the present statement. The question of the desirability of entering into a good deal of unimportant discussions, and the Allied statesmen have decided to drop it out altogether. The result is a still more indefinite, more cloudy plan. The most momentous problem before the world—how to trade with Russia—remained unanswered.

The only hope that a clearer policy may shortly follow this hesitating announcement is the decision of the Supreme Council to send a commission to Russia "invested with every great authority" . . . and conducted under

the supervision of the Council of the League of Nations itself. This perhaps is a very guarded preliminary approach to the actual recognition of the Soviets. There are many other indications which lead one to believe that formal recognition of the Soviets would be the next inevitable step. Public opinion is, in fact, being prepared for it. The New York World sent its correspondent, Lincoln Eyre, to Russia, and his interviews with Lenin and Trotsky have crowded out everything else. Other articles on Russia are to follow.

The New York American prints messages sent by George Lansbury, editor of the London Daily Herald, who is now in Moscow. Even the New York Times sent a correspondent to Russia who was formerly a fervent admirer of Yudenitch, Denikin and Kolchak and an uncompromising foe to the Bolsheviks, has since declared that the "Bolsheviks looked and behaved just like ordinary, happy human beings, and there was a certain subdued spirit of childlike enthusiasm that permeated the party (with whom he traveled) as of business people on a holiday jaunt."

The World correspondent pictures Lenin and Trotsky in a very sympathetic light. Both Lenin and Trotsky justify their readiness for peace. As Lenin stated, "I know of no reason why a Socialist commonwealth like ours cannot do business indefinitely with capitalist countries. We don't mind taking their capitalist locomotives and farming machinery, so why should they mind taking our Socialist wheat, flax, and platinum. Socialistic corn tastes the same as any other corn, does it not?"

The New York American prints the following message from George Lansbury:

"I have visited several State factories here, where automobiles, bicycles and airplanes are being built. There we could see how much has been accomplished during the period of trouble."

"Before the revolution, Russia was dependent upon the outside world for nearly all machinery. Now, with her own raw materials she is building airplanes, automobiles and bicycles."

"A big wave of enthusiasm is rising among the people, who talk now about the 'bloodless front,' meaning the industrial field."

Another significant indication that peace with Russia is near is the memorial which has been submitted to Lloyd George urging recognition of the Soviet Government. It is in part as follows:

"Without a general peace, the resources of Russia cannot be made available. It appears to us that the plan of trading through the cooperatives exclusively will, for this reason alone, be found to be ineffective, even if their resources were otherwise adequate to the task."

The signers of the memorial are men who have distinguished themselves by the aid they have given to Kolchak, Yenik'in and the rest. Here are some of the names: Lieut. Gen. Sir Hubert Gough, Chief of the British Mil-

itary Mission to Northwestern Russia; Colonel F. G. Marsh, British Military Agent in the Caucasus, who commanded a brigade on the Murmansk front.

Railroads, Handed to Private Owners

THE railroads are to be handed back to their private owners next Monday. Organized labor opposed this. The Railroad Brotherhoods have conducted a country-wide campaign against handing the railroads back to private hands. The A. F. of L. has supported the Brotherhoods. Committees of prominent labor leaders have secured special conferences with the President, Senators, Congressmen. They have issued pleas and threats. They only asked Congress to give government ownership a chance for another two years.

Last Saturday, February 21, the House took up the Esch-Cummings Railroad bill, to return the railroads to private owners, March 1, the day fixed by the President's proclamation, and by a vote of 250 to 150 adopted it. On February 23 the Senate adopted the bill by a vote of 47 to 17. The measure is now before the President, and there is no doubt but that he will sign it.

The Railroad Brotherhoods held a conference, and they decided to make another plea. They are now preparing a memorial to be submitted to the President, questioning him to withhold his signature from the bill. The President will be again reminded of his pledge to create a commission to deal with the demand for a wage increase made by the railroad workers. They have definitely abandoned the strike as a measure of enforcing their demands. For the time being, at least, the word strike has been dropped from their vocabulary. The Plumb Plan has now lost its vitality. It belongs now to the realm of theory.

What will be the next step of the railroad workers? All their pleas and threats have proved themselves to be futile, ineffective and demoralizing. Will they continue to follow the Republicans and Democrats and extort from them new promises only to be repudiated later? The Railroad Brotherhoods have such men as Warren S. Stone, they have a membership that realize more and more the suicidal policy of their everlasting lobbying and begging.

Gompers in War Against the Labor Party

SAMUEL GOMPERS declared war on the Labor Party. Never mind the Republican and Democratic parties. They are all right. Only some individual Democrats and Republicans have proved themselves to be "enemies of labor." But the Labor Party is essentially, politically, extraneous to the interest of labor. Gompers has delivered himself of this opinion in no uncertain terms. The occasion for expressing his attitude toward the Labor Party was the following resolution which was sent to Gompers:

"We, the convention of the Indiana State Labor Party, in session February 14, 1920, stand opposed to the political declarations of the American Federation of Labor asking labor to elect their

friend and defeat their enemies. We assert that there can be no compromise on candidates who run on a ticket whose platform is made up and whose campaign is financed by big interests. We assert that the political policy of the A. F. of L. is impractical and has been absolutely unsuccessful."

This revolt of the Indiana Labor party against Gompers non-partisan politics has been the signal for formulating his political creed still more clearly. Gompers shows great astonishment at the audacity of anybody who dares question his wisdom. "By what right do you assume to declare the work and the policy of the American Federation of Labor to be impractical?" he asks the Indiana State Labor Party. And he goes on to recount the "achievements" of the A. F. of L. political activities.

Gompers had no effect on Senate or Congress. His position had no influence on bills before the legislatures. But he exerted his influence on the labor movement. He has won a victory by winning the Labor Party. The Central Labor Union of Brooklyn has withdrawn from the New York State Labor Party, and has joined the "reward your friend and punish your enemy" camp. Gompers has succeeded in splitting the Labor Party in New York. It seems that this energetic campaign against the Labor Party will go on. The Federation plans to give \$1,000,000 dollars by taxing the local unions in order to defeat the Labor Party, and to serve the interests of the ruling class.

The Farmer-Labor Congress

THE All-American Farmer-Labor Cooperative Congress was held in the Car Men's Hall in Chicago, February 11-13. Over two hundred delegates coming from more than 4,000,000 active organization memberships were present.

The extent of popular mass strength behind the movement and the character of the personnel is indicated in the membership of the commission which is the permanent executive of the congress. The chairman is C. H. Gustafson, president Nebraska Farmers' Union; general treasurer, Warren S. Stone, grand chief Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers; general secretary, Oscar H. McGill, of the Western Cooperative Timber Mills; vice-chairman, L. E. Sheppard, president Order of Railroad Conductors; Herbert E. Brown, president Farmers' National Council; Dalton T. Clarke, president National Cooperative Association; J. W. Kline, president International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths and Helpers; E. O. F. Ames, president Pacific Cooperative League; J. M. Anderson, president Equity Cooperative Exchange; the commission, George P. Hampton, managing director Farmers' National Council; Duncan MacDonald, former president Illinois Federation of Labor; Allen E. Barker, president United Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way and Railway Shop Laborers; J. Weller Long, secretary Farmers' Federation; Frank Rust, secretary-manager Seattle Labor Bank; Grant H. Sloenn, president National Federation of Gleaners; William Botck, master Washington State Grange; Bert

M. Jewell, acting president. Railway Employees' Department, American Federation of Labor. The commission has recommended that a national farmer-labor cooperative congress be held every Lincoln's birthday anniversary.

Specifically, the Congress approved the establishment of a permanent committee of five to take steps toward the development of cooperative banks and credit unions, endorsed the Rochdale system, and recommended the establishment of cooperatively owned daily newspapers "throughout the nation and particularly in the great industrial centers," and formulated demands on Congress and state legislatures for laws to correct "the discriminations against cooperative institutions now in existing statutes."

The action aimed at the development of cooperative banks and credit unions is the most important step taken by the congress. The railroad brotherhoods alone, their combined with other organizations, have bank deposits upwards of 42 million dollars. Warren S. Stone, their spokesman, replied to one query, "I never worry about how to get money for these banks—all that's worried about is what to do with the money after we get it." There was a strong belief that "the existing conditions can only be corrected by the organization of banks, either national or state, owned and controlled by the producing groups themselves." Warren Stone's opening speech to the congress showed clearly that prevailing conditions were fully realized. Here are a few strands from his speech:

"Six million children go to bed hungry in this country every night. Malnutrition they call it, but it's hunger. This is the figure of the Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor.

"We have been taught by a carefully subsidized press that finance is a mysterious subject, that the specialty few can understand. Maybe it is mysterious. Our banks never made so much money as last year. The federal reserve banks made 75 per cent. One bank made 92 per cent. The highest earnings of Morgan & Company in any year before the war were \$47,000,000. Last year the earnings of Morgan & Company were \$473,000,000.

"Look: The railroad brotherhoods have \$42,000,000 now on deposit in banks. And the interest on those funds is being used by the banks to fight the group who deposited the money. We're going to put in a system of people's banks and they'll be in the interest of the people."

Banks, cooperative banks, were the only subject suggested for action at the present situation. Politics was not discussed. In fact no issue which would tend to split the Congress was discussed. Yet this farmer-labor gathering marks a new departure in American labor movement.

The Trial in Albany

THE trial of the Socialist Assemblymen is on its last legs. It has resolved itself into a trial against three of the five assemblymen. That is significant. For it means that only two individuals who happen to be socialists are on trial. The Socialist party is absolved. All the

Three Months' Achievements of the International

Report of Secretary Baroff to the Sixth Quarterly Meeting of the General Executive Board.

III.

In conformity with the decision adopted at the last Quarterly Meeting, President Schlesinger was empowered to go to Europe to aid in the reorganization of the International body of tailors' unions. Shortly after the meeting, the International received an invitation from M. Vanderberg, the president of the Dutch Tailors' Organization, to a conference in Amsterdam on December 18, 1919. Thereupon President Schlesinger left for Europe on November 29th, on the Adriatic. The event of his departure for Europe was attended by an expression of remarkable friendship for him from amongst the leading members of our organization throughout the country. A banquet, which was attended by a great many of our loyal workers and a number of outside friends, gave expression to this sincere and spontaneous feeling. We have received a number of letters and correspondences from President Schlesinger, which appear in our publications from time to time. He also sends his kind regards to the members of the Board. At this writing he is in Paris, whence he came from London where he helped to settle a general cloakmakers' strike in that city. I believe that he will be back with us during the first or second week of March, 1920.

On December 18th, I attended the Washington conference of trade union heads called by President Gompers. The conference lasted but one day and adopted a "Bill of Rights," a document which, while not completely satisfactory from our point of view, is still a step forward in the general attitude of the American Federation of Labor on current industrial and political matters. The reactionary element of the Federation, headed by Mr. Berry succeeded at the end of the conference in pushing through, by a narrow majority, an irrelevant resolution attacking all radicals, which, in a way, nullified the general good impression made by the conference itself.

The Publication Department of our International has presented to us a few complicated propositions which we have so far solved in the following manner: It appears that the increase in the cost of newsprint was about to involve evidence of the Luskers have simply cozed out. But they hold fast to their accusation against the three assemblymen, Louis Waldman, August Claessens and Charles Solomon. The other two Samuel Orr and Samuel A. De Witt will very likely be released without being tried.

Last week was devoted to a series of brilliant talks on Socialism by Morris Hillquit before our Albany legislators. They needed these talks badly. They were allowed to ask questions. These talks proved to be very instructive.

us in an additional expense. After a meeting with the Publication Committee we decided to reduce, for the time being, the Jewish paper to 16 pages. It was not a very pleasant action to take, but, in view of the high cost of the publication, we could not think of an additional expense of thousands of dollars between now and the convention.

The expenses of our Record Department have been growing space with other departments. We are at present employing eight per cent in addition to its director, Brother Minkow, and our estimation is that the annual cost of this Department will amount to \$12,752.00. The value of the Department cannot be over-estimated, in view of the fact that we have at last a complete record of our membership and can lay our finger on a great many things in the course of the work of our International Union.

The proposition of attaching an industrial research or statistical department to the Record Department has been growing upon us very strongly lately, particularly in view of the recent development in the cloak situation of New York. I do not expect the Board will take up this matter at present for consideration, but I am quite sure that our next convention will have to deal with it and take some definite action on it.

Our membership for the first six months of the fiscal year of the American Federation of Labor—May-October, 1919, has been approximately 108,000—the highest figure ever attained by our International. The second half of the year, I am afraid, will bring down this total to a somewhat lower figure. The fact that the American Federation of

Labor has increased its per capita one-eighth of a cent per month per member has increased our per capita bill to the Federation.

In accordance with a decision of the last Quarterly Meeting, we took a referendum ballot on the convention city for 1920. The results of this referendum are as follows:

Chicago	14,544
Cleveland	4,183
St. Louis	344

Total 19,071

Chicago is thus elected as the next Convention City. I have delayed starting on the preparations for the convention until this meeting in order to submit to you the result of the vote.

From this report you may see that my regular activities have been supplemented by a considerable amount of organizing and managerial work which fell to me through the departure of President Schlesinger for Europe. I am glad to report that we have so far been exceedingly fortunate in avoiding complications and have succeeded admirably in increasing the scales of wages and reducing the hours of work in practically every city where we have organizations.

The success in Cleveland is the most significant occurrence of this term. The conduct of the New York situation in their struggle to raise the minimum scale of the workers is just as notable an achievement for our workers.

I can best summarize by saying that everywhere I found our organizations sound and loyal in their affiliation with our International Union, and militant and determined to defend their working conditions and to fight on for an ever-better future.

APPEAL TO TEACHERS TO JOIN UNION

Teachers affiliated with trade unionism can protect American ideals, declared Harry E. Overstreet at a meeting held under the auspices of the Public Education Association.

"The traditional unwillingness of teachers to align themselves with so-called 'partisan' labor has actually delivered them into the hands of partisan interests," he said. "The schools and the colleges are not public spirited in the sense of being above all partisan attachments. They are flagrantly partisan, being governed in large measure by the ideals and interests of the status quo. Radical, even progressive social and educational thought, has little opportunity to express itself. Our 'public spirited' teachers are compelled to teach doctrines which are really in the interest of a very special class."

"Affiliation with labor connects teachers with one group that is consistently fighting for a real democracy—that is, for industrial democracy. The great

of teachers today is for democracy in their working conditions—security of tenure, freedom of thought and speech, the right to a voice in the organization of their work. Affiliation with labor subjects teachers to the danger of incurring the enmity of the forces of autocracy and Junkerism in education. This should be enough to bring out heroic response from the teachers, to save themselves and American education from the domination of petty oligarchies that are un-American both in their outlook and their methods."

5 AND 10 CENT STORE PROFITS

The F. W. Woolworth company of New York, which controls a chain of 5 and 10-cent stores, reports that last year it made a profit of \$8,554,435 after all expenses, included payment of preferred stock dividends, were paid. This is equal to \$17.11 per share of common stock, against \$2.86 the preceding year. Total sales amounted to \$119,490,107, or \$12,317,596 more than the previous year.

EDITORIALS

CONVENTION PROBLEMS

The officers both of the International and the Joint Board have been displaying of late signs of a fervent activity. Preparations are being made in these offices for the coming convention of the International which will take place in a few months at Chicago. Schlesinger is coming home earlier than was expected, partly because of the urgency of the work connected with the convention. Brother Langer of the Joint Board has already ordered space in "Justice" for a report about past achievement as well as for a discussion of plans for the future.

How important these conventions are for our organization is evident enough for anyone who had the desire and opportunity to watch the life of the International for the last two years. All the achievements which the history of the International can record for the last two years were stated in the report of the last Boston convention. The introduction of week work for piece work, the introduction of the minimum scale, the publication of a periodical by the International, all these are so many realizations of the several points of the program of that convention.

The record of past achievements and victories has doubtless a value of its own. To be conscious of one's strength, of the resources at one's command, is delightful in itself. Yet the chief value of such a consciousness lies in the way in which it can influence our future activities. And it is precisely future activities, plans for the next two years, that have above all to occupy the attention of the Chicago convention.

Important as the part of our leaders is in framing and carrying out plans, it is, however, quite erroneous to leave everything to the good will and intelligence of our representatives. We must always set in mind the fact that the function of democratic delegates is to voice the desires and aspirations of those whom they represent. It is highly desirable therefore that these desires and aspirations should be heard and made articulate. It is only the actual participation on the part of the rank and file of the union, through opinions and advice, in the plans and works of their leaders that the deliberative and executive organs of the organization can be prevented from degenerating into autocracies. Fortunately, the possession of our own organs enables everyone who has an opinion to make himself heard. We hope that the members of the international will not fail to make use of this opportunity and will state their points as clearly as concisely as possible.

WELCAME, PRESIDENT SCHLESINGER

President Schlesinger who is now returning from Europe had a rare opportunity to see for himself and study everything which could be of interest to a labor organization. The object of his trip was mainly to get a first-hand knowledge of conditions of the present labor movement in Europe. During his three months stay in Europe, he visited Holland, England, France, Germany, Austria, Poland. He came in direct contact not only with the masses but also with the most influential men in the world of labor and politics. We are sure that he made an excellent use of these opportunities, that he saw everything that was worth while seeing. The fact that he was everywhere received enthusiastically is not only evidence of a tribute paid to the organization in the name of which he was sent but also a sign that his plans met everywhere with favor. One obvious result of this trip is the establishment of a connection between the needle industries of this country and Europe. We feel certain that this is not his only achievement.

We offer him our heartiest welcome. We are sure that Schlesinger will be on his part agreeably surprised to hear that not only was our work uninterrupted by his absence, but that we have also accomplished very definite things. What a great surprise could we prepare for him than the list of our great victories in Boston, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Toronto, as well as the record of what we have achieved for the last two months in New York.

At the time when Schlesinger departed for Europe nothing seemed to threaten the peace of our industry. But things took quite a different turn, and our leaders had to face many grave situations. The way in which these leaders acquitted themselves of their difficult tasks is the best testimony that can be borne to their intelligence and integrity. And that the International could find among its ranks such forces is the best tribute to the leadership of Schlesinger. For it shows both that the International has become such a strong and effective organization that no storm can shake it and also that the spirit infused by Schlesinger into his subordinates was able to bear such fruit. We are certain that Schlesinger is a broad-minded enough to feel proud of the resourcefulness, initiative and energy displayed by his lieutenants in the emergencies that confronted them.

The International has already arranged a hall where Schlesinger will render his first report about

When we examine the powerful well-organized Cloakmakers' Union in Cleveland, it is difficult to realize that it is a reality and not a beautiful dream. Everything that has recently occurred in Cleveland, the negotiations between the Union and the Manufacturers' Association, and what is taking place now, appears to be so fantastic as if it were a dream. But the healthy enthusiasm of the members indicate that it is an impressive reality.

After all the attempts of our International to organize Cleveland, including the great cloakmakers' strike of 1911, there has developed a belief that the Cleveland cloakmakers "will never be organized," that the cloak center in Cleveland, next in importance to New York, will forever remain a scab center. The phrase, "the Cleveland cloakmakers can never be organized" was frequently repeated. Not only was this the belief of the rank and file, but of many of the officials of our locals. Most theories have sprung up to enforce this belief. It was said that the Cleveland cloak manufacturers were "too rich"; that the cloakmakers were property owners; that the section system of work made organization work impossible; that the girls were made up of stuff which is not organizationally.

This cloak center was solemnly said to be destined to remain under the dominion of scabs.

But our International was firmly determined to ignore all the pessimistic theories regarding the Cleveland cloak trade and proceeded to organize the workers. Fortunately Brother M. Perlskin, possessing indomitable energy, great ability and inexhaustible fund of patience, has undertaken the tremendous job of organizing the Cleveland cloakmakers.

As it was to be expected the work did not proceed very smoothly. The situation appeared to be gloomy, and some "practical men" have predicted inevitable failure and have warned against the "waste of time and money" for such futile purposes. But the leaders of the International remained firm. The determination to have Cleveland organized under all conditions has swept aside all the dismal predictions, all the "practical" advice. There was only one solution that the International decided to follow. It was: Cleveland must be organized. And not only are the Cleveland cloakmakers well organized today, but their organization marks one of the most splendid achievements in the annals of American labor movement.

In his report to the last quarterly meeting of the General Execu-

his experiences in Europe. The date and place of this affair are given elsewhere in this issue of "Justice." We are certain that large numbers of the members of the International will be eager to hear the interesting report of their leader and at the same time offer their welcome to him. We advise our readers not to wait for the last minute and come as early as possible if they do not want to remain outside.

tive Board, Secretary Baroff says the following in speaking of Cleveland:

"I am very happy to report to you that the Cleveland situation which has been one of the most vexatious spots for the past nine years, has been brought to a splendid end, and Cleveland is now on the map of the International as one of the Union strongholds."

One can readily agree with Brother Baroff that the situation is highly encouraging. Were it not so well organized there would still be sufficient cause for gratification, taking in consideration the many hardships and obstacles in the way of organization.

But I have somewhat strayed from the subject of this article. I was to write on the actual achievements of the Cleveland cloakmakers, but I could not simply, in a matter-of-fact way, enumerate the various activities of the Union. I could not repress the surge of feelings when writing on this subject. What are these achievements?

There are many things that could be said about the Cleveland Cloakmakers' Union. There are 4000 good - standing, enthusiastic members. What is particularly gratifying is that 2000 of the membership are women, most of them gentle American girls to whom the Union has become a part of their life. The Union has opened up new horizons for these girls, has revealed to them the meaning and power of solidarity, has instilled new life into them. They now feel stronger, freer, nobler. They are united and consequently they are not subject to the wild caprice of the boss, foreman, or manager. They are constantly aware that the Union protects them. They fully realize that their conditions have undergone a startling change since the advent of the Union, that the relations between the employer and the worker have been transformed. This calls forth their enthusiasm, confidence and devotion to the Union.

Is this not remarkable? The American girls of the Cleveland cloak shops were once feared. It was said that they were the insurmountable obstacles in the way of building a union in Cleveland. Now these same girls are among the best members of the organization! The Union has fostered for the girls musical clubs, dancing classes, lectures, discussions, concerts where the girls come with their parents and they are all having a good time. In a word, the workers are in constant touch with the Union, during their work as well as during their leisure.

The extent to which the Cloakmakers' Union is entering into all phases of the life of its members may be seen from its undertaking to organize an Auxiliary Society of "girls' mothers." They are paying the very moderate sum of five cents a week to the Society and they are entitled to certain benefits in case of need. The mothers are very well satisfied with the undertaking, at the same time they are directly bound to the organization of their daughters.

How the World Moves

By JULIET STUART POTVIN

Aftermath of the Steel Strike

The recent decision of the United States Steel Corporation to raise the wages of all steel workers 10 per cent may have nothing to do with the steel strike, and then again it may. The strike has had a disastrous effect on steel production, and the treatment of the workers during the strike could not have added to their enthusiasm for their work. As a mere measure of efficiency it was necessary to grant the 10 per cent raise. It was even difficult to secure workers at all under the old wages. According to the report of the manufacturers "if the present wage advance results in a larger supply of labor for the steel industry and more efficient labor, it can easily pay for itself, since the substantial profits are made by full operation, the tonnage output affecting the cost per ton more than does the wage rate."

In other words the steel industry could well afford a wage raise, the industry could bear a raise without feeling it, and the only reason that the raise was not given at the time of the strike was that the masters of the industry could not afford to admit to the workers that they were justified in their demands. We are reminded of the King of Prussia who refused the imperial crown of Germany when it was offered to him in 1848 by the Diet of Frankfurt, a popular representative body, but accepted it in 1870 when it had been secured by victorious military might.

William Z. Foster is writing a book on the steel strike soon to be published by Ben. Huebsch. It will make interesting reading — if he tells all he knows. He will tell why and how the bosses attempted to crush the strike — and succeeded. Will he also tell how the workers could have won the strike — but failed? Why did the railroad workers bring raw materials to mills where the workers were on strike, and carry away their scab product? Why did the miners furnish to these mills the coal and iron without which they could not be kept running? Why did the miners enter on their own general strike about two weeks too late, to assist their brothers in the steel mills to victory? These are bitter questions

ters. This will unquestionably be of mutual benefit to the mothers and daughters. It is one of the most singular achievements which make the Union still more beloved by its members.

Is this not a convincing demonstration that the Cleveland Cloakmakers' Unions widening its scope of activity? The founding of the Auxiliary for the mothers sufficiently shows how thoroughly the leaders have grasped the situation. How many foolish mothers are there to be found who still bar their daughters from belonging to union? How many are there who out of pride would not permit their children to belong to a labor organization? This undertaking therefore is a splendid move of the Union which will go

but American labor needs to know their answer. In that answer lies the key to the tragic weakness of the American labor movement. Judge Gary, the Pennsylvania constabulary, General Wood, and the Secretary of Labor are bad enough. But they did not cause the defeat of the steel strike. What did? Will you tell us, Mr. Foster?

America Faces a Crisis

"Taking a long view," remarks a recent letter from Barclay's Bank, London, "neither we in America, nor the neutral nations can afford to allow the exchange of potential customers to go from bad to worse until they ultimately break down entirely." America's potential customers from all the world can no longer afford to trade with her. Her prices are too high. Her warehouses are bursting with goods ready to be shipped to all parts of the world. Goods that American people themselves cannot afford to buy although they produced them. The profiteers have accumulated great hoards of goods of all kinds, food, clothing, raw materials, machinery. The people of Europe are starving and prostrated for the lack of these very things and yet they cannot secure them. Ships that have arrived in English ports laden with American cotton have been sent back across the ocean without being unloaded because England cannot pay her bills. This in spite of the fact that it may cause widespread unemployment in the cotton mills of Lancashire. American railroad shares are being dumped on the New York Stock Exchange by their English holders, the desperate effort to bolster up the value of the pound sterling whose value has declined from \$4.86 to \$3.19. Imports into Great Britain and Canada from the United States are being stopped for the same reason.

Cotton spinners in Manchester unemployed for the lack of American cotton which glutts our warehouses, Austrian children starving for lack of food which is piled up by the thousands of tons in the hands of our profiteers, Russian industry limping for the lack of American machinery and locomotives while our machine manufacturers are seeking desperately

a long way in breaking the wall of ignorance and prejudice.

The Cloakmakers' Union in Cleveland has existed for the last several years. But the manufacturers have not recognized it, have ignored its activities, have used all means against its growth. But their measures were of no avail. The Union made steady progress — until it forced recognition. All cloak manufacturers now admit that there is a Cloakmakers' Union in Cleveland, and they deal with it officially. The Union and the manufacturers signed an agreement. There are shop chairmen and price committees in the shops. The manufacturers have also agreed to introduce week work in the entire trade.

foreign markets on which to unload their surplus, Italian factories shut down for the lack of American coal, France devastated and left waste from the lack of building materials in her devastated regions! Where the need is greatest the response is least. Has the tragic absurdity of our present economic system ever been more clearly demonstrated. Starvation and plenty go hand in hand, luxury and misery, emptiness and fulness, want and glut! For goods are made for profit and not for use.

Do Strikes Cause the High Cost of Living?

Yogi says the American First Publicity Association, in an expensive full-page advertisement. There is the usual bad, bearded Bolshevik in the picture who needs a shave and a hair-cut but is otherwise quite a kindly old gentleman, not unlike Santa Claus himself. Since the Russian revolution a natural growth beard on the male chin has been taken as a sign of moral depravity. Our Bolshevik is peering around a placard in which the horrible truth is spread that strikes cause untold misery and suffering, to say nothing of the loss of millions to the "public." During the last four years the loss to labor has been \$50,000,000, to "industries" \$30,000,000. But the "industries" will not suffer long for every dollar of this willful waste, resulting directly from the destructive methods of the I Won't Workers, the Bolsheviks, and their unscrupulous agitators, must come eventually from the threadbare pockets of the common people.

Whence these tears? The answer is supplied forthwith: "It is the accepted time for kind words, for friendship among the sons of men, for counsel that cheers the aching hearts, for constructive co-operation and peaceful unity in every field of human endeavor. It is the hour to get back to the bench and the shop with a new and a higher resolve? A lighter hand and a brighter countenance? That we may live and let others live and avoid future tithes of pains and penalties." Could Woodrow himself have done better?

Garment Bosses Learn Co-Operation

The employers in the garment industry in New York are learning the old lesson that cooperation means efficiency and economy. Hard hit themselves by the rent profiteer, they have determined to become their own landlords. They have formed a corporation which will build a number of very large new loft buildings west of the present garment district to house the dressmaking and cloakmaking shops and their machines.

The human machines too are

not to be forgotten. Apartment houses to accommodate 85,000 garment workers will be built near to the new factories. This apparently humanitarian project has a very sound business foundation, as the workers in the industry who are acquainted with their bosses will understand. The employers realize that the increase in the cost of living must be paid out of his own pocket to a considerable extent now that the workers have a strong organization. Rents have gone up and will probably go much higher. Carfare may be doubled at any time. These increases in the cost of living will constitute an uncomfortably strong argument for higher wages. Thus the boss turns landlord and provides houses for the workers, cheap and within walking distance of their shops.

The employer undercuts the landlord. Just as he did when he forced the abolition of the Corn Laws in England or taxes on food which made the bread of the workman dealers in the interests of the farmer but against the interest of the employer who had in his wages bill to pay the price of the dearer bread. The manufacturers want cheap food and cheap rent so that they can pay cheap wages. But they have no interest in reducing the cost of living in manufactured goods where their own market is affected.

The same humanitarian impulse led the notorious Wood of Lawrence strike fame to announce his intention of opening "cooperative" stores in Lawrence to reduce the cost of living. The workers in the woolen mills of Mr. Wood took their miserable pittance each week and handed it over to grocer and butcher, landlord and dry-goods merchant. When the latter put up their prices, Mr. Wood's thin pay-envelopes grew thinner still in real value. Hence Mr. Wood's keen interest in helping the masses by taking back his own coin in his own stores.

How long will the garment workers and other workers wait for their bosses to organize "cooperative" undertakings for them? Why not build their own co-operative stores and restaurants. This question has been stirring in the minds of the workers throughout the country, and an attempt at a solution of the question will be made at the conference which is meeting this week in Chicago. Delegates from labor and co-operative organizations, farmers' groups and others will come together from all parts of the country to discuss ways and means for extending the cooperative movement. This event marks a new epoch in the life of the American workers, and may go far toward a solution of the high cost of living.

VICTORY FOR RAINCOAT MAKERS' UNION

The raincoat makers of Montreal have had a splendid victory.

Both sides had prepared for a battle. The manufacturers who had previously dealt individually with the Union and had individual agreements, formed an association in preparation for the new set of demands. One manufacturer with the backing of the association went to England and imported under contracts 10 cementers, 2 cutters and 3 operators, and opened a special shop in a neighboring town.

The last agreement expired on the 31st of January, and on the same day 15 men from Manchester landed at St. John's New Brunswick. The Union had made all the necessary preparations in the event of a strike. Six committees were elected at a special meeting consisting of the following: Settlement, Organization, Hall, Speakers, Picketing, Finance and Law.

Copies of the new agreement were sent to all manufacturers accompanied by an explanatory letter. These copies were sent out a week ahead to give the manufacturers a chance to confer with the settlement committee if they so desired.

An answer was received inviting the Union officials to a conference which began Thursday morning, January 29th, and the Union had after one day's negotiations gained practically all that it asked for, viz: a 44 hour week, time and a half for overtime, 5 legal holidays, closed shop, no work to sub-contractors, a representative of the Union to have access to the shop at all times and the following minimum scale of wages:

Cutters, 44; cementers, (piece work) 10 per cent increase; button sewers, \$20; an immediate increase of \$5 for all males and a \$3 increase for all females. This of course had to be ratified by both parties.

On Monday, February 2nd, the workers stopped from work and a mass meeting was arranged for the morning. They accepted the settlement and returned to work on the following day with the exception of the one shop which had imported the men from England. A committee including the writer of these lines set out Monday evening to Granby where the imported men were taken and returned the following day with the entire 15 men.

These men were all good union men and no hardship was experienced by the committee to convince them of their duty. Their suspicion was aroused as soon as they were taken to this out-of-the-way place and they gladly responded to the call of the Union.

The association tried to intimidate the Union by threatening to withdraw all the workers if the Union did not send the people back to this particular shop.

But after the Union dared the association to lock the workers out if they chose, the contracts of the men were broken and the country shop closed.

The strike was as big a moral victory for the Union members.

J. LAMCH
Manager, Joint Board,
Montreal

IN OUR EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

By DR. LOUIS FRIEDLAND,
Educational Director, I. L. G. W. U.

"Music hath charms to soothe the savage breast." Some of us will remember that fine passage in one of Shakespeare's plays.

"He that hath no music in his soul,
Nor is not moved by concord of sweet sounds,
Is fit for treasons, stratagems and spoils."

Every one of us has music in his soul, and a great yearning for harmony. Music is an international language which we all need to understand better. In the Waistmakers' Unity Center, Public School 40, Manhattan, Miss MaMion Bauer, a composer and pianist has just completed her series of lectures on "The Appreciation of Music," and in the Bronx Unity Center, Public School 54, Mr. Herman Epstein is still giving his series of Friday evening talks on music. After the ride home in "The Bronx Express," our members in that Borough will be glad to know more about real music, and as long as Mr. Epstein's lectures are attended by the eager band of our music-loving members, the Educational Department will be glad to continue them. If the other Unity Centers want these instructive and entertaining lectures on music, they must first make a noise.

EAST SIDE UNITY CENTER

The students of the East Side Unity Center, 4th Street near First Avenue, are going to have a great celebration on Saturday, March 6th, at 7:30 P. M. at Public School 63. For this occasion a Grand Concert has been arranged, at which well-known artists will appear. The concert will be followed by a dance. To this affair are invited those of our

members, and their families, who live on the East Side. We promise them an evening of pleasure and fellowship. Passes to the concert race to be obtained at the offices of the local unions, and at the Unity Centers.

WAISTMAKERS' UNITY CENTER

P. S. 40, 320 East 20th St.

With the exception of the break occasioned by the cessation of classes on Washington's Birthday Holiday, celebrated Monday, Feb. 23rd, educational work went on as usual at the Waistmakers' Unity Center, P. S. No. 40, 320 East 20th Street.

Since there is again a piano in the gymnasium of the school, folk-dancing has been resumed in the Recreation Period 6:30—8 on Thursdays. All members of the class learned the Russian "Troika," and danced it over and over with the greatest enthusiasm.

The Friday evening Mandolin Club practice took place from 7 to 8:30, and Mr. Frank D. Haiss, the instructor furnished each student with a lesson on note reading to study before the next meeting when it is hoped that all will be supplied with mandolins. Anyone wishing further information concerning this club, may obtain it at the Center next Friday evening.

Dr. Sarah Greenberg followed the Mandolin Club period with an hour of instruction in Hygiene. Dr. Greenberg is intensely interesting and everyone should plan to take advantage of her short series on health. The Center is fortunate to have her give us her opinions on Social and Personal Health, which are regarded as authentic because of her long experience in the Labor Movement.

LABOR NEWS

CHILDREN VICTIMS OF INADEQUATE SOCIAL AND LEGAL SYSTEM

In a bulletin issued by the United States Children's Bureau in Washington it is stated that in many sections of this country young child offenders must face the same sort of court trial as that given to criminals.

Of the 175,000 children's cases brought before courts in the United States in 1918, approximately 50,000 came before courts not adapted to the handling of children's cases. At least one court in every state reported that children awaiting trial were detained in jails, and 37 courts in 1 state declared that no effort was made to separate children detained in jails from old and hardened offenders, though such separation is required by law in many of these states.

Only 321 courts out of more than 2,000 had special organizations for trying children's cases, such as separate hearings, probation system and a system of legal and social records.

Children in small towns and rural districts had the poorest chance for an adequate hearing, as the courts in less populous places are generally ill equipped for children's work. The children's bureau recommends for these communities a county system, providing a unified probation service, a detention home and a clinic for child study.

PYRAMIDING PROFITS CAUSE HIGH PRICES

The pyramiding of profits is responsible for high prices, and not the so-called "vicious circle" of increased wages, declare the executives of railway shop employees' organizations in a statement on their acceptance of the president's suggestion that the strike of these workers be called off and a tribunal be created to consider the wage question.

The statement says, in part: "The intolerable burden of the high cost of living — which the president points out has in some respects become even higher than when he addressed us six months

ago — cannot be borne indefinitely by the railroad workers, no matter how patriotic or patient they may be.

"The American people need not fear that such wage increases as may in justice be granted to us will prove a step in the so-called 'vicious circle' of ever-increasing prices and resultant higher cost of living, provided the forces of the government are alert and determined to prevent undue profiteering and that congress will pass remedial and corrective measures recommended by the president. It of profits and not increasing circle is the consequence of pyramiding of costs incident to giving labor a living wage, that the public should be on guard against.

"Labor, assured of uniformly fair treatment and relieved of distress and worry due to inadequate wages, will always, through greater efficiency and a desire to return a square deal for a square deal, hold labor costs on a sound economic level by increasing production or service."

"We ask the American people to see that we are met half way in our efforts to settle sanely and fairly, but speedily, a great and trying problem."

COAL OWNERS BENEFIT; MINERS RECEIVE LESS

By statistics presented to the commission appointed by the president to adjust differences between them and soft coal owners, the coal miners showed that their share of the dollar paid by the public to the coal owner is constantly diminishing, while the coal owners' share is increasing.

In the central Pennsylvania field, for example, the miners' share was 66 cents in 1916, and in 1917 it decreased to 55 cents, or 16 2/3 per cent. During the same period, the coal owners' share increased from 6 cents to 25 cents, or 316 2/3 per cent.

"While the mine workers, during our great national emergency, were working every day possible to maintain production, and were receiving wages far below their pre-war purchasing power, which was below a level of actual subsistence, and at the same time were sending members of their families to France and straining their inadequate resources to the utmost in the purchase of liberty bonds in order to aid our common cause, the coal mining companies were helping to win the war by taking extortionate profits from the government, from our war industries and from domestic consumers, and were telling our harassed people, when they protested against the price of coal, that the high prices were due to the exaction of high wages by the mine workers."

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THE WEEKS' NEWS CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10

By I. LEWIN

General News

The attention of our members is called to the following three dates: On Saturday, February 28, 1920, at 1:30 P. M., a Special Meeting will take place at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place, at which, among other important matters, nominations for General Secretary for our Union and for delegates to the Convention of the I. L. G. W. U., which is to be held the first two weeks in May in Chicago, will take place. On Saturday, March 20th, elections for the above named offices will be held at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place, but, not least, Saturday, March 27th, is the date of our annual ball which is this year going to take place in the heart of the Bronx, at Hunte Point Place, 163rd Street and Southern Boulevard.

According to our records, most of our members reside in the Bronx, and with traveling conditions as they are at present, the Ball Committee thought it advisable to select the biggest hall in the Bronx for the affair. Tickets sell at \$5.00 a piece, including wardrobe, and present a very interesting very fast. One business agent in the Cloak & Suit Department has himself disposed of more tickets this year than were altogether sold last year. The financial success of the affair now being assured, the committee is directing its efforts towards making this affair one that will long be remembered by our members.

Cloak and Suit News

Now that new arrangements have been completed whereby back pay from Jan. 5 is being paid directly to our members, instead of to the Union's office, as was at first suggested, the office is flooded with complaints.

Manager Gorenstein asks that any of the members of this department who have failed to receive back pay from January 5, are to notify the office of same, and the money will be collected for them.

The next meeting of the Cloak and Suit Department will be held on Monday, March 1, 1920, at 7:30 P. M. at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place.

Waist and Dress News

As is known to our members, the Union's request to the Waist and Dress Manufacturers' Association that the decision with reference to increases in wages and revision of scales as rendered by Dr. Judah Magnus, who acted in the capacity of Arbitrator between the Association of Dress Manufacturers and the Union, was flatly refused. In its place they offered an increase of \$3.00 to all, including the cutters.

When the manufacturers found that the cutters in their shops began to revolt, they increased the offer to our members to \$5.00 per week, but under no circumstances would they raise the ridiculously low minimum scale of \$18. per week. In other words, it would mean that whenever a cutter starts in to work on a new job he can again be hired at \$18. per week instead of \$44 which is the minimum prevailing in 90% of

the industry, in accordance with the decision of the Arbitrator.

The Union could not agree to permit the few manufacturers belonging to the Dress and Waist Manufacturers' Association to "get away" with paying lower wages than that paid by the balance of the trade. Here is just a little comparison between the number of people employed by manufacturers in the Dress and Waist Association and the number of people employed by the rest of the trade:

About 11,000 are employed by the Association of Dress Manufacturers, with whom we have reached a satisfactory agreement; 14,000 are working in Independent shops, in each and every one of which the Union has settled on the new conditions decided upon by Dr. Magnus; a total of over 25,000. The Dress and Waist Association consists at present of a little over 200 shops. A number of these shops employ cutters only, their operating finishing, being done out of town. Some others have totally non-union shops and the reason for their belonging to this Association is to get the protection of the protocol which prohibits strikes during the life of the agreement. The balance is composed of contractors and some petty manufacturers, who employ on the average of between 15 and 20 people each. This would mean that the actual number of Union people employed in these shops is between 3,000 and 3,000. The number of Union people employed by the Association would have been much smaller if it were not for the fact that since the signing of the agreement over 60 complete union shops joined that Association. One could readily see that we could not sacrifice the interests of 25,000 union members for the sake of an Organization employing at the most 3,000 union workers.

The members in the above named shops are at present adjusting their own grievances with the manufacturers individually, and it seems that they are getting much better terms than was offered by the Association. The manufacturers may not like this state of affairs but they have no one to blame but themselves for precipitating this present controversy.

Local 10, of the Ladies' Waist and Dressmakers' Union, Local No. 25, and the Italian Local 89, stand together, and are working hand in hand in the present emergency for, although the manufacturers tried to appease the cutters by subsequently offering them a \$5.00 increase in place of the \$3.00 which they at first proposed, the members of this Union have learned in recent years, that the interest of a worker in one branch of the trade is the concern of all.

At the last meeting of the Waist and Dress Branch of our Union, the members unanimously voted to enforce the decision of the Arbitrator in all shops, irrespective of the Association to which they may happen to belong. So far, every case that has come to the attention of the office has been settled to the satisfaction

of our members in spite of the "ukase" of the chiefs of the Association.

The next meeting of this Branch, at which the latest developments in the industry will be discussed and explained by Business Manager Sam B. Shemker, will take place on Monday, March 8, 1920, at 7:30 P. M., at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place.

Miscellaneous News

At the time of this writing, a conference is taking place between the Union and the Wrapper and Kimono Manufacturers' Association, where a settlement may be reached. This conference is the result of a further break in the ranks of the manufacturers, a number of them having settled during the preceding week. While a successful termination of this strike may be expected this week, the strikers are alert and are picketing the shops from morning until night, notwithstanding all the hardships and obstacles put in their way by the police and hired thugs.

Business Manager Perlmutter and Jacob Fleischer will represent the cutters at the above mentioned conference.

The office staff is kept busy with the conduct of the Wrapper and Kimono strike and the enforcement of the increases that were gotten in the Children's Dress and White Goods industries.

Anyone who has failed to receive his increase is requested to immediately report to the office and the matter will be attended to.

The next meeting of the Miscellaneous Division will take place on Monday, March 15, 1920, at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place, at 7:30 P. M.

STATISTICS PROVE RISE IN COST OF LIVING

The average increase in the cost of living increased 83.1 per cent from 1913 to October, 1919, reports the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. At Washington increases in the various items of expenditure are as follows:

Food, 30.8 per cent; clothing, 23.1 per cent; housing 2.4 per cent; fuel and light 2.4 per cent; furniture and furnishings 7.1 per cent; miscellaneous, 17.3 per cent. Total 83.1 per cent.

The bureau shows that 38.2 per cent of a wage earner's total expenditure goes for food. Food costs have increased 80.70 per cent which would make the per cent of income in the price of food, as related to the total family expenditure, 30.8 per cent.

Attention of Dress and Waist Cutters!

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

Jesse Wolf & Co.
105 Madison Ave.
Son & Ash,
105 Madison Ave.
Solomon & Metzler,
33 East 33rd St.
Clairmont Waist Co.,
15 West 36th St.
Mack Kanner & Milius,
136 Madison Ave.
M. Stern,
33 East 33rd St.
Max Cohen,
105 Madison Ave.
Julian Waist Co.,
15 East 32nd St.
Drezwell Dress Co.,
14 East 32nd St.
Regina Kobler,
352 Fourth Ave.
Deitz & Ottenberg,
2-16 West 33rd St.
J. & M. Cohen,
6-10 E. 32nd Street.



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SOLOIST:
LOUIS TORRES

Baritone
CONDUCTOR:
CARL RUGGLES

PEOPLE'S HOUSE AUDITORIUM,
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This concert marks the founding of a strictly working class Orchestra; of, by and for the workers.

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

Thursdays, 8:30 P. M. \$1.25, beginning February 12, 6 Lectures

CONTROL OF PUBLIC OPINION

Fridays, 8:30 P. M. \$2.50, beginning February 13, 12 Lectures

CURRENT WORLD HISTORY

Saturdays, 1:30 P. M. \$2.50, beginning February 14, 12 Lectures

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CLOAK MAKERS OF CHICAGO ATTENTION!

Official notice is hereby given to every member that in order to be entitled to sick benefit, one must comply with the following rules and regulations:

1. A sick member is obliged to notify our office immediately as soon as he becomes ill, giving his name, correct address and his union card.

2. He must inform the Union whether his illness compels him to stay at home or not.

3. No member is entitled to sick benefit unless he is a member in good standing for not less than six months prior to the date of sickness.

Fraternally yours,

JOINT BOARD CLOAK,
SKIRT, & DRESS WORK-
ERS' UNION, I. L. G. W. U.

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A Dignified Profession for Man or Woman
Easy To Learn—Pays Big Money

You, Too, Can Learn and
Become a Successful
Designer.

Men and Women
Earn More Money

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CUTTERS' UNION, LOCAL 10, ATTENTION

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETINGS

GENERAL (All Branches): Saturday, Feb. 28th. 1.30 P. M.

The next General Meeting will also be a Special Meeting for nominations for General Secretary and Delegates to the Convention of the I. L. G. W. U.

CLOAK & SUIT: Monday, March 1st.

WAIST & DRESS: Monday, March 8th.

MISCELLANEOUS: Monday, March 15th.

Meetings begin at 7.30 P. M.

AT ARLINGTON HALL, 23 St. Marks Place

Cutters of all Branches

who are working at present should change their working cards for the new season.

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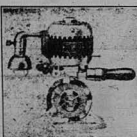
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