

"My righteous-
ness I hold
fast, and will
not let it go."
— Job. 37(A.)

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

JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES GARMENT WORKERS UNION.

VOL. II. No. 15. New York. Friday, April 9, 1920. Price 2 Cents

STRIKE OF THE CUSTOM DRESSMAKERS IN N. Y.

The Custom Dressmakers' Union, Local 90, has declared a strike last Monday against the aristocratic firm of J. M. Giddings because of its discharge of six workers on the ground of Union activity. The shop of this firm, located on Fifth Ave. and 46th Street, was finally organized several weeks ago by Local 90. All the girls working in the shop, 38 in number, have joined the Custom Dressmakers' Union. The aristocratic firm strongly disapproved of this action on the part of their employees. A confidential survey was made of all the workers in the shop, and six of the girls were picked out as the trouble makers. They were immediately discharged on the sole ground that they were suspected of helping to organize the workers of this shop.

About twenty men who are members of the Ladies Tailors' Union, Local 80, are also employed in this shop. This Local therefore undertook negotiations with the firm aiming to reinstate the six discharged girls. The firm refused to do that. It could not forgive workers who are guilty of such an act of disloyalty as the organization of the workers. The workers had no other choice than to go out on strike. The members of Local 80 went down together with the members of Local 90.

The strike against J. M. Giddings is conducted by both organizations, the Custom Dressmakers' Union and the Ladies Tailors' Union. There is no doubt but that the strike will be speedily won, as all the members are firmly determined to fight against the arbitrary and autocratic action of the employers. The firm will finally be compelled to deal with the Custom Dressmakers' Union as it was dealing with the Ladies Tailors' Union, and recognize the right of women to organize the same as men.

CONFERENCE OF CIVIC AND LABOR BODIES

A conference of all labor organizations and civic bodies was called to take place on Wednesday, April 7th, at the People's House, 7 East 15th Street, to consider the situation created by the ousting of the 5 Socialist Assemblymen. The ousting is generally considered as an outrageous act of pure reactionary madness undermining all fundamentals of representative government and introducing in America a system of Prussianism at its worst. If the action of the Assembly shall be permitted to stand, it will amount to putting an end to all representative government in the State of New York. The conference held on Wednesday will perfect plans how to combat the State reactionaries and how to restore liberty representative government in the State of New York.

REORGANIZATION IN THE WAIST AND DRESS MAKERS' UNION

Election of Delegates To the Convention of the International. — Should the Union Maintain a Separate Association Department? — Opening of a Labor Bureau. — Preparations for the Opening of the Unity House at Forest Park.

The Ladies' Waist and Dress Makers' Union, Local 25, has been lately manifesting signs of fervent activity along many lines.

For the last several weeks the center of interest for the Union has been the election of delegates to the coming convention of our International. Some of the meetings were very stormy. Naturally, there was no lack of willing candidates, and the contests were consequently exciting. The elections are fortunately over now; the fortunate candidates were elected, and the unfortunate ones will have to wait two more years for another chance. The Union is, of course, busy equipping the delegation by providing it with a stock of resolutions and points to be considered at the Convention.

Another important problem before the Union is arising out of the peculiar relations existing at present between the Waistmakers' Union and the manufacturers of the Waist and Dress Association which rendered the Association Department almost useless. The unfriendly attitude assumed of late by the Association has made the situation in the industry highly strained. Officially the Union and the Association are still bound by a collective agreement which prescribes certain rules for the settlement of controversies arising in the waist industry. This agreement can only function properly when both parties are performing their respective duties in a spirit of good faith. But in refusing to consider the question of a wage increase for the waistmakers, the

manufacturers have violated the spirit and terms of the understanding, and the work of the Association Department in the Union has become almost paralyzed. The machinery does not work, the Department has become wholly superfluous, and the Union is seriously thinking of abolishing it altogether. This question will be taken up this week at the meeting of the General Executive Board of the Waistmakers' Union.

One of the new enterprises started by Local 25 is a Labor Bureau. The aim of this bureau is to provide the members of the Union who are out of work with jobs. Brother Mackoff is the manager of the bureau.

All waist and dress makers who are out of work have to register in this bureau. All shop chairmen and chairladies of the waist and dress shops of New York are requested to notify the office of the Union of the shops in which workers are wanted. This would greatly facilitate the work of the bureau and contribute much toward its success.

The Unity House is another question of great importance for the Union. It plans to accommodate more guests this year. This, however, is bound up with a great deal of work. But the waistmakers are not afraid of work, and they will do all in their power to make this a success. The date of the opening of the Unity House will soon be announced, and our members will thus have a chance for registration.

HISTORY OF LABOR STRUGGLES TO BE TAUGHT IN SCHOOLS

The first favorable response to the demand made by a delegate of our International to the last Convention of the American Federation of Labor at Atlantic City that the boards of education introduce the study of labor struggles in the higher grades of the public schools was made by the Commissioner of Education of Massachusetts State.

Mollie Friedman, a member of the Ladies' Waist and Dress Makers' Union, Local 25, was chiefly responsible for this important achievement. At the A. F. of L. Convention last June, Mollie Friedman showed how our children are fed on stories of military heroes and wars, and pleaded for the introduction in our schools of

stories of the labor movement, its struggles and victories. This made such a profound impression that the A. F. of L. made a special issue of it and conducted a vigorous campaign in its behalf.

The State of Massachusetts was the first to respond to this demand of organized labor, and the next school season the school books of that State will contain an account of the principles of the American labor movement written by Samuel Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labor.

A campaign to introduce the study of labor history in the public schools of every state has been undertaken by the American Federation of Teachers.

DRESSMAKERS STRIKE IN TRENTON, N. J.

The Children's Dress Makers' Union of Trenton, New Jersey, declared a strike against the Amazon Dress Company. The workers demand a 44 hour week and the recognition of the Union.

The employers have resorted to what has lately come into fashion in this country. They have obtained an injunction against three strikers. The demand for a shorter workday is interpreted by the employers as a conspiracy. Sister Fania M. Cohn, Vice President of the International, visited Trenton a few times and spoke at enthusiastic meetings of the children's dress makers. Miss Cohn says that the workers are supremely fit in their present struggle against the backward employers of the Amazon Dress Company.

H. Greenberg, Manager of the Children's Dress Makers' Union, Local 50, was in New York the first day of the strike, and has had conferences with the representatives of the Raincoat Makers' Union, Local 87. As a result the Raincoat Makers' Union has pledged itself to support the strikers in every way possible. This fraternal response of the raincoat makers, the support of the International, and the enthusiasm and determination of the workers will lead toward a successful termination of the strike.

The Central Labor Union of Trenton has come to the support of the strikers by taking up a fight against the injunction.

MAY DAY CELEBRATION

Elaborate celebrations of International Labor Day will be held by members of the International in all cities where there are locals of our Union. The May Day programs will include addresses, music and dancing. Details will be announced later.

UNITY CENTERS RESUME ACTIVITY

Beginning Monday, April 12, all the Unity Centers of the International will resume their activities after a week's recess during the Easter Holidays.

Announcement of classes and lectures could be found elsewhere in this issue.

Topics of the Week

Expulsion of the Socialist Assemblymen

BY an overwhelming majority of 116 to 28 the New York State Assembly voted on April 1 to kill representative government. This, however, must not be confused with similar acts committed under Czarist Russia and Hohenrollren Germany. In our own case we have elected officials, representatives of the people, who outlived representatives of another political party. Herein lies the novelty and amazing boldness of our legislators in Albany.

This decision was not hastily adopted. There was a "trial," there were deliberations of the Judiciary Committee; there was a country-wide discussion in the press. But the decision of the Assembly was preordained by Speaker Sweet and the Luskens. The storm of protest that swept this country against the ousting of the Socialists was of no avail. The New York State Assembly was not open to any ideas save those of Sweet and Co. The Albany legislators voted as they were ordered by the ruthless machine engineered by Sweet and the Luskens.

The charges against the ousted Assemblymen were originally seven, but they were merely seven ways of saying that the Socialists are disloyal to the American Constitution, as Sweet and Co. understand the Constitution. But Chairman Martin of the Judiciary Committee raised the number to eleven, that is, eleven ways of saying that the Socialists are disloyal. Here are the charges:

- (1) That the Socialist Party would destroy our form of government.
- (2) That it is fomenting industrial unrest.
- (3) That it would substitute minority for majority rule.
- (4) That it sympathizes with Soviet Russia.
- (5) That it opposed the war.
- (6) That its political action is a camouflage and it favors force.
- (7) That it is an organized conspiracy to subvert the administration of law.
- (8) That it would destroy the right to own property.
- (9) That it seeks to weaken the family tie.
- (10) That it seeks to destroy the influence of the church.
- (11) That it would overturn the whole fabric of a constitutional form of government.

These charges were apparently collected from the indictments found in the editorials of the New York Times, the Tribune, etc. In one form or another these charges formed the common stock of arguments hurled against the Socialists for decades. Charges 6 and 11, for instance, could more properly be applied to the Sweet crew. For nothing is plainer than the fact that this band has given a fatal blow to representative government.

But Sweet is not yet satisfied with this outcome. He announced that two bills were being prepared aiming to outlaw the Socialist Party at the polls until it purges itself of the principles and practices which are not approved by Sweet and the Luskens. There is a long list of things the Socialist Party must do before Sweet will permit it to function. It must exclude aliens. It must divert party control from the dues-paying members. It must renounce entangling alliances with the Third Internationale. It must discontinue the practice of controlling Socialists

elected to office. It must abandon propaganda and organization work undertaken along industrial lines. After this thorough purgation of the principles of the Socialist Party, it may again be admitted to function as a political party.

At the Socialist trial in Albany the Sweet forces were often compelled to exhibit their stupidity and brutality at the hands of the Socialist lawyers. It would be so much better, thought Sweet, if there were no Socialist lawyers, if the secrets of law were locked for the Luskens. Then it would be easy sailing for the Luskens. And a movement to bar Socialists from the law schools in New York State was inaugurated. There is an Association, Long Island Institute, consisting of teachers from all the law schools of the State. At the meeting of the Association, Professor Tompkins of New York University Law School introduced a resolution denouncing Socialists admitted to the bar as "doubtful dangerous" for being learned in the law. The Professor said a plan based on the selection draft idea was being considered in New York University Law School. Under the plan a student would have to undergo a personal examination as to his views, and his answers would be recorded and filed. The student could be asked what newspapers he read, and if he said he read The Call, and it was shown that he read it regularly, the minds of the school officials would easily be convinced that the student was a Socialist "of the highest type." To this must be added the attempt of the Luskens to control the schools and one has a picture of the sweeping campaign by Sweet and Co. on all fronts against radical thought.

The Harbor Strike

A general tieup of the railroad shipping in New York Harbor is the result of the strike of railroad lighter, tug and ferry crews, called last Friday by the Marine Workers' Affiliation. Altogether there are about 6,000 harbor workers who are out and 4,000 other railroad employees, such as freight handlers and those whose work is dependent upon the ferry, tug and lighter service, will be involved.

The cause of the strike is the sale of seven lighters by the Erie Railroad to a private concern and the refusal of the new owners to give the workers an eight-hour day. The sale was only a subterfuge by which the railroads hope to get back to the ten-hour day. In fact, 137 workers were already thrown out of work. And in this way the other railroads intend to follow this example by "selling" their lighters and in that way evade the Federal law which provides for an eight-hour day for the workers.

The present strike is an aftermath of the Harbor Strike of January, 1919. The chief issue then as it is now was the eight-hour day. After the intervention of the War Labor Board and the Railroad Administration, the workers won their demand. The boat owners were always scheming to undermine the organizations of the Harbor workers. They are now trying to "sell" their business and in that way throw off their responsibility to maintain their agreement with the workers. The

harbor workers went out on strike. They now face a difficult situation. It is not the boat owners, but the lack of solidarity, the jurisdictional question and the divided leadership among the number of organizations of the Harbor workers.

Railroad Workers Appeal to the President Again

OUT of patriotic motives the railroad workers did not press their demand for a wage increase during the war. Late last summer the Railroad Brotherhoods threatened with a general strike to assert their demand. The President intervened. He promised that the cost of living would be lowered and there would be no necessity for increasing wages. The railroad workers agreed to wait. But the cost of living kept on rising. The workers submitted their demand anew. The President promised again. Meanwhile the railroads were handed back to private hands. Machinery for adjusting labor disputes was created at the cost of Congress in the form of a bi-partisan board consisting of representatives of railroad owners and railroad workers. This board was to decide the wage controversy between the workers and owners.

Last week this board reached a deadlock and broke off its session. The representatives of the railroad owners issued a statement refusing the demand of the workers. The statement in part says: "The representatives of the railroads take the position that they could not assume the responsibility of adding such a burden to the costs of transportation, which are necessarily borne by the public, without the full knowledge and consent of the public, through their representatives, and that they must therefore decline the requests," etc.

This is merely another warning that the public will have to pay any wage increases granted to the workers. It will mean raising fares and consequently raising the general cost of living. In behalf of the railroad workers Bert M. Jewell, who headed the workers' representation upon the bi-partisan board, wrote to the President charging the railway managers with declining to try to reach a settlement and dodging responsibility imposed under the new railway law. The letter in part says: "Your committee has declined to comply with the plain provisions of the law."

Despite the repeated disappointments of the President's promises, the railroad workers have no other way than make another plea. The President has shown himself to be a foe of labor. But the railroad workers through their appeal to the President hope to stir public opinion. There is nothing else left for them to do. They have definitely abandoned the strike as a weapon to enforce their demands. The President will no doubt appoint a labor board and some compromise will be reached. But what is clear is that any wage increases granted to the workers will have to be paid by the public in the form of increased fares, etc.

Miners and the Price of Coal

AFTER the miners had been driven back to the mines by Government injunctions, the coal owners were forced by incontrovertible evidence to grant an increase of 27 per cent. Immediately there was a rise of from 65 cents to \$1.50 a ton in the

price of coal. In that way every wage increase granted to the workers becomes a mere excuse for the owners of exorbitant greater profits.

Ellis Scales, editor of the United Mine Workers' Journal issued the following statement on the present situation in the coal industry: "When Fuel Administrator Garfield granted the miners a 14 per cent increase in wages last Fall, he said that the 14 per cent could and should be absorbed by the operators and that they could afford to pay it out of their profits. But the operators did not pay the increase out of their profits. Instead, they passed it on to the public at least 80 to 90 per cent of the increase by increasing their selling price. The present increase in wages adds 13 per cent to the pay of the miners above the 14 per cent granted by Mr. Garfield. If Mr. Garfield was right in saying the operators could absorb and pay the 14 per cent increase out of their profits, then they certainly can at least absorb the 13 per cent now instead of passing it on to the public. If the operators make an unreasonable or unnecessary increase in the price of coal, the miners want the public to know that they are not responsible."

The representatives of the miners have now realized that the Government has played into the hands of the coal owners by lifting the price restrictions on coal.

Meanwhile two thousand miners employed at ten mines in the Kansas coal field are on strike. There are also strikes in the coal fields of Illinois, Ohio and West Virginia. The dissatisfaction with the award is everywhere growing among miners.

Political Demonstrations in Denmark

FOR the time being, Denmark has its King. But he was on the verge of following his colleagues Wilhelm and Nicholas. On March 30 the Social Democratic Parliamentary group has issued a manifesto protesting against the King's removal from the Cabinet and summoning the people at the elections to overthrow his reactionary designs. The manifesto said:

"Our watchword is drastic democratization of our Constitution—a republic and a one-chamber system, with suffrage at the age of 21."

The King first announced his refusal to comply with the ultimatum of the Social Democrats demanding the reinstatement of the Zable Ministry, dismissed by the King. The demand was made under the threat that the Danish trade unions would meet with a view of declaring a general strike. The action demanded included the immediate summoning of the Rigsdag and the restoration of constitutional conditions.

There were demonstrations and cries of "Long live the Republic!" "Down with the King!" A general strike was planned for April 6. All classes of the population were hoarding food, petroleum, candles and water. The revolution seemed to be on. King Christian apparently sensed the drift of the movement, and after an all-night conference with Socialist leaders, he decided to accept the resignation of the newly formed Ministry, granting amnesty for all political offenses and conceding all the electoral reforms demanded by the Social Democrats. In this way the King retained his

Steel Workers Issue Strike Report

"The steel industry is organized as our reports just made to the 25 international unions will show; we enrolled 350,000 members in the American Federation of Labor in less than two years. This represents an accomplishment without parallel in the history of the labor movement."

With these words Jay G. Brown, secretary-treasurer of the National Committee for Organizing Iron and Steel Workers, made public the carefully tabulated figures showing the enrollment of the steel workers into the many unions co-operating through the organizing committee as well as the general report of the steel strike relief fund.

Both reports are made by Wm. Z. Foster, secretary-treasurer of the national committee during the period before the strike and its active leader in the Pittsburgh district until the strike was officially ended in January. They are considered models in accuracy.

A total amount of \$418,141 was contributed by labor unions for the upkeep of the strike commissaries in the last three months of the strike, according to a report made by Frank Morrison, secretary of the American Federation of Labor. Nearly the entire sum was disbursed in sending food, including meat, groceries, bread, potatoes and the freight and labor charges in connection with handling the vast supplies sent out. Of this amount a balance of \$69,531 is still on deposit in the general fund of the national organizing committee.

Poster, in his general report to be submitted to the convention of the American Federation of Labor to be held in Montreal in June, shows 156,000 workers actually enrolled in the various international unions and signed up through the national committee. Initiation fees of \$1 each were taken up in the great steel territory covering 10 states, and sent into the general headquarters at Pittsburgh.

According to Foster the report represents only 50 to 60 per cent of the total number of steel workers organized during the entire campaign because the committee ceased collecting initiation fees early in 1919 and therefore the report does not include many thousands enrolled at Bethlehem, Steelton, Reading, Apollo, New Kensington in the Pennsylvania district, and in Gary, Joliet, Indian Harbor, South Chicago, and other points in the Calumet district.

Poster said: "It may be conservatively estimated that well over 250,000 actual steel workers joined the union during the campaign, notwithstanding the opposition of the steel trust, which discharged thousands of its workers, completely suppressed free speech and free assembly in Pennsylvania and used every known tactic to prevent the organization of its employees."

The heaviest enrollments and the figures record only about 60 per cent of the actual steel workers who became organized were reported from the following districts:

Pittsburg	38,442
Youngstown	19,000
Cleveland	17,000

Gary	16,000
Chicago	11,000
Buffalo	6,000
Wheeling	5,000
Pueblo	3,000
Birmingham	1,500

Of the 156,702 steel workers registered through the national committee the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers received the greatest allotment of men, in all 70,000 men. The International Mill, Mine and Smelter Workers in the segregation of the organized men into their respective trades received 15,000 recruits; International Association of Machinists, 12,000; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, 8,500; International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers, 6,000; International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths, 5,700; International Brotherhood of Stationary Firemen, 5,300; Brotherhood of Railway Carmen, 5,000.

In this way the allotments taper down to the Brotherhood of Steam-shovel and Dredgemen which received two members out of the nearly 160,000 men that were inducted into the labor movement through the National Committee for Organizing Iron and Steel Workers.

It is estimated that the relief fund, the measure of the loyalty of the organized workers throughout the land to the oppressed workers of the Steel Trust in the three and one-half months' strike brought food to nearly 500,000 including strikers and their families, the funds being proportioned in accord with the need.

In the main, the food supplies were sent out from the Tri-State Co-operative Wholesale Society in Pittsburgh; but in the far-off points it was impractical to ship, and commissary checks were sent to cover their pro-rata share of the relief funds. These points included Chicago, Wheeling, (W. Va.) Birmingham (Ala.), and Bethlehem (Pa.)

In the summary made out by Enoch Martin, auditor of District 12, United Mine Workers of America, whose services were contributed to the national committee without expenses by Frank Farrington, president of the Illinois miners, the expenditures were made as follows:

Meat and groceries	\$178,695
Commissary checks	93,082
Labor and expenses	3,612
Freight and drayage	3,757
Bread	46,800
Potatoes	22,600

Jay G. Brown, who is carrying on the educational war in the steel district from the old headquarters stated that the reports represent "an accomplishment without parallel in the history of the labor movement."

He added:

"The national committee began its work on the theory that any men in any industry could be organized if they could be reached with the message of unionism. This report proves the correctness of this theory. This report should convey a lesson and furnish an inspiration to the labor movement of this country. It means that with

the application of these same principles any industry in America can be organized.

"The report of the relief fund is equally noteworthy. It must be remembered that at the beginning of the steel strike there were, as nearly as could be calculated, 367,000 men involved; 100,000 of these men were still on strike when it was called off. It lasted about three and one-half months.

"To have handled the great mass of supplies, shipped them to

the various strike centers and to have distributed them without friction or delay to the strikers was little short of marvelous.

"Just as the campaign of organization was without a precedent in its magnitude and in the bitterness of the opposition overcome, so the administration of the relief fund in a satisfactory manner under so many complicating handicaps has nothing comparing with it in the history of the labor struggles of this country."

Labor Going Over the Top In Europe

"Whatever happens in Europe from now on, it is my belief that Labor will play the first violin," said Mr. Benjamin Schlesinger, President of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, in an interview with a representative of The New Majority. Mr. Schlesinger returned from Europe two weeks ago and was in Chicago March 26-27 on invitation of the local garment workers to tell of his experiences across the water.

Germany will quiet down presently with a labor government in power, he stated. The working people were expecting the junkers to attempt a revolution, but not so quickly. The failure of the junkers' adventure gave the labor unions the chance to obtain concessions from the Ebert government. One of the main troubles was that the Ebert government had made too close an alliance with the capitalists to suit the unions. The failure of the militarists' attempt has not only settled forever the question of a return of the kaiser but has delivered the government once more into the hands of the labor union.

Two things are absolutely necessary, Mr. Schlesinger asserted, before Europe can hope for recovery financially or industrially. First, the peace treaty with Germany will have to be revised. Second, the blockade with Russia must be lifted as soon as possible.

Mr. Schlesinger said:

"In every country that I visited people had begun to realize that the blockade was one of the biggest crimes ever perpetrated, not only on the Russian people, but on the peoples of all Europe. Russia has need of the things other European countries can send, while Austria, Germany, Poland and the rest are starving for exports that Russia was in the habit of sending them.

"The treaty is considered a farce which cannot possibly be imposed. Not only would it completely destroy Germany, but it would also hurt all the countries which depend on Germany. The Allies are beginning to see this now."

Mr. Schlesinger stated that conditions in the interior of Germany and Austria were beyond description. Children are everywhere so weak that their legs will not support their bodies. A dollar was worth 260 kronen when Mr. Schlesinger was in Austria. Before the war the exchange was five kronen to a dollar. Said he:

"I would willingly have spent twenty kronen for an egg, if I could have gotten one, but eggs were simply not to be had. I was hungry the entire time I was in Austria. It is impossible to ima-

gine what the people have gone through and are still suffering. One who has not seen cannot picture how terrible are the everyday nights in the streets of Vienna. As to Poland, it is my belief that conditions are worse there today than they were six weeks ago. Transportation difficulties still exist so that no new shipments have been made into Poland. The people must naturally have depleted the supply of food on hand since there has been no harvest."

Mr. Schlesinger was in consultation with labor leaders in all the six countries which he visited. He said that the voice of labor was listened to in Europe as it never had been before. In England there are predictions that Labor will sweep the next elections and in that case even the king will be eliminated. He said:

"The English Labor leaders knew all about the coal injunction incident in America. They said such a thing would be absolutely impossible in England. It is my opinion that the exaggerated autocracy which rules in the United States is able to do much as it chooses because Labor is not politically organized here as it is in European countries. In France, in Germany, in England, Labor has its own political parties so strong as to compel attention and make impossible the tyranny we endure in America."

Mr. Schlesinger sketched a plan which is afoot for organizing an alliance of the six needle trades unions in the United States with a national council. The organization will be affiliated with the A. F. of L., and will include the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, the International Ladies' Garment Workers, the United Garment Workers, Journeymen Tailors, capmakers and furmakers. The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union will hold a convention in Chicago in May at which time the plan will be presented to them. If accepted it will be presented to the other organizations mentioned above. It is thought that the amalgamation may take place within the next six months if all the organizations approve the scheme.

—The New Majority.

JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly.

Published every Friday by the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union
Office, 31 Union Square, New York, N. Y. Tel. Stuyvesant 1126
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Subscription price paid in advance, \$1.00 per year.

VOL. II. No. 15.

Friday, April 9, 1920.

Entered as Second Class matter January 25, 1919, at the Postoffice at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879.
Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized on January 25, 1919.

EDITORIALS

A CORRECTION

Anxiety and nervousness were, contrary to our prediction last week, the last things to be read on the faces of the members of the General Executive Board who met last week in Philadelphia. There was indeed nothing in their record which could make them feel uneasy. The story of their achievements for the last two years showed so strikingly that not only did they acquit themselves in a splendid manner of all the tasks imposed upon them, but also that they accomplished much more than they were expected to do.

Of course, it is human to make mistakes. And the members of the General Executive Board are not so self-assured as to believe that their acts and achievements leave no place for criticism. Besides, they knew very well that as long as there will be critics there will be found things to be criticized. And as far as critics are concerned, the International cannot boast that it was saved from them by some wise hand. The International has, like any other organization, its professional fault finders, its eternal opponents, who think that it is their duty always to oppose, no matter whether the opposition is justified or not. The International, too, has its self-dramatists, who are convinced that they can do things better than any one else, that they can succeed where others failed, that they could accomplish miracles, if they were only given a chance to keep the reins in their own hands. The International has also its storm-and-stressers for whom everything shows of the ultra-radicalism is conservative and old-fashioned, and to whose red standards no union leader can come up.

Conscious of what they have achieved for the last two years, the members of the General Executive Board felt quite safe to face any criticism. The question of the possibility of their not being elected for the future seemed to worry them but little. An election is any way a capricious thing.

CONVENTION PROBLEMS

The fate of a convention is largely determined by the character of the delegates that make it up. We have all reasons to believe that the members of our Unions were guided above all by this true, in electing delegates for the coming Convention of the International, that they have picked out from the large number of aspirants as their representatives only those that were known for their intelligence as well as for their loyalty and devotion to the interests and ideals of Unionism.

In laying so much stress upon the intelligence and fitness of the

delegates, we naturally expect that only intelligent representatives will be able to accomplish certain things. The question naturally arises, what do we expect intelligent representatives to do.

To answer the question what intelligent Union representatives have to do we must first know what they have to be. A Union representative must above all be able to grapple with immediate issues, to have a practical sense for losses and gains, to see clearly what is going on around him. All this may be sufficient for his daily task. To be truly a representative of the interest of the Union he needs something more, he must have ideals and vision. While standing with both legs on the firm ground of reality, while chained to the actual and real, he must also have an eye for the possible and a vision for the future. An intelligent Union representative is only he who combines practical sense with idealism, an idealism capable of inspiring large masses with hope and enthusiasm. A genuine Union representative is not the one who acts only in conformity with tradition and who is afraid of making a new step, because we have become great and powerful by our old methods, why then look for new roads!

In short, intelligent Union representatives are those who are able to utilize the lessons of the failures and victories of the past in the service of the future.

It is only from such delegates that we can expect plans and accomplishments of a progressive character. And it is only by striving for more that we can avoid stagnation and the danger of losing what we have gained already.

The old shibboleths of trade unionism can hardly satisfy us any longer. Larger wages cannot be an end in itself for any reflective workman. The Railroad Brotherhood says quite rightly in the report on the Plumb Plan that an increase in wages does not offer any remedy for existing evils. The cost of living grows in proportion with the increase in wages. With his higher wages the worker is by no means better off than he was at the time when both his wages and the cost of living were lower.

Shorter hours, too, cannot be the final aim of the workers. It is obvious that hours cannot be shortened indefinitely. The production of the necessities of life requires a certain amount of time beyond which we cannot go. The shortening of hours has therefore an absolute limit at which we shall have to stop sooner or later.

The real aim of the workers has to be to become masters of their own destinies. Beside this great problem everything else dwindles into insignificance. And it is with a view to this end that all our policies have to be shaped. To obtain for the workers a share

in the control of production would be the first step in this direction.

We think that this problem has become actual and imperative enough to deserve all the attention of the Convention.

A few weeks ago we suggested in connection with the question of the Million Dollar Fund that it would be advisable to raise a fund not only for the purpose of erecting houses of our own, but also for the purpose of opening cloak factories of our own which should belong to and be managed by workers. We were glad to learn that Schlesinger had a similar idea in mind, and that he even worked out a plan by which to carry it out. He intends to propose it before the coming Convention.

Serious objections may be made against this plan, objections which are usually made against the attempt at realizing any new idea. It may be said that the Union would lose much prestige in case this enterprise were to prove a failure. And the obstacles to be overcome are indeed so many as to make us doubtful as to the success of the outcome. It is also true that we are not very rich in people capable of taking care of such an enterprise. But still it cannot be denied that the idea is pregnant with possibilities, and that the Convention has to bestow upon it all the seriousness which it deserves.

Schlesinger does not seem to be the only one to cherish such revolutionary ideas. We have learned of late that a committee representing various locals of the Cloakmakers' Union is busy even with more ambitious plans. It talks of opening a series of groceries, dairies, banks, etc.

The members of this committee mean certainly well. But we for our part fail to see what direct connection all this has with the needs and problems that affect the cloakmakers as cloakmakers. Besides, it seems rather strange to us that cloakmakers should think of opening groceries and banks, things of which they have very faint ideas, and not strike upon the idea of opening cloak factories with which they are very familiar and which concerns them vitally and directly. The idea of opening cloak factories may seem to many too revolutionary. But we hope that our delegates will be intelligent and idealistic enough not to look for the easy problem, even if it is revolutionary. We advise them to start to study this im-

portant question at once, in order to be able to pass later a judgment upon its merits or demerits.

WHITE GOODS WORKERS' UNION

The situation in the White Goods Workers' Union can by no means be said to be normal. In spite of years of efficient activity, of important achievements, the Union was powerless to bring under its sway all the members of the trade. It is a fact that only half of the workers of this trade belong to the Union. The Union evidently satisfied itself with what it had, did not make any attempts to attract the large bulk of the white goods workers.

Such a policy of acquiescence and passivity on the part of a Union is suicidal. Lincoln's words that a country cannot remain half free and half enslaved can be applied with equal reason. The power of a Union is precarious as long as a large part of the members of the industry are not organized. A union which is organized and which every worker has naturally not to strive for more members, for the simple reason that there is no one to be organized. But a Union which has organized only a part of the workers of a trade has to apply all its efforts to reach every worker in order to make the Union stronger. Otherwise, the Union is not only unable to retain its present position but it is also doomed to retreat.

It may be that this is the reason why the White Goods Workers' Union has become so active of late. In any case the campaign started by this Local for the purpose of unionizing all white goods workers who remained up to the present outside of the camp of organized labor is the best thing that the Union could do. This campaign deserves all our sympathy and encouragement. We are certain that it will prove to be a great success. What better argument can the leaders of the Union give to the white goods workers than the splendid record of their achievements, a record which is all the more telling as only a part of the workers were willing to do their duty. Every white goods worker can easily draw the obvious conclusion that the Union will be able to accomplish much more, when every member of the trade will become a member of the Union.

THE "PATRIOTISM" OF CAPITAL

Eduard Bernstein, one of the most respected and independent veterans of the German Social Democracy, made an astounding announcement at the German Socialist Congress held a week before the Kapp coup. Reading from an unpublished memoir by "the director of a great German industrial firm, a man standing clear of the Independents" (Dr. Wilhelm Muehlen, of Krupp's), he declared that a quarter of a million tons of German steel were exported from Germany to England in 1915, during the war! The revelation does not appear to have stirred the Congress deeply; Germans have become used to public washing of extremely dirty wartime linen. It recalls the revelations made in the French Chamber a year ago—revelations which have never received their due emphasis in the foreign press. A Norwegian schooner bound for Hamburg, carrying nickel purchased by Krupp from a French firm, was seized in the Channel by a French warship in

September, 1914; it was taken to Brest, and released by order of the French Ministry, to continue its voyage! The great steel furnaces of the Briey Basin, operated by the Germans during their occupation, lay within easy range of French guns for four years. But they were only twice bombarded—once by canon, and once from airplanes, and in each case the officer responsible for damaging the French property which was so useful to the Germans was reprimanded. There were German holdings in the French concern owning these furnaces, but the controlling interest was French. The president was a member of the French Chamber (since re-elected), while his brother was a naturalized German. Bit by bit the sordid story of the financial Internationale, which functioned when republican Internationalists were forbidden, leaks out. Mr. Wilson said the war had economic causes; some day we shall learn more of its economic ramifications.—The Nation.

Industrial Conditions In Germany

By B. SCHLESINGER

(NOTE—President Schlesinger began to write the following article while in Berlin and finished it on his way to Paris.)

On arriving in Berlin, after trotting about for a week in the mud of Warsaw, and starving for another week in Vienna, one feels as if one entered paradise. At least that is the way I felt during the ten days of my stay there. My room was warm, I got enough to eat, and above all, I was spared an hour's work every morning cleaning the dirt off my trousers and overcoat. The streets in Berlin are cleaned as they are in Paris and London.

But this must not be taken as indicating that everything is in good order in Germany. On the surface this seems to be the case. The sidewalks are crowded with busy people, the subways and street cars are jammed, and it is impossible to secure tickets for the theatre. Mr. Cahan, Manager of the German Theatre, told me that the success of the theatre this season was unprecedented—but when one looks deeper one can readily see that Germany is shattered and it will take long before it will really be what the first impression seems to convey.

The Germans are able and energetic, much abler and more energetic than the French or even the British. But a lost war and the victors surrounding them on every side with drawn swords are paralyzing their energy and ability. When a lion is locked in an iron cage there is little use of his great strength.

But this is not the greatest evil. The condition of the currency is by far the most alarming evil in Germany to-day. The mark dropped in value to such a degree that it is absolutely impossible for it to buy in other countries the articles which could not be produced in Germany, and without which it could not play any role in the world market. For every article that Germany buys from England, it must now pay 17 times as much as it did before the war, and for every article bought in America, it must pay 25 times as much. In other words, what Germany could buy for one mark before the war, it must now pay 17 marks in England and 25 marks in America.

The war, the peace, conditions and the currency have crippled Germany, and if you will read reports in the press that Germany has concluded peace with Russia it is not out of love or friendship for the Bolsheviks, or of opposition to the Allies, but out of weakness and despair. If it cannot trade with the Allied countries, it will be compelled to deal with Soviet Russia. In fact, there is a long article in Maximilian Harden's *Zukunft* demanding that Germany concludes peace with Russia.

The ten days I spent in Berlin were the most interesting of my entire trip. I have found there a gigantic organization of garment workers and a big cloakmakers' strike; and when there are strikes, there are conferences with employers and mass meetings of strikers. I felt very much at home everywhere. My "German" made a big hit. Both the employers and workers thought that I have

learned it during my short stay in Berlin, and they admired my ability to learn languages. That I was born in the province of Kovno, that I spoke "German" 42 years ago, and that my father and mother could also speak "German," they were not aware. The cloakmakers' strike, by the way, was settled after a struggle of four days. The employers granted the demand for a wage increase of 75 to 90 per cent.

I had the honor and pleasure to gain the friendship of the great Socialist leaders, Comrades Eduard Bernstein and Karl Kautsky and their families. I had to come daily to Comrade Bernstein for dinner, supper or tea. Both he and his wife treated me as if I were their own child. It is long since I have witnessed so much friendship.

It is not enough to say that I gained a better understanding of Socialism from my conversations with them. They simply made a scholar out of me, particularly in the matter of the Internationale. Comrade Bernstein has many times discussed with me the question which Internationale we have to support, and it seems to me that I could even deliver a lecture on this subject.

Before I left Berlin, both Comrades Bernstein and Kautsky sent me letters stating their views on the present situation in the Socialist movement and appealing to the American workers that they bear no hatred to the workers of those countries with which America was in war, and that they help to establish the international bonds and solidarity among the workers of the world.

• • • • •

Through the friendship of Comrade Bernstein, I have had the opportunity of meeting Ebert and Bauer, the Socialist President and Chancellor of the German Republic, and to have long conversations with them about Germany, the Government, the role of the Socialists since the beginning of the war, the tragic death of Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg, the Reichstag, Russia, and many other things about which, I as a Socialist, was anxious to hear their opinions.

The quarters occupied by Ebert and Bauer are those occupied by Wilhelm and the former Chancellors. Nothing seemed to have been touched. There were the same rich carpets, desks, chairs, the same oil paintings. I must confess that I felt uncomfortable during the fifteen minutes I waited in the reception room. They may have become lofty and unapproachable. They may not understand my "German," and they may become disappointed that instead of an American Yankee they will behold a Jew from America. But when finally I was admitted to their office, and after we have exchanged a few words, I have totally forgotten that I am in the presence of the President and Chancellor of the German Republic. They both look like men who spent their lives among workers, and when they talk about factories, you realize that you have to do with "boys" who not only make speeches but who led strikes and picketed when that was required.

They understood my "German" and answered all my questions. Many of their explanations were extremely unsatisfactory to me, and when I told them my reasons, it seemed to me that they were in agreement with me. Their agreement with me was especially evident in my references to Nooske. We spoke a good deal about Nooske, but their remarks were non-committal. The same was true about Heine. It was apparent that Nooske and Heine are persona non grata with them.

I have spent many hours with the leaders of the Independent Socialists, with the Right and Left, and with the comrades who are not leaders. On my trip I have heard different opinions about the German Socialists and I was interested to speak with representatives of every group and to hear what they have to say. In short, I was busy every minute of my stay in Berlin.

I have also spent an entire afternoon in the building of the Berlin

"Forward." It is not as high as our New York "Forward" Building, it is only four stories high, but it is much larger. It has the most gigantic printing presses and the best modern instalments I have ever seen.

Several weeks ago Comrade Bernstein reached his 70th birthday, and the German Socialists and trade unionists celebrated this occasion through mass meetings and entertainments. At one of these meetings I was invited (by Comrade Bernstein himself) and I will never forget the pleasant hours I spent there. The meeting took place in the City Hall, and all the prominent leaders of the movement were present. There was singing, there were speeches, and there was no lack of beer. There was a general demand that I speak, and I could not resist the temptation and spoke. I spoke in English and Comrade Bernstein translated my speech into German.

(To be continued)

American Federation of Labor and the Political Campaign

Matthew Woll, Vice-President of the American Federation of Labor, President of the International Photo-Engravers' Union, and President of the International Labor Press Association of America, forwarded to more than three hundred trade union publications in the United States an appeal for their energetic cooperation in the National Non-Partisan Political Campaign.

Mr. Woll expressed himself as "confident that the response will be a credit to the great Labor press." He said further "The spirit of American liberty calls the good citizenship of the nation into action," and advised labor editors to "wield the pen as a gleaming unerring weapon for the common good." Mr. Woll's letter to the labor editors follows: "Editors of the Labor Press of America,

Dear Sirs and Brothers:

As President of the International Labor Press Association of America, I call your attention to the urgent need for rallying all forces in Labor's first fight for victory in the present political campaign. The American labor movement, through the National Non-Partisan Political Campaign Committee, is waging a fight for the great masses of our people against privilege and greed and reaction. Throw your strength into the struggle.

The slogan of the fight is: "Stand faithfully by our friends and elect them. Oppose our enemies and defeat them, whether they be candidates for President, for Congress, or other

offices, whether executive legislative or judicial."

There are more than 300 labor publications in the United States. They have an aggregate circulation of millions of copies. They speak faithfully for Labor and they are read closely and with confidence by the masses of the working people.

The United voice of the American labor press is one of the great voices always raised in defense of justice and freedom. No voice in the publication world speaks with greater effect. Three hundred newspapers and magazines fighting unitedly for Labor's cause and the cause of the great American citizenship in this political struggle must compel attention. It is fitting that your columns should reflect the needs and desires of the people in this trying hour.

I call upon you to give every assistance to the National Non-Partisan Political Campaign Committee, confident that the response will be a credit to the great labor press. The battle has begun. The lines are forming. It is the duty of the labor press to make this historic fight in the manner of true crusaders.

The spirit of American Liberty calls the good citizenship of the nation into action. Wield the pen as a gleaming, unerring weapon for the common good.

For the progress we have won, for all that we hope to win and for the greatest good of all our people, I am,

Yours fraternally,

MATTHEW WOLL,
President,
International Labor Press
Association of America.

By I. LEWIN

The Executive Board, at its session on Tuesday, March 30, took up the question of the \$10.00 assessment which was levied on the membership by the Special General Meeting on Monday, March 1, as our quota towards the "Million Dollar Defense Fund," and the following was decided upon:

The first \$5.00 payment is to be made during the period beginning April 5, 1939, and ending July 1, 1939.

The second \$5.00 payment is to be made during the period beginning July 1, 1939, and ending Nov. 15, 1939.

Our members, realizing the importance of the "Million Dollar Defense Fund," are eager to pay this assessment, and our Financial Secretary Brother Samuels reports that many have approached him with inquiries as to when the assessment stamps will be ready for distribution.

During the last few weeks, a number of our members who were found in their shops on Saturday afternoon were fined heavily by the Executive Board. In almost each and everyone of these cases where the men have been found in the shops on Saturday afternoon by committees of our Union, the same excuse was given by all of them: "I did not stay in on Saturday afternoon to work for the firm; I was there just to fit a dress for the wife of one of my friends, or I cut a dress for a tailor in the shop; etc." We wish to warn all those who are in the habit of staying in after hours on Saturday that these excuses will not be accepted, as valid by the Executive Board, for, according to our Constitution, no member is permitted to stay in the shop between 2 noon on Saturday and 8 A. M. on Monday.

The last meeting of the Cloak and Suit Division was visited by the young and enthusiastic organizer, Brother J. Diamond, of the new local of the International, known as the Ladies' Garment Clerks' Local No. 30. Brother Diamond addressed the meeting, explaining the objects of the newly-organized Union, and requested all members working in the different shops to try and help him in his work by inducing the shipping clerks, stock clerks, etc., to join the organization. It is needless for us to elaborate on the importance of organizing the clerks in the ladies' garment shops, for the cutters best of all know of what importance the organized clerks can be to the Unions in the needle industry, in times of strike. The organizer, Brother Diamond, can be seen every day at 22 West 17th Street, where he has his temporary headquarters.

The trade is slackening down a bit and a number of our members are out of work. The office is at present busy with enforcing "equal division of work," and every complaint of this nature is being promptly attended to. The business agents of all divisions are controlling the shops now and are making strenuous efforts to prevent manufacturers and contractors from doing their own cutting. Of course, it requires a great deal of work on their part, but our business agents, as usual, are ever ready to perform the duties that are imposed upon

them. In many instances, employers have been stopped off and cutters placed to work. The office has collected a few hundred dollars in fines during the last few weeks from manufacturers who were found doing their own cutting. This money goes to the Relief Fund of our Union.

While the recommendation of the Executive Board to increase the dues from \$35 to \$35 per week was defeated at the recent special meeting of our Union, this matter is by no means settled as yet. For while it is true that our treasury, at the present moment, is more prosperous than ever before, still, the Union is not an ordinary business affair, for the stronger it is the more enemies it is bound to make among the employing class, and we naturally may expect trouble at any time. A rich treasury is one of the means of commanding respect from our manufacturers.

Most of the locals of the I. L. G. W. U. have realized this and have long before decided to increase the dues from \$35 to \$35 and \$40 weekly. Local No. 6, which is considered the "fighting local" of the International, should not fall behind in this respect. The General Secretary intends to bring this matter up once more before the Executive Board for consideration, and the proposition will probably be brought up again at another meeting of our Union called for this purpose.

IN OUR EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

The courses at the Workers' University, Washington Irving High School, Irving Place, and 14th St., have been resumed.

On Friday, at 2 P. M., Mr. Leon Ardzoorn will conduct his class in Economics of the Industrial System, for business agents and other officers of the local union.

Messrs. Henry Davidoff and Samuel Glotzer will conduct their classes in English Grammar and Written Composition, Friday, April 9th, at 3:30 P. M., for business agents and other officers of the local unions.

The following courses of lectures will take place at the Workers' University, for all members of the International:

Psychology by Dr. Horace M. Kallen, at 2 P. M., on Saturday, April 19th.

Public Speaking—Correction of Speech Defects, by Mr. Gustav F. Schulz, on Saturday, April 10th, at 3 P. M.

English: Grammar and Written Composition by Mr. Samuel Glotzer, on Saturday, April 10th, at 3 P. M.

Present Tendencies in Literature by Mr. B. J. R. Stolper, on Saturday, at 2 P. M.

Economics of the Industrial System by Mr. Leon Ardzoorn, at 2:30 P. M., on Saturday, April 10th.

Psychology by Dr. Samuel A. Tannenbaum, on Sunday, April 11th, at 10 A. M.

Public Speaking—Correction of Speech Defects by Mr. Gustav F. Schulz, on Sunday, April 11th, at 11:30 A. M.

Public Speaking—Correction of Speech Defects by Mr. Herman Gray, on Sunday, April 11th, at 11:30 A. M.

All of our members are urged to attend these lectures.

UNITY CLASSES RESUME WORK APRIL 8th.

Lucy Retting, Ed. Supervisor
Beginning April 8th, the students at the Waistmakers' Unity Center resumed their classwork in English, Swimming, Recreation and Mandolin.

Lectures will probably begin again the week of April 12th. Miss Babbette Deutsch who lectured on the "Beginning of Poetry" the Friday preceding the Easter recess proved very able and interesting. Those who heard her at that time are looking forward to her second lecture which will doubtless be given Friday, April 16, 1939.

Lectures on Health and Economics will also be continued by Dr. Greenberg and Miss Daniels. Dr. Greenberg will lecture on First Aid Thursday, April 15th, at 8 P. M., in Public School 40.

THE STAGE

By Frances Robbins

"LOOK WHO'S HERE"

More than unusually diverting is "Look Who's Here," now playing at the Harris Theatre. Like all musical comedies, the plot is merely a background for pretty girls, catchy music and clever lines. Of these, "Look Who's Here," has more than its share. "Bobby" Holmes' wife is about to leave him. He calls in a "matrimonial plumber" Rocomond Purcell, who agrees to adjust matters by pretending to be Bobby's real wife. His friend Horace Bream not long before this has married Dorothy Chase, but under the assumed name of Robert Holmes. He has left her and she follows him to the same hotel where Bobby is staying, only to find that she is the wife of the wrong man. So here we have our poor hero with three wives on his hands. How he extricates himself from his predicament forms the theme for this entertaining musical comedy.

Cecil Lean as Bobby, smiles, shows his flashing teeth and the audience laughs at whatever Cecil thinks is funny. For instance, while Dorothy's father roars that he has left a sick bed to follow his daughter, Bobby politely hopes that he will find the bed better when he gets back.

Cleo Mayfield is little Miss Fix-it. She sings and talks with a nasal drawl that makes even commonplace lines seem inexplicably dull.

Louise Kelley as Caroline, Bobby's wife, is pleasing. Alicia and Mary McCarthy, Georgie, Mack,

Sylvie de Frankie, Dave Quixano, Madje Bush and others help to round out an excellent cast.

"THE WONDERFUL THING"

Accents, Boston and foreign seem to be extremely popular this season with some of our stage favorites—as witness Leonore Ulrich-Lauriette Taylor and others. And now comes Jean Eagles in "The Wonderful Thing," at the Playhouse. Her accent is French and with a running accompaniment of typically Gallic getasurs. The combination is truly charming.

The "wonderful thing," as you may have guessed, is what the poets would have us believe the most wonderful thing in life-love. We are almost inclined to agree with the poets after following the love story of Jaqueline Laurentie.

The scenes are laid in England in the bosom of an aristocratic English family. The Mannerbys are proud, but almost penniless and on the verge of a crash. The family consists of Mrs. Mannerby, a gentle old lady—her three daughters, Mrs. Truesdale, Mrs. Fosdick and Angelica, and her sons Donald and Laurie. Laurie has got himself into a bad scrape, and Donald, in desperate need of money, is unable to help him. Mrs. Fosdick's friend, Jaqueline,

is a wealthy French girl and very much in love with Donald. Although Donald doesn't really love her at the time, he yields to temptation and marries Jaqueline—principally for the advantage her money will give him. Jaqueline, of course, does not know this.

Captain Carser, an unscrupulous gambler, who has been blackmailing Donald, in an interview with Jaqueline, "spills the beans." Her grief is almost overwhelming and an estrangement between Donald and herself follows. But Donald really does care for her, and since love is so wonderful and can accomplish anything, the final curtain falls on the reunited couple.

Jean Eagles as Jaqueline, is delightful. We all remember her in Daddies. (Who could ever forget that sea-sick scene!) But her role in "The Wonderful Thing" is so different, that we realize afresh the versatility of this talented young actress.

Donald is played by Gordon Ash, who gives a very good portrait of the typical reserved, honored English gentleman. Henry Duffy, as the wayward young Laurie, is very youthful and appealing. Fred Tiden plays Captain Carser, in a convincingly cool way. Olive Temple is Mrs. Mannerby, Gladys Maude is Mrs. Truesdale and Jane Marbury is Angelica. Others in the cast are Edward Lester, George Schaeffer, Philip Dunning and Eva Boyce.

LABOR NEWS HERE AND ABROAD

H. G. OF L. BEATS RACE WITH WAGES

That the average rate of union wages has increased but forty-eight per cent since 1913 is the subject of a report made by Royal Meeker, Chief of the Bureau of Statistics of the United States Department of Labor, in the February Labor Review.

The statistics are based on the minimum rates as provided in agreements with employers. On the other hand the cost of living has advanced more than 100 per cent.

It is commonly thought by the public, getting its information from the kept press, that the present unrest is unwarranted and that Labor is simply greedy for more. Mr. Meeker's statistics explain the unrest more vividly than anything else could do.

Labor scarcely got enough in 1913 to keep the wolf from the door. Now it has less than fifty per cent of what it had in 1913. Is it any wonder there is unrest?

PREMIER ADMITS FEAR OF REVOLT ENDED FRENCH RAILWAY STRIKE

One of the shortest and yet most successful strikes ever conducted was the great railway strike in France in February, caused by the discharge of an active union member from the service of one of the roads. Two hundred and seventy-five thousand members of the Federation of Railway Workers laid down their tools. The government answered by mobilizing all strikers of military age, but this failed to weaken their morale, and the demand for democratization of the roads came to the front. In less than three days the government reached an agreement with the strikers, and the men went back to work without being penalized.

In explaining the concession of the government, Premier Millerand intimated to the House of Deputies that failure to take prompt action might have resulted in a general strike with revolutionary consequences.

BELGIAN LABOR TO STRIKE FOR REDUCED LIVING COST

The Belgian Labor Congress, which opened in Brussels on April 3, has resolved by a large majority upon conditional participation of the Socialists in the Government. If reforms in the cost of living, the taxation of capital, and industrial conditions are not adopted at the present parliamentary session, they will withdraw.

The congress also declared upon a twenty-four hour general strike on May Day as a protest against the cost of living and with the object of obtaining realization of the Socialist programme.

200 PER CENT DIVIDEND

The Continental Oil Co. is the first Standard Oil subsidiary to take advantage of the United States Supreme Court decision that stock dividends are not taxable under the income tax law.

The Continental Company has declared a stock dividend of 200 per cent. There will be distributed 60,000 shares of the new stock at a par value of \$100 each. The dividend rate of 12 per cent will be paid on the new stock. Under the Supreme Court's decision the per cent dividend will be as "income" and can be

taxed, but the company's profits that are turned into stock dividends escape taxation.

MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP WINS IN DETROIT

The proposal to bond the city of Detroit for \$15,000,000 with which to begin the building of a municipally owned street railway system to compete with the present Detroit United Railway carried at the election, Monday, Apr. 5, according to complete figures tabulated. The vote was 89,255 in favor of the bonding issue and 51,093 against, or 63.6 per cent of the total vote cast, against a required 60 per cent.

The municipal ownership proposal was the dominating figure of the election in Detroit, a campaign of extreme bitterness preceding the election.

SOCIALISTS VICTORIOUS IN MILWAUKEE AND DETROIT

A splendid answer to the arid and audacious slander made by Sweet and the servile Assemblymen of the Albany Legislature against the Socialist Party is supplied by the city elections in Milwaukee and Detroit. The Socialist Mayor of Milwaukee, Daniel W. Hoan, was re-elected by a majority of 5,000, and fifteen Socialist Aldermen were returned out of the total number of 25, giving Milwaukee a complete Socialist city administration. The Socialist candidate Paul Taylor was elected Alderman in the city of Detroit. This is the first time that a Socialist was elected in Detroit for this office.

LABOR PARTY WINS IN IOWA

The election in Clinton, Iowa, was a landslide for the Labor Party. The total vote in the city was 5,284. Harry W. Cowles was elected mayor on the Labor Party ticket by 1,205 plurality. Every candidate on the Labor Party ticket except two aldermen, was elected. The city auditor, city attorney, city engineer, city assessor, park commissioner, two aldermen at large and five aldermen from the wards were elected by pluralities ranging from 73 to 1,224.

Wallace M. Short was also re-elected mayor of Sioux City, Iowa, on the Labor Party ticket.

MUNICIPAL STORES IN PARIS

The 158 stores operated by the Municipal Council of Paris, France, did a business last December to the amount of 14,505,102 francs. In March, 1919, there were 37 of these stores, and the increase to 158 is due to demands of organized labor that unnecessary profits of middlemen be reduced. Food and other products are sold at cost plus distribution expense. About 2,000 workers are employed, under union conditions.

ANITA LOEW IN RECITAL

A Great Musical Event

Anita Loew, the distinguished Prima Donna and the particular forgotten friend of our union, to whom the members often had the great pleasure to listen at their gatherings, will give a concert at Aeolian Hall on Thursday evening, April 8th.

Miss Loew has arranged an extraordinary fine program of arias and songs. Russian composers have a prominent place on it.

Out of a feeling of friendship for the union members Miss Loew has generously reduced for them the price of the \$1.10 tickets to 60 cents and the \$1.65 tickets to \$1.15.

As, on account of Miss Loew's fame and popularity, the demand for tickets is beyond all expectation, the members had better not delay in securing their tickets at once at the Educational Department of the International. None of the members should miss this musical event.

DR. BARNET L.
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To Members of the I. L. G. W. U.

Have you ever considered what the loss of the Rand School, the People's House, would mean to you and your friends? For 15 years this institution has been the center of the labor educational movement of the country. Hundreds of its students every year are I. L. G. W. U. members. In fulfilling this function it has at the same time become a favorite social center of its students. The closing of the School would indeed be the loss of a "People's House."

Because of its general activities and wide sphere of influence it has suffered much at the hands of the Lusk Committee and the courts. Reactionary forces have threatened to close the School, and the result of their work is that we are now facing the greatest crisis in our history. The yearly deficit is ominous in its proportions. Friends are needed as never before.

Not only for the sake of the thousands of young men and women whom it directly serves, but for the sake of the whole labor educational movement, the Rand School must be saved and kept safe. The task before us is large. No small group of people can accomplish the work. Its success requires the united, whole-hearted support of all its friends. As a member of this group, we count on you to do your share.

SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO

THE RAND SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

7 EAST 15th STREET

BERTHA H. MAILLY, Executive Secretary.

CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10, ATTENTION.

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETINGS

WAIST & DRESS Monday, April 12th.
MISCELLANEOUS: Monday, April 19th.
GENERAL: Monday, April 26th.
CLOAK & SUIT Monday, May 3rd.

Special Order of Business: Case of Bro. Jos. R. Scheftel.

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

Cutters of All Branches

should secure a card when going in to work and return it when laid off. They must also change their cards when securing an increase.

A Notable Musical Event

THE RAND SCHOOL ORCHESTRA

(CARL ROGGLER, Director)

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Mr. & Mrs.

Alexander Bloch

AT THE

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ADMISSION 30 CENTS

TUESDAY EVE., APRIL 16th.

NEW COURSES

RAND SCHOOL, 7 EAST 15TH STREET

Soviet Russia
CHARLES KUNZ

6 lectures on Fridays, April 9, 16, 23, 30, May 7, 14. Fee \$2.

War and Peace; Russian Literature since Tolstoi
GREGORY ZILBOORG

12 lectures at 8.30 on Fridays, April 10 to June 25 inc. Fee \$4.

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County of New York ss.

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Elias Lieberman, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Business Manager of the Justice and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:
Publisher: International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, 31 Union Sq., New York, N. Y.
Editor: E. Yanovsky, 31 Union Sq., New York, N. Y.
Managing Editor: None.
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2. That the owners are: The International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, 31 Union Sq., New York, N. Y.; B. Schlesinger, President, 31 Union Sq., New York, N. Y.; Baroff, Secretary-Treasurer, 31 Union Sq., New York, N. Y. An association not incorporated, consisting of about 120,000 members.

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Elias Lieberman, Manager.
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 27th day of March, 1920.
(Seal) Jacob M. Rosenblatt,
(My commission expires March 30, 1920). Notary Public,
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