

"My righteous-
ness I hold
fast, and will
not let it go."
— Job. 27.(4)

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

JULY PRICE

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CLOAKMAKERS' UNION CALLS MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Beginning next week, the Cloakmakers' Union of New York will call a series of district shop meetings to discuss the current problems in the trade.

The cloak shops which are controlled by the Cloakmakers' Union are divided into districts which in turn are under the supervision of a business agent of the Union. There are about a thousand or fifteen hundred workers to a district. A meeting of the workers of the shops of the American Association Department which are under the supervision of Brother Saul Metz, will be called first. Then the workers of the other districts will be called. Every business agent will be the chairman of his respective district meeting. All the meetings will be addressed by Morris Sigman, Israel Feinberg and other officers of the Joint Board as well as by the managers of the different localities.

The problems to be discussed at the meetings are of the utmost importance to the workers. "There are various rumors and stories circulated among the cloakmakers," said Brother Morris Sigman, "which need a thorough thrashing out. It is important that the Union meets with the large membership face to face and discuss the problems and plans of the organization."

The time and place of the meetings will be announced later.

The first payment of the Million Dollar Defense Fund is still on. The uncertainty in the trade, the various rumors, the apparent decrease of the manufacturers in related industries to combat labor with every weapon possible, not excluding the injunction, has stirred the cloakmakers into making this Fund not merely an aspiration but a reality. It is quite likely that many cloakmakers can not afford to contribute five dollars to the Fund which is the first payment. But they must do their utmost to pay this amount as the best safeguard against the attacks of enemies of labor.

In spite of the many problems that the Cloakmakers' Union is now facing, it is actively engaged in the plan to build a temple for the workers. The Building Committee of the Union is diligently in search of a suitable place for a home of the Cloakmakers' Union. But due to the impossible real estate situation in New York, the proper place cannot so easily be found. The Building Committee is certain, however, that the New York Cloakmakers will in the near future have a beautiful home which will be a remarkable tribute to the entire labor movement.

PLANS COMPLETED FOR THE CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

The next Convention of the International which will be held in Chicago, beginning Monday, May 3, engages the attention of all our members. All the offices of the International unions are buzzing with activities and preparations. There is a general feeling that this convention will be one of the most noteworthy gatherings in the history of American trade unionism.

The subject of the next Convention was uppermost in the deliberations at the meeting of the General Executive Board in Philadelphia last week. Its particular significance is doubtless due to the kind of proposals and plans

that will be submitted for the consideration of the Convention. The General Executive Board at its last meeting has decided to propose several far-reaching plans to the large membership for their adoption.

One proposal is the formation of an international federation of needle trades workers of the world. This proposal comes as a direct result of President Schlesinger's recent trip to Europe.

Another proposal is that the Government investigate into profiteering in the ladies' garment industry on the part of manufacturers and middlemen. As President

(Continued on Page 2)

WORKERS CELEBRATE ANNIVERSARY OF DEBS' IMPRISONMENT

The first anniversary of the imprisonment of Eugene Victor Debs, now serving a ten-year term at Atlanta Penitentiary for violating the Espionage Law by speaking his opinions about the war, was commemorated last Tuesday, April 13, by the Socialists and trade unionists of New York, with meetings throughout the city demanding the release of Debs and the other political prisoners.

After the tireless efforts of devoted individuals who have done all in their power to secure the release of Debs, Kate Richards O'Hare and other political prisoners, there was finally organized an Amnesty Committee which has undertaken a country-wide campaign for their liberation. The Socialist Party together with the Amnesty Committee have during the last week called numerous meetings in various parts of the country, and more successful results are expected to follow. "The fact that the American Federation of Labor is taking an active part in the Amnesty movement clearly shows that there is a wide-spread demand for amnesty of political prisoners among the workers."

Among those visiting Debs was a committee of three, representing Samuel Gompers, in particular, and the American Federation of Labor in general, who came to the Federal prison to speak with Debs on the question of a general amnesty and to bring to him the greetings of President Gompers.

The Amnesty Committee has already done a great deal in securing the transfer of Debs from the cell in which he has been confined at Atlanta Penitentiary to a farm several miles from the prison. The

transfer will take place within a week or ten days. Warden Zerbst, with the permission perhaps of authorities higher-up, took this action on the request of the Amnesty Committee.

On the anniversary of Debs' imprisonment the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party sent him a message of fraternal greetings, expressing the love and admiration of the large masses of workers to the great leader whom our democracy has put behind iron bars.

The message read:

"Dear Gene:
"In the name of the millions you have touched with your love and inspired by your courage, the Socialist Party sends you fraternal greetings, and this message of love on the anniversary of your incarceration.

"Though in a cell, you are too great a man, too magnificent a character, to receive our pity. You have, instead, our admiration, loyalty, and love. By your courage and example you have heartened the disheartened and encouraged the discouraged, and given new enthusiasm to those who have never wavered.

"In your prison cell you are a beacon of light to the suffering masses, and your words are winged messengers that are arousing the people from their slumbers.

"The spirit of our movement is abroad in the land; the day of our victory approaches. We greet you; we clasp your hand, resolved that we, your comrades, shall strive to live as you have lived, single-mindedly, devoted to the workers' cause, to the end that the world may at last be free."

STRIKES OF LADIES' TAILORS STILL UNSETTLED

The strike of the Ladies Tailors' Union, Local 80, against the firm of J. M. Giddings, Fifth Avenue and 46th St., which has discharged 38 workers for union activity is still on. The Union has done everything possible to avert the strike, but the firm stubbornly insisted on nothing short of the destruction of the Organization. The mere fact that the 38 dressmakers employed by the firm joined the Union was sufficient cause for their dismissal. The workers are prepared to combat such arbitrary industrial autocracy, and they are sure of a victory.

The strikes against the firms of Hickson & Co. and Milgrim Bros. are conducted in the same spirit of determination as marked the first days of the strike. The shop of Hickson & Co. is completely paralyzed. All the fitters, 20 in number, went down in sympathy with the other workers. In addition to this Hickson's shop in Boston was also stopped.

The strike against Milgrim Bros. is still fought by the Union with undiminished energy. Due to the injunction issued by a Magistrate Judge, the shop cannot be picketed. The Union has appealed the case to a higher court, and until this order will be reversed, the shop will have to remain unpicketed. The Union warns the workers not to apply for jobs to Milgrim Bros.

The Union announced the names of members who were expelled from the Union for working in that shop. They are: Nathan Shindelheim, Sam Palansky, Henry Stecher, Joe Morris, Nathan Cohn, Morris Rubenstein, Morris Kalmonowitz, S. Bresner, Abram Katz, Julius Walter, Adolph Blumberg, Sam Bergman, Louis Klarman, Nathan Binder, Morris Berman, J. Feldman, Jacob Goldstein, J. Lamhut, Abraham Fashkovsky, Israel Hendel and Jacob Schneider.

The following are the names of the more fortunate members of the Union who were elected as delegates to represent their local to the Convention of the International at Chicago: Frank Magnavato, G. Shuchman, I. Jacobs, M. Goodman and Bernard Chazanoff.

An important membership meeting of the Union will take place Tuesday, April 20. Every member must not fail to be present.

Topics of the Week

The Railroad Strike

WHATEVER the outcome of the railroad strike might be, one thing is certain, however, that it is one of the most far-reaching events in the American labor movement. The railroad strike which began a week ago in Chicago and has spread all over the country is an unauthorized strike. A signed statement was issued by the chief of the Railroad Brotherhoods denouncing the strike as an attempt to destroy the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen and the Switchmen's Union and to promote the One Big Union idea. The statement in part reads: "There can be no settlement of pending wage questions while this illegal action continues. We insist that every member of these Brotherhoods do everything within their power to preserve their existing contracts, and if absorbed may take years to rebuild. The laws of all of our organizations provide penalties for members engaging in illegal strikes, and these penalties will be enforced." The statement is signed by L. E. Sheppard, President of the Order of Brotherhood Conductors, W. G. Lee, President of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, W. S. Stone, Grand Chief of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, and W. S. Carter, President of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers.

It should be remembered that the chiefs of the 'Big Four,' particularly Warren S. Stone, have been identified with the Plumb Plan movement for the nationalization of the railroads. It was said that the leaders of the railroad workers are far in advance of the rank and file, and that they are using all their powers to stir the complacent, conservative workers. Here, it was pointed out, was a case where the leaders are more revolutionary than the rank and file.

But this was only an illusion. The chiefs of the Railroad Brotherhoods did not live up to their declared principles. The methods employed in the campaign for the Plumb Plan show that it is but merely one of the labor planks on the Democratic or Republican ticket instead of the great social movement that it originally seemed to be. But what was most distressing to the railroad workers was the repeated delay of adjusting their controversy with the railroad management. They were first to wait for the cost of living to drop. They were to wait for the various committees and boards to be appointed, split, dissolved and reassembled again. They were to wait until the roads would be handed back to private hands. The leaders of the Railroad Brotherhoods stressed the infinite patience of the workers by their futile tactics. They adopted a policy of lobbying, begging and conferring with politicians. They have avoided politics that the strike will not be used as a weapon in the wage controversy of the railroad workers. In spite of their declared opposition to the Cummins anti-strike bill, the 'Big Four' have virtually abandoned the strike as a weapon of labor.

The workers have gone out on strike in spite of the repeated assurances to the contrary. And the strike is successful. It has paralyzed the transportation from coast to coast. That the strike is

effective can be seen from the fact that General Wood terminated for the time being his campaign for the Presidency and has rushed to Chicago to resume command in suppressing the strike. Another significant sign is that President Wilson has for the first time since last September called a Cabinet meeting. He also has hastened to appoint a Railway Labor Board to adjust the wage controversy. Attorney General Palmer, of Course, has announced that he has conclusive evidence pointing to the fact that the I. W. W. is leading the strike. It is hard to connect Lenin and Trotsky with the Yankee railroad workers. It is unfortunate that the huge majority of the workers are Americans. But Palmer assisted by the public press of the private interests are making out a 'case' of the strike. The opposition to the chiefs of the Railroad Brotherhoods and the strike double helps the railroad owners, Palmer and the servile press to war on the workers. They could now with a clear conscience sue out injunctions against strike leaders and throw them into prison. But the remarkable stand of the workers, their novel methods in conducting the strike may lead this struggle to a victorious end. Already the Pennsylvania Railroad Company has agreed to meet the leaders of the strike and negotiate a settlement. In fact it is the chiefs of the 'Big Four' who are insisting that this is an 'out-law' strike, and that it must not in any way be recognized. The Senate Committee was about to give the strike leaders with a view to investigate the matter. 'Big Four' opposed it on the ground that that would mean recognizing the insurgents.

The strikers make it clear that it is not only a strike for higher wages but for new leadership. They have abandoned for the time being perhaps their old organizations, and have created a new one, the United Railroad Workers of America which they later changed into the United Brotherhood of America. There are over 100,000 workers on strike. Their victory in forcing the industry will doubtless be a victory for the labor movement in America.

The Amalgamated Trial

IT looks as if the courts and the legislatures have been mobilized by our industrial czars with a view to destroy labor organizations. And it cannot be denied that they are doing the work well. Judging by the number of trials and the repressive bills that are brought before the courts and legislatures, it is clear that our plutocrats are determined to make this country safe for themselves. The latest trial is against the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America. It began last Monday in Rochester and it promises to be one of the most important trials in the history of American labor.

The suit against the Amalgamated is brought by Michaels, Stern & Co. of Rochester for a permanent injunction and damages of 100,000 dollars in order to end the strike which was forced on the workers last July, and break the control of the Amalgamated.

The Amalgamated will, of course, be charged by the forces

of Michaels, Stern & Co. with "disloyalty," "un-Americanism," "Bolshevism," etc. The Luakers will doubtless be consulted at critical moments. Lenin and Trotsky and the ousted Socialist Assemblymen will perhaps be brought in as evidence against the Amalgamated. In short, we will have a repetition of what has now become so customary, a trial against the "conspiracy of labor." The Amalgamated has successfully combated all the silly charges of disloyalty. It has become one of the most powerful and progressive labor organizations in this country. The plutocrats of this country aim to destroy this organization and thereby giving a death-blow to the entire labor movement. Will the court serve the interests of the industrial barons or of justice!

Prohibition and the Luakers

SWEET, Lusk and Co. are actively carrying on the war against Socialists, trade unionists, and any other group of people who dare to challenge their rights. On April 13, the Albany Senate passed all three of the Lusk Committee's anti-union bills by substantial majorities. The bill establishing a spy bureau in the office of the Attorney General passed by a vote of 31 to 20. In the case of the bill seeking to abolish the Rand School and other independent educational institutions, the vote was 32 to 18, while the measure inaugurating a "loyalty test" for school teachers before they can qualify was adopted by 43 to 8.

Illuminating information on the methods employed by the law givers of New York has been furnished us by Senator George Thompson. At one point the Senator said: "I don't believe that it is right to use liquor, for instance, to gain votes for the purpose of expelling Socialist members of the Assembly." And he went on to explain what he meant.

"I am told that on the night when the vote of expulsion was taken, liquor was used in large quantities — in fact to excess — that men were so drunk that they had to be carried out of the chamber. That liquor was used to gain votes in favor of expelling the Socialists. Now I don't know those Socialists, and I don't believe in the general theory of Socialism, but I don't think it is right for a lobbyist to use liquor to induce men to vote as he wants them to."

This revelation of Senator Thompson throws a flood of light on the mental processes of our legislators. For it was puzzling how sane Americans could successfully resurrect the ghost of Czarism in this country. It seemed a monstrous stupidity to institute a spy system in this country and to widen the free educational institutions. Sweet and the Luakers suspected that the legislators may talk. So they thought of a plan. They thought of something which would stimulate the minds into that particular brand of "patriotic fervor" which moves the souls of the Sweets and the Luakers. They found it. It was liquor! Now everything is as clear as daylight.

Plans are under discussion for a popular theatre in Paris, which will present the very best art at democratic prices. The art committee formed in the chamber of deputies by Paul Boncour, Socialist, and others, is now considering plans for the theatre.

PLANS COMPLETED FOR THE CONVENTION OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

(Continued from page 1)

Schlesinger declared: "The manufacturers are constantly endeavoring to place the blame on the workers for the exorbitant prices they charge for garments, especially when the season is over. Shorter hours inevitably raise the price of the garment. Yet it is a fact, which they cannot deny, that while wages in the past two years have been increased at most 75 per cent, the prices of garments has risen 150 per cent."

For the first time in the history of the American labor movement, serious consideration will be given by the Convention to a proposal that the International establish co-operative factories. "The time is not far distant when the workers will run their own industries," said President Schlesinger. "Before that moment arrives they must be prepared to manage industry."

Another very significant proposal is that the International take up the cause of the federation of the several needle trades unions in this country.

These plans, outside of the usual preparations before the Convention, indicate the extent and variety of the activities going on in the offices of our International unions. If one should visit the General Office, one may find every department mobilized to the utmost. There is a ceaseless, spirited activity everywhere. Each one has his own work which is part of the great plan of the organization that is grappling with the stubborn problems of the time, is overcoming them and is marching on. The tireless work of President Schlesinger, General Secretary Baroff, Max Danish shows them to be in possession of amazing powers and increasing energy.

The Joint Board of the New York Cloakmakers' Union, the Waistmakers' Union as well as any other union of the International has its hands full with scores of problems in preparation for the convention as well as the arrangement of things in the offices during the two weeks when so many officers will be busy at the Convention. This is not only true of the New York unions but of all the International organizations all over the country. Particularly is this the case with the Chicago unions. The office of the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union of that city must doubtless be the busiest spot of the International as it had the additional task of making elaborate preparations for receiving the delegates, making arrangements for the Convention and all that goes along with it.

The delegation from the New York unions alone consists of not less than 150 representatives. The International is taking a special train which will leave the Grand Central, Friday, April 30. On Saturday, May 1, the delegation will celebrate the International Labor Day at Niagara Falls, and on Sunday they will be in Chicago ready to begin their work on the day.

Bar Profits of the Patrioteers

By BASIL M. MANLY

When the coal controversy was at its height, former Secretary of the Treasury, McAdoo startled the nation by declaring that in 1917 the mine owners made shocking and infeasible profits on bituminous coal. He stated that their income tax returns revealed that they were making earnings on their capital ranging from 15 to 2,000 per cent and that earnings of from 100 to 300 per cent on capital stock were not uncommon. Mr. McAdoo drew his facts regarding the profits of coal operators from Senate Document No. 239, a report of the Secretary of the Treasury in response to a Senate resolution requesting all facts in possession of the Treasury Department relative to profiteering. Great objection to the printing of this report was made by reactionary Senators, who tried to conceal these facts from the people; and only after a hard fight by Senators Borah and La Follette was an agreement finally secured to print a small edition. As the result of this partial suppression, this important report, which should have been made available to every American citizen, has been obtainable only with the greatest difficulty. In this article are presented the startling facts which it contains.

In the publication of this report every effort was apparently made to conceal from the reader all facts which would reveal the profiteering of the great corporations and trusts. The report contains 388 pages. In the first 360 pages you will find not a single corporation with more than \$10,000,000 capitalization, and very few with more than a few hundred thousand; but beginning on page 361 you will find all the big trusts for which reports are given lumped indiscriminately with little corporations with capital stock as small as \$1,000. An inconspicuous note on page 5 states that the tables beginning at page 361 relate to returns on which computation had not been completed when the preceding tables were sent to the printer. Was it an accident that all the big corporations were held back while the data on more than 30,000 small companies were compiled and sent to the printer? Whatever the reason may be, the fact is that any ordinary citizen examining this report would be led to believe that all the profiteering was done by the small companies. Some questions might also be raised by inquiring citizens as to why the report does not include the big copper companies which in 1916 and 1917 made such stupendous profits, and why other notorious profiteers were omitted. But putting aside all such defects, the report still contains an enormous mass of information of the greatest value to the American people.

An examination of the report shows that Secretary McAdoo was entirely too conservative when he stated that the profits of the coal operators ranged as high as 2,000 per cent. He should have said that the profits ranged as high as 7,856 per cent. He stated that profits were as high as 100 per cent on capital stock were not uncommon. The fact is that nearly half the companies (185 out of 404)

actually earned profits on their capital stock ranging from 100 per cent to 7,856 per cent. In other words, the prices paid by the American people for their coal in 1917 were so high that nearly half the mines reported were paid profits equal to their entire capital stock, and at least one of the mines was paid profits equal to 78 times its capitalization.

It is a notorious fact that in many of the mining corporations the greater part of the capital stock represented nothing but water. This stock was given as bonuses to the buyers of bonds, and nobody expected that the stock certificates would ever be worth more than a few cents on the dollar. Nevertheless we find that in 1917, the net income of the 404 coal companies reported was \$78,000,000, or nearly 45 per cent of their total capital stock of \$175,000,000. This net income is after the deduction of interest on bonds and all the over-generous allowances for depreciation and depletion provided for in the excess profits tax law. Furthermore, these figures are based on the original returns of the companies, and take no account whatever of millions of dollars of tax evasions which were revealed by the Internal Revenue Bureau in auditing the returns.

With these facts before us, and making due allowance for smaller profits in 1918 and 1919, it is absolutely certain that it would have been cheaper for the American people to have bought the coal mines outright when we entered the war so that coal could have been sold to the people at a low cost, than to have paid the enormous profits of the last three years. To put the matter in a different way, in the last three years the American people have paid in net profits every dollar's worth of stock of the coal companies.

The coal operators are not the only ones who were profiteering while this nation was at war and every loyal citizen was paying his expenditures to the bone in order to buy Liberty Bonds and provide for the necessities of our soldiers and sailors. While the coal operators were making profits ranging as high as 7,856 per cent on their capital stock, the meat packers were making profits ranging as high as 4,244 per cent, canners of fruits and vegetables 2,032 per cent, woolen mills 1,770 per cent, furniture manufacturers 3,293 per cent, and to cap the climax steel mills as high as 290,999 per cent.

A profit of 290,999 per cent seems incredible, but here are the facts. This steel company (page 367 of the treasury report) had a capital stock of \$5,000; in 1917 it reported to the Treasury Department a net income of \$14,549,982. After paying the excess profits tax, its net income still amounted to 212,584 per cent on its capital stock. This corporation did not make any report of its invested capital. Owing to the secrecy which shrouds the income and excess profits tax reports, nobody except the officials of the Treasury and of the company itself knows how much money this was. No explanation of these sensational profits can therefore be given. It may have been a case of getting

a fat contract from this government or some foreign government and selling the right to another corporation for some \$15,000,000.

The company may have been formed by the inside officials and financiers of some big corporation as a means of concealing profits and plundering the other stockholders. Nobody knows; but this corporation did make this unbelievable profit of 290,999 per cent while this nation was at war; and so far as I have been able to discover neither the Attorney General nor any committee of Congress has ever made any attempt to ascertain who this king of profiteers was. This steel company did not stand entirely alone, for there is another corporation reported on the same page as earning 20,180 per cent on its capital stock.

What profits did the Steel Corporation, which has denied its workers the right to organize, report to the Treasury in 1917? I tried to find out. On page 367 I found a steel company with a capital stock of \$868,583,600. There is only one corporation in the world with that amount of capital stock—the United States Steel Corporation. I thought I had found it. I looked to see what net income it had reported to the Treasury Department in 1917 and I found the amount recorded as \$135,854,365 before the deduction of income and excess profits taxes. This seemed incredible, as the net income reported by the deduction of taxes reported by the corporation in its published report was \$478,204,343. It appeared as though \$322,000,000 of the Steel Corporation's income was being concealed from Uncle Sam. It did not seem possible, so I went to the Secretary of the Treasury and asked permission to see the return of the United States Steel Corporation in order to verify the facts. Section 5 of Treasury Decision No. 2016 states that the Secretary of the Treasury shall permit the inspection of the return of any cor-

poration listed on the stock exchange. I was told by an official of the Treasury Department that this decision was now in force and covered the inspection of returns. Yet access to the return of the Steel Corporation was denied me, and after a day's delay I received a long memorandum, three pages of which were taken up with telling me that although this was the only decision on the subject, it was not now in force, having been modified by one of the later revenue acts. The last page of the memorandum, while refusing to state whether the facts which I had quoted from the report of the Treasury Department applied to the United States Steel Corporation or not, set up a hypothetical case to explain how this apparent discrepancy of \$322,000,000 might have occurred. It was stated that in the case of a holding company reports of the subsidiaries were made separately, and the only income reported by the holding company was that accruing directly to it. I believe that this statement is correct, and that the Steel Corporation reported its income correctly to the Treasury Department, but neither I nor any other American citizen has any means of knowing positively what the facts are. So far as the income and excess profits taxes are concerned the Treasury Department has an impenetrable veil through which no citizen is permitted to see.

For this reason the net income of the Steel Corporation cannot be stated on the basis of the Treasury Department's figures; but on the basis of its own published report, its net profits in the two years 1916 and 1917, after the payment of interest on bonds and after allowance for all charges growing out of the installation of special war facilities, amounted to \$888,931,511. This is \$20,000,000 more than the total capital stock of the Steel Corporation. In other words, in 1916 and 1917 every dollar of the capital stock of the Steel Corporation was paid for in net profits. In this connection it should be remembered that when the Steel Corporation was formed its entire \$500,000,000 worth of common stock represented nothing but water.

(To be continued)

Debs' Message From Jail

My message to the Comrades and workers throughout the country on the first anniversary of my imprisonment is one of love and good will to each and to all.

I never felt better in my life than I do today. I have not for a single moment been conscious of my imprisonment. Every day during the past year has brought a new confirmation of faith and purpose. I have not been idle these 12 months. My spirit has been abroad in every Socialist activity and I have felt within these prison walls the vibrations from the outside of lofty purpose, uncompromising will and zealous faith in the only cause that it is worth a man's life to live for—Socialism.

If there was ever a time in the history of the American working class movement when the Socialists should be active that moment is now. The time has arrived when unity of Socialist forces is absolutely essential. Neither myself nor any of the Comrades would be

in prison today had it not been for the falling away of Socialist purpose during the war. We were not united, but that is past. We must learn by our experience, and at the coming National Convention unite every force honestly working for social and industrial change and working class emancipation.

I do not believe there is any issue that divided the Socialists that cannot also reunite them. There is no real difference among the rank and file of Socialists, the real contentions very likely lie in the different leaderships of the different groups.

The Socialist movement must rise to the occasion this year and unite the industrial and political wings in harmonious alliance with the forces of evolution. If we do not so unite and compose ourselves we shall fail as Socialists supposed to be dedicated to the supreme purpose of delivering mankind from darkness into light.

JUSTICE

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EDITORIALS

WANTED: AN ALLIANCE IN THE NEEDLE INDUSTRY

Friends of labor have always been to be alarmed by the epidemic of injunctions that is being invoked against the unions by the sinister forces of the employers. It becomes more and more evident that the unions, especially the smaller organizations, are powerless to combat single handedly these encroachments upon their fundamental rights. The recommendation made by General Secretary A. Baroff, at last meeting of the General Executive Board that the fight against injunctions should become a concern of the International as a whole, was, therefore, timely enough.

We doubt, however, whether even the International, powerful as it is, could successfully resist the new danger threatening the labor movement. Besides, the International does not seem to be the only organization which has been picked out by the employers as a target for their wrath. The Amalgamated Clothing Workers find itself confronted with a trial of the suit of a Rochester firm for an injunction against union activity for \$100,000 damages for calling a strike in one of the factories of this firm. And what is happening today to the International and the Amalgamated may happen tomorrow to the Furriers or to the Cap Makers' Union which are in a more precarious position.

The only way, therefore, to meet the situation successfully would be to combine all these organizations for some common purpose into a single alliance, or trade council.

Such an alliance is all the more urgent now as the injunctions form but a small part of a larger and well calculated program that is being brewed carefully by the employers. The dream of those blest days when no one dared to contest their supremacy seems to cause them a great deal of perturbation. The employers want to feel that the only way to restore their peace of mind is to re-take all that has been snatched from them by the workers in recent years. There are plenty of signs indicating that in this holy war for the restoration of their sacred rights the employers will go as far as to cut down wages, to lengthen hours, in short, that they will not stop before anything. The workers must keep these facts very well in mind. And there can be no question that a general alliance of all the unions in the needle industry, an alliance embracing half a million workers would be the most effective weapon in the hands of the workers.

It is true that even in the past our unions were not in a state of absolute isolation. Whenever a union became involved in trouble

all the other unions were always ready to support it both morally and financially. But such a purely sentimental solidarity would hardly do now. The struggle that awaits us may be too gigantic to entrust its fate entirely to sympathy and sentiment. What we need above all now is a consolidation and co-ordination of concrete and actual forces. The efficacy of the employers will doubtless be greatly blunted when they learn that a force representing half a million workers is carefully watching all their movements.

We do not think that it would be impossible to carry out such a plan. We have in this country an instance of such an alliance in the building industry where all the unions are combined into a single Trade Council. Now, the workers employed in the building trade cannot be accused of being progressive. And if it was possible for them to establish an alliance of all their unions, there is no reason why the Jewish workers, who consider themselves as radical, should not be able to do the same thing.

The workers in our needle industry could in this respect derive an instructive lesson from the report of Schlesinger about the alliances that are to be found in the industries of Europe. No one can deny that a union of miners or railroad workers is more of a force to be reckoned with in the life of a country and consequently the miners did not want to sell the luxury of isolation than a union of a garment workers. A strike of railroad workers, for instance, can easily paralyze the life of any country. And yet, in spite of this, the railroad and transport workers as well as the miners of England did not want to be isolated and formed the famous Triple Alliance.

In advocating an alliance of all the workers employed in the needle industry, we do not intend to suggest what usually goes under the name of "One Big Union." What we mean is the establishment of a great council in which all the unions of the needle industry shall be represented and whose function shall be to deal with problems affecting the whole industry. But every union is to retain full autonomy and independence as far as before the coming Convention of the International, and especially Schlesinger are determined not only to discuss the question at length, a thing which has been done repeatedly in the past, but also to endeavor to realize it.

The plan will certainly have to overcome great difficulties. The American Federation of Labor may not find it to its liking and reject it as it did in the past. Again, our union leaders may find it difficult to ally among themselves the fact morally. It may be an arduous task to work it out in detail. But let us hope that all the obstacles will be removed.

It is highly desirable that the delegates to the convention should begin to ponder over this question at once, in order to be able to discuss it in a fruitful way. The fate of the plan will be determined above all by the decision of the convention.

THE LABOR MOVEMENT IN RUSSIA

It was impossible for President Schlesinger on his trip in Europe to penetrate into Russia and see there things for himself as he did in the case of Holland, England, France, Germany, Austria and Poland. He, accordingly, applied to George Lansbury, the editor of the British Socialist paper, "The Daily Herald," who is eminently qualified to speak about Russia, to give him the benefit of what he saw there. As Schlesinger was unable to see Lansbury personally, he asked the latter to send him a letter all the information which he could give him. We are certain that the readers of Justice will be interested to read the letter, which we are publishing in full.

March 24, 1920.

Dear Comrade Schlesinger:

I am very sorry it was not possible to see you before you left.

It is difficult to write you fully about the trade union side of things in Russia, but roughly this is how it stands: To all intents and purposes every industrial worker must become a trade unionist; these in turn are federated according to trades. It is a kind of Guild Socialism which is being worked as far as industry is concerned. The unions carry out all the work connected with Labor Exchanges. They see to the sick insurance, maternity benefit, etc. and cover all sanatoria and health — both for men and for women.

With regard to the factory, these are managed by representatives elected by the workers plus an expert nominated by a sectional committee. There is a great Supreme Industrial Council which divides itself into trades and districts and the experts are nominated by these district committees. There is great speculation in Russia as to whether the unions will swallow the State or the State swallow the unions; my view is that the State will become merged into the unions because I can see no function for another body at all. I mean in this: the State is the workers; nobody will be allowed to live in Russia unless he works, but there will of course be grades of workers and the struggle will be for the workers to determine with the experts as to the standard of life. But here again I mean in the present. It is vitiated by the fact that war is still being waged. The conditions cannot possibly be stabilized until there is peace and without peace all the plans and schemes are hindered and cannot be made perfect.

One thing to me is clear: that the workers in Russia are as far as government is concerned, but at present they are very hungry, very cold and are all longing for a settlement of their relationships with the outside world.

Best of good wishes,

G. LANSBURY.

One cannot help smiling after reading this letter at the tale, so profusely spread in our press and sanctioned even by the authority of Gompers, about the new slavery to which the workers are being subjected in Russia by the grace of Lenin and his associates. When this letter drives home so clearly to every reader who is not biased by prejudice is the incontestable fact that Russia is precisely the only country in the world where the workers are not slaves, where they are as free as the grass of Eden. It is the worker who has in Russia the decisive voice in all the affairs of the factory. The only person whom the worker has to consult is the expert. But it would certainly be preposterous to claim that, in conforming to the authority of the expert, the workers thereby curtail their own freedom.

To members of the Union, the letter is of special significance. The fact that the question whether the unions are to absorb the state or whether the state is to swallow up the unions has been so recently discussed at present in Russia shows so strikingly what a dazzling height of power the unions have reached there. No wonder that they are determined to bear so bravely all the misery that has fallen to their lot.

THE RAILROAD STRIKE

To listen to our press one may believe that there are no greater criminals than the railroad workers who have gone out on strike in disobedience to the will of their leaders. Does not this stigmatize them as rebels, outlaws and Bolsheviks?

We, for our part, find it impossible to apply any of these awful-sounding epithets to the striking railroad workers. We do not doubt for a moment that they are as peace-loving and law-abiding as any other workers in this country. They are not rebellious simply because they refuse to be satisfied with starvation wages; they are not outlaws because they have lost confidence in leaders who do not lead, and who do not defend the interests of those whom they suppose to represent.

If anyone is to blame, it is not the workers but rather their leaders, who were stupid enough to leave things to chance and who lulled their conscience into the belief that the patience of the workers would last forever. The leaders could have been spared the present surprise, had they been willing or able to read the signs of the times. They ought to have foreseen that there may come a day when even good standing members of conservative unions will refuse to submit to blind obedience and ask questions.

We must not forget that we have to do here not with a few scores of black sheep that can be found in any herd. The number of those who joined the strike is no less than 100,000. That such an enormous mass of workers scattered over the country could rise spontaneously like one man, shows so preponderantly that this strike is not a matter of a passing whim, that it is an answer to an urgent need of which the leaders have no inkling or refused to have an inkling. In any case it is not a matter of indifference that the leaders are entirely out of touch with the needs and aspirations of the great mass of workers composing the unions.

It may happen that the government will interfere and break present strike by the same

Industrial Conditions In Germany

By B. SCHLESINGER

(Continued from last week)

I could get a much clearer notion of the garment industry in Berlin than in any other city of Germany. Comrade Stimmer, Secretary of the International Association of the Garment Workers, whom I had met in Amsterdam, and who is also secretary of the German Tailors' Union, gave me all the details of the industry and organization from all over the country. Details of the industry in Berlin were given to me by the three chief officers of the Berlin local. They are Comrades Shumacher, Salevsky and Knopp. Salevsky is the Manager of the ladies' garment branch, Knopp—the men's garment branch, and Shumacher is the general manager of the entire Berlin local.

The number of garment workmen and workers prior to the war was larger than it is today. At the present there are about 350 thousand workers in the garment industry in Germany, approximately 200 thousand are employed in the ladies' garment industry (185 thousand women and 15 thousand men), and 150 thousand in the men's garment (60 thousand men and 70 thousand women).

Shops where fifty, a hundred or more workers are employed, and where the machines are driven by electricity are but few in Germany. Most of the work is being done by workers in their homes, 110 thousand work in small shops, and about 15 thousand work in large shops.

Ready made clothing and white goods are manufactured in the large factories. Such trades as cloaks, suits, dresses, waists and ladies' tailoring are made in shops where not more than 20 workers are employed.

There are about 162 thousand workers who are organized, that is, more than 46 per cent of the total. It also means that tens of thousands of home workers are union men. 140 thousand belong to the Alliance of Tailors and White Goods Workers of Germany (86 thousand women and 54 thousand men)—this organization joined the International of which Comrade Stimmer is secretary. 35 thousand workers belong to the Christian trades, 5,000 to the Hirsch-Dunker Union, and 2,000 to an organization called "Trades of the Home Workers."

The "Alliance" has locals in 33 cities—one local in each city. These 33 cities are subdivided

into eight districts, each local belonging to its respective districts.

Following are the districts, the number of members and locals in each district:

District	Local	Membership
Berlin	28	28,000
Leipzig	62	23,000
Nuremberg	45	18,000
Hanover	49	17,000
Frankfurt	34	16,000
Hamburg	35	14,000
Breslau	35	13,000
Keln	31	11,000

Total 8 303 140,000

The initiation fees and the dues collected by the locals are forwarded to the general office of the organization which in turn allots 20 per cent to each local for meeting and other local expenses. Strike benefit and general expenses are paid by the general office of the Union.

Locals which maintain offices, managers and business agents and whose expenses cannot be covered by 20 per cent allotted to them by the general office, are paid by a separate dues which the members are paying. In Berlin every member is paying an additional 60 pfenig a week for local expenses.

The dues is weekly and is divided into four classes: 2 classes for men and 2 classes for women. Every male member may belong to either the first or the second class, and every female member may belong to the third or fourth class. This is the weekly dues in every class:

1st class (men)	..... 70 pfenig
2nd class (men)	..... 60 pfenig
3rd class (women)	..... 35 pfenig
4th class (women)	..... 30 pfenig

Those belonging to the first and third class paying higher dues are, in time of strike, entitled to higher benefit.

The Union is publishing two papers: a weekly trade paper, and monthly technical trade paper, which the members are receiving free of charge. The monthly paper prints lessons in designing, drawings for new styles and articles on efficiency.

The Union has about 2 million marks in the treasury and is the eight largest labor organization in Germany.

The number of workers in the garment industry of Berlin are approximately 80 thousand, 60 thousand of whom are women. 65 thousand workers are working in their homes.

The number of workers in each

trade is approximately as follows:

Cloaks, suits and dresses	22,000
Ladies' underwear	15,000
Waists	5,000
Corsets and embroidery	3,000
Raincoats	2,000
Ready-made clothing	12,000
Custom tailoring	8,000
Men's underwear	5,000
Children's clothing	2,000
Uniforms	1,000
Total	80,000

Twenty-eight thousand workers are organized, 17 thousand of whom are women and 11 thousand men. The number of organized workers in each trade is as follows:

Cloaks, suits and dresses	3,000
Ladies' underwear	8,000
Ladies' Tailoring	3,000
Waists	1,000
Corsets and embroidery	500
Raincoats	500
Ready-made clothing	4,000
Custom tailoring	5,000
Men's underwear	2,000
Children's clothing	500
Uniforms	500

Total 28,000

The Berlin local maintains an office, business agents, managers, secretaries, clerks, stenographers and typists. The office is large but when we bear in mind the fact that it conducts the business of 28,000 workers organized in 11 different trades, with 11 different "protocols" and boards of arbitration, with countless complaints, it is evident that there is not too much order and system in spite of the fact that they are Germans. One Big Union may perhaps work well, but not One Big Office.

The working week is 48 hours in the above mentioned trades, except the waist and white goods trades which have a 46-hour work week, and the cloaks and dress trades which have a 47-hour week. Two hours a day overtime is permitted except Saturday when work must cease at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. Twenty five per cent above the wages is paid for overtime.

Piece work is the prevailing system. But there are some working by the week, and for this reason every "protocol" contains two price lists, one for piece work and the other for week work.

There are three minimum scales for the week workers. The work is subdivided into three classes: good, medium and common, a different minimum scale for each class. I am giving the scales of some trades as they are today, after the wage increases had been granted. But in order to have a clear idea of the wage scales, I shall give some figures of the cost of living. The following figures were given me by Professor Kuzinsky, Director of the Official Statistical Bureau of Berlin:

Bread	..... 270 marks
1 Pound of sugar	..... 73 pfenig
1 Liter of milk	..... 84 pfenig
1 Pound of meat	..... 475 marks
1 Pound of potatoes	..... 25 pfenig
1 Pound of cabbage	..... 60 pfenig
1 Pound of butter	..... 16.00 marks
1 Pound of sausage	..... 13.00 marks
1 lb. of goose meat	..... 14.50 marks
1 Pound of coffee	..... 20.00 marks
1 Steak	..... 700.00 marks
1 Pair of shoes	..... 250.00 marks

1 Hat 50.00 marks

1 Shirt 50.00 marks

The prices of shoes, hats and shirts are the lowest. A higher grade of clothes costs 1500 marks, a better pair of shoes costs 350 marks, etc.

Now let us look at the scales. Take the scales of the scale workers in the ladies' tailoring industry. First come the men: Skilled tailors, 204 marks. Men's tailors who work at ladies' tailoring:

167 marks during the first

six months.

188 marks during the second

half year.

Apprentices, during the fourth

year in the trade, 139 marks.

Apprentices, during the fifth

year in the trade, 178 marks.

For women are the week scales

for working in the ladies tailors' industry:

Skilled workers, 153 marks.

Workers who cannot do press-

ing, 146 marks.

Operators and sleeve setters,

138 marks.

Apprentices, during the fourth

year in the trade, 95 marks.

Apprentices, during the fifth

year in the trade, 102 marks.

Apprentices, during the sixth

year in the trade, 117 marks.

Apprentices, who are starting

for themselves, 132 marks.

These scales are paid only to

those who are employed at first

class work. The second class in

the scale is four marks lower.

Following are the minimum

scales in the cloak and suit trades

for all three classes of work:

	1st	2nd	3rd
Class Scale			
Cutters (men)	..... 193	..... 171	..... 148
Operators (men)	..... 193	..... 171	..... 148
Pressers (men)	..... 193	..... 171	..... 148
Underpressers			
(men)	..... 185	..... 164	..... 143
Cutters (women)	..... 163	..... 132	..... 114
Sample Makers	..... 162	..... 131	..... 140
Operators			
(women)	..... 163	..... 132	..... 114
Skirt Operators			
(women)	..... 137	..... 121	..... 105
Finishers	..... 102	..... 90	..... 80
Finishers'			
Helpers	..... 86	..... 77	..... 67

Following are the minimum

scales in the waist trade. There

are no classes in this trade.

Sample makers 116 marks

Operators 116 marks

At special machines 106 marks

Embroiderers 106 marks

Ironers—

(2nd year) 106 marks

(1st year) 94 marks

Button Hole Makers

(by hand) 73 marks

Finishers 73 marks

Fancy stitchers

(by hand) 85 marks

There is one point in the "pro-

to-protocol" between the Berlin Un-

ion and the employers that ap-

peals to me very much. It is that

the workers must get from one

to two weeks vacation with pay

every year. Those working for a

year in a shop must get one year

vacation. Those working two

years and more must get two

weeks every year.

.....

I don't know how true it is,

but many people told me that the

Jewish population of Berlin is

ods which it applied to the miner's strike. But whatever the outcome of the strike may be, we doubt greatly whether the workers will agree to submit in the future to arbitrary and irresponsible leaders. The leaders will certainly not yield so easily. They may not shrink from breaking the union, in order to retain at least a shadow of their former power. And in this they may even succeed for a while. But if they succeed, it will be for a while only. Sooner or later they will have to leave their usurped places to men permeated with ideals and aspirations of labor and representing not their own interests but those of the un-

The attacks directed by the press against the strikers worries us but little. A revolt of members of a union against their leaders is not such an unheard of occurrence in this country as the general press tries to persuade us. The fact is, that the railroad workers are revolting for the second time. The same was true of the longshoremen as well as the printers. And this recurrence doubtless suggests that we are confronted here with a new and promising tendency that begins to in-grain itself in the life of the American workers, a tendency which has to be welcomed with joy by every sincere friend of labor.

THE WEEKS' NEWS IN CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10

By L. LEWIN

The present time is over 200,000 (the entire Berlin population is about 3,800,000), and that most of them have immigrated during the last few months from Lithuania, Poland and other countries which have formerly belonged to Russia. I was also told that about 8000 Jews, men and women, are employed in the garment industry alone. But I can hardly believe this to be true, because as far as I could learn there are only about five or six hundred who belong to the Union, and I cannot imagine that the percentage of Jewish union members should be so low in a city like Berlin where the number of organized workers reaches 520 thousand. At any rate, the Jewish population of Berlin is now higher than it formerly was. That many Jews employed in the garment industry are not members of the Union is certain, and that tens of thousands of Jews who are suffering and starving I have witnessed myself.

I have also had occasion to observe that the Jews are disliked, and that many Germans would gladly rid their country of Jews. When the newboys in Berlin call out the papers they are selling, they usually call out the chief articles appearing in the papers, and during my stay there I daily heard them cry out something about the "Jews in Germany." I am not a great reader of German, but from the little I read it was evident that there was no talk of receiving the Jews but of ridding the country of them.

I discussed this subject with Comrade Eduard Bernstein. He feels very much depressed by it.

I could not at first understand why the Jewish workers do not belong to the unions, but after speaking to some of our Jewish intellectuals the matter became clear to me. There is a lack of people who should undertake this work. Those who are capable to do such work, do not want to bother with such a trifle as organizing tailors and shoemakers at a time when "the social revolution is expected every minute," or, as others believe "the Jews are about to get Palestine and become a nation among nations."

I was compelled to give up my trip to Rome to become acquainted with the tailors' industry of Italy. The Italian counsel in Warsaw categorically refused to vize my passport. He was for several years in America, he told me, and he knows how much trouble I caused in the garment industry in America.

When I told him that I want to go to Italy, at the request of 20 thousand of his countrymen who are members of our International, he said something about his countrymen to which the Italian members must reply themselves.

Beginning with this issue of "Justice," we are going to render a brief report of the activities of our Executive Board every week. Extracts of the minutes referring to the more important cases that come up before the Executive Board will be given. To begin.

Brother Nathan Kaufman, No. 5014, appeared on summons, charged by Business Agent Shenker with having made false statements to the office. Brother Kaufman is working at the Century Costume Co., 242 West 23rd St., and about a week and a half ago, when he expected to be laid off, he appeared at the office and presented to Manager Shenker a detailed account of the overtime that he worked since May, 1923, claiming that he was paid for single time. The office then proceeded to make a collection of \$202.15 which was the amount due according to his statement.

However, when the deputy clerk of the Association of Dress Manufacturers and Business Agent Settle of the Union came up to the shop on this case, Brother Kaufman told Brother Settle to drop the complaint as the statement which he made to Brother Shenker about receiving single time for overtime was merely a "frame-up" against the firm, for the purpose of extorting some money in case of his discharge.

Brother Kaufman admitted to the Executive Board that such was the case. The Executive Board censured Brother Kaufman severely for trying to make the Union a party to a scheme of extortion, and the office was instructed to withdraw his working card from the above house.

Sam Adler, No. 1364, and Arthur Bernstein, No. 1941, appeared on summons, charged by Business Agent Scharp with having received time and a half for overtime at the firm of Lemel & Cutler, at 142 West 24th St. Brothers Adler and Bernstein admitted to the charge but claimed that the entire shop entered into an agreement with the firm, guaranteeing them work for a number of months; that they are paid time and a half for overtime; and that they were under the impression that they were also permitted to receive time and half instead of double time for overtime. Upon motion a fine of \$25 was imposed on each of the brothers.

Dave Schulman, No. 7434, appeared on summons, charged by Brother Sam Shanevetter, a member of the Designers' Union, Loc. 45, with interfering with his work in the shop of Chas. Lefkoff, at 138 W. 22nd St. Brother Shanevetter claims that the cutter is bringing patterns to the shop from the outside in order to show to the boss that they can get along without the designer. The Executive Board instructed Brother Dave Schulman to mind his business in the future and attend to the cutting only. With this warning the case was dismissed.

Harry Plutzer, No. 3599, and Harry Fine, No. 2071, appeared on summons, charged by the cutters of the Toronto Cloak Co., at 14 E. 17th St., with having gone to work for the above house on Saturday afternoon, March 27, 1920. The cutters of the above shop were

stopped off by the business agent of the Joint Board for failure to pay the \$5 assessment levied by that body. While letters were being exchanged between Local 10 and the Joint Board, the American Association of Cloak and Suit Manufacturers, of which the Toronto Cloak Co. is a member, tried to get other cutters to take the place of those who were stopped off on Saturday, March 27, 1920. Mr. Janoff, Deputy Clerk of the American Association, succeeded in getting Brothers Plutzer and Fine to go up to work for this house.

During the cross-examination, it was discovered that Brother Plutzer was not aware of the fact that there was trouble existing in that house and that he simply went up to "make a job." Brother Fine, on the other hand, after he had worked in the shop for a few minutes, was informed of the existing condition in the Toronto Cloak Co., but remained at work. Upon motion the Executive Board imposed a fine of \$25 on Brother Fine and \$15 on Brother Plutzer.

Israel Perlberg, No. 3334, appeared on summons, charged by Business Agent J. Gold of the Joint Board of Cloakmakers' Union, with interfering with the insulting the workers of the firm of Karriash & Karriash, at 539 Broadway. Brother Perlberg is also charged with teaching a non-union boy the cutting trade and with receiving pay at the rate of time and a half for overtime. Upon motion a fine of \$75 was imposed, and the office was instructed to investigate the books of the firm so as to find out how much Brother Perlberg received for overtime as he claims that he was paid at the double time rate.

Abel Rogoff, No. 7007, appeared before the Executive Board to express his appreciation of what the Union has done for him through Business Agent Lipshitz. Brother Rogoff also wishes to present Brother Lipshitz with a gift as a token of his gratitude. The Executive Board informed Brother Rogoff that they are happy to find that the members appreciate the work that is being done for them by the Union, but that they could not establish the precedent of permitting the business agent to receive gifts from individual members, as it might be misinterpreted.

Albert Lippert, No. 5935, appeared on summons, charged by Miss Yetta Mallis, Shop Chair-lady of the Feuer Dress Co., at 142 W. 24th St., with having worked on Washington's Birth-

day. Brother Lippert admits to the charge, but claims that he was under the impression that the people were permitted to work on that day for a certain fund for the Waist Makers' Union. This statement was disproven by the fact that the rest of the workers in the shop did not work with the exception of a few pressers. Also, after receiving pay for the four hours that he worked that day, he failed to make inquiries as to where the money was to go, and instead pocketed same. Upon motion a fine of \$15 was imposed on Brother Lippert.

Abel Schiff, No. 2727, appeared on summons, charged by Business Agent Settle with working for time and a half for overtime. A collection of \$14.07 was made in this case. Schiff admits to the charge, but claims that for sixteen weeks he did not do anything in the shop and was paid for it, and so that when it got busy the firm asked to work for time and a half for overtime. He did work a few nights' overtime at that rate upon the promise of the firm to give a bonus at the end of the year that would more than make up for difference. Upon motion a fine of \$15 was imposed.

Sam Willer, No. 6212, appeared on summons, charged by Business Agent Sonen with working for time and a half for overtime at the house of Noah Levy, 135 West 29th St. A collection of \$13.09 was made in this case. Willer admits to the charge, claiming that he worked only a few nights and that he complained to the firm against the payment of time and a half for overtime instead of double. Upon motion a fine of \$15 was imposed.

Harry Lefkoff, No. 5030, foreman of the house of Noah Levy, at 135 W. 29th St., appeared on summons, charged by Business Agent Sonen with having worked overtime receiving pay for same. A collection of \$73.13 was made in the case. Lefkoff admits to the charge, but claims that the firm promised him a steady job, pay for all Jewish holidays, and two weeks' vacation. Cutters Joe Hirschowitz, No. 6097, and Harry Kahn, No. 6267, appeared as witnesses for Lefkoff, stating that when they started to work for the house, Brother Lefkoff stated that he is not anxious to work overtime as he does not get paid for it. Upon motion a fine of \$50 was imposed.

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IN OUR EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

UNITY HIKE

Students of Waistmakers' Unity Center Planning Hike.

All those wishing to participate in a day in the open will meet Mrs. Betting outside the South Ferry House Sunday morning, April 18, at eleven o'clock sharp. Members should bring lunch, and wear warm clothes, close hats, and low-heeled shoes. In case the ferries are not running, or the day is rainy, further announcement will be made.

WALTMAN'S UNITY CENTER RESUMES ALL COURSES

Lecture courses are again taking their regular place on the curriculum of the Waltman's Unity Center, P. S. No. 40, 320 East 20th St. Dr. Sarah Greenberg will give a series of three Health Lectures, beginning with a talk on First Aid (Thursday evening, April 15 at 8:15). Dr. Greenberg was the most popular lecturer at the Center previous to the Easter Holidays and is giving additional 3 lectures at the request of those who heard her then.

Babbette Deutsch will continue her course on Poetry beginning Friday evening, April 16 at 8:15. Miss Deutsch will discuss Burns, Blake and Wordsworth, and the contemporary influences upon poetry of that day.

The English, Swimming, Recreation, and Mandolin classes are meeting as usual. The girls meet Mrs. Betting for Swimming at the 23rd Street Pool Mondays at 6 o'clock, and for Gymnastics and Recreation at the gym. of the Center on Thursdays at 6:30 P. M. The Mandolin Club continues to be popular and meets every Friday at the Center at 7 P. M.

LADIES' GARMENT CLERKS' UNION

The Ladies Garment Clerks' Union, Local 139, 1 L. G. W. U. is planning a big organization campaign for the month of May. It has taken a large number of tickets for the Jewish Art Theatre in order to raise money. The play is "Green Fields" and the date April 22nd. All those who wish to see this play and help the organization, can do so by securing tickets from the Union, 228 2nd Ave., or Mr. Jacob Diamond, 22 W. 17th St.

Ladies' Tailors and Alteration Workers, Local 80.

A GENERAL MEMBER MEETING

will take place

TUESDAY, APRIL 20th, 7:30 P. M.

At MOUNT MORRIS HALL, 1362—6th AVENUE

Discussion and the adoption of resolutions for the good and welfare of our trade before the convention of the International will be the subject of this meeting.

EXECUTIVE BOARD, LOCAL 80.

HARRY HILFMAN, Secretary.

P. S.—From the 1st of May our Local meetings will be held regularly the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at Loral Garden, East 116th Street, corner Madison Avenue.

ADVANTAGES OF THE UNITY CENTERS

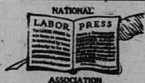
To the Editor of Justice:

No doubt any one who has ever attended an Evening School or even an Evening High School cannot help but appreciate our own Unity Center. The spirit that prevails, the interest that is developed, the benefits that are derived cannot be found anywhere else.

The following are some of the advantages offered. In our English classes we rapidly improve and increase our vocabulary. The composition period gives us an opportunity to express our thoughts on all subjects that are of interest to us. We are stimulated to familiarizing ourselves with subjects of the day so that we may express our opinions intelligently. The lectures on modern drama are broadening and instructive, and as a result we learn to appreciate good books and plays. The lectures on sex hygiene are of importance to every individual. We extend our knowledge of the human body and the care and preservation of our health. The lectures on the labor movement are of utmost significance, as some of our members do not give sufficient time and thought to a movement of which they are a part. Last but not least, gymnastics; this period is really a treat after a day of hard labor. We get some recreation which is essential for our physical development as well as mental well being.

In conclusion, I am proud to be a part of such a movement where things of this sort can be made accessible to all our members. I herewith express my gratitude to those who work so tirelessly to bring into reality a beautiful dream for our membership. It is my hope that they meet with response and encouragement on every step and that as many as possible will take advantage of these opportunities and urge others to do likewise.

MARY GOFF, Local 62.



THE STAGE

By Frances Robbins

SACRED AND PROFANE LOVE

In Arnold Bennett's new play at the Morosco Theatre, there is much of loving. How much of it is sacred, and how much profane, depends largely on one's sense of conventionality — or rather un-conventionality. But Elsie Ferguson, so adorably young and innocent as the girl, so charming as the woman, seems, by the mere force of her personality, to make every sort of love sacred.

Miss Ferguson is Carlotta Peel, who all her life has lived with a spinster aunt in a small town. Carlotta is only twenty, and with her little gusts of nervousness, her pretty conceit, and quick enthusiasm, she is the very spirit of girlish youthfulness. When the play opens, Carlotta is in London where she has been to a concert given by the famous pianist, Emilio Diaz. By chance, she meets him after the concert, and when he discovers that she has misser her train, he invites her to visit him at his rooms and promises to play for her. Carlotta has admired Diaz for many years — from a distance, and she is overjoyed at the wonderful opportunity. They talk for a long time and Carlotta reveals unconsciously how each moment she is succumbing more and more to the attraction of the pianist. He is suave, cool, understanding and his music to her is marvelous. Bravely, she says, "Why should I be afraid of my miracle?" and gives herself to him. But the morning finds her courage weakened and she steals away, leaving no trace behind her.

Seven years later we find Carlotta installed in a handsome London apartment. She is a successful novelist and has developed into a gracious and beautiful woman. Here her second love enters. He is Frank Isenlove, her publisher, unhappily married to a woman who does not care for him. But Carlotta, although she believes she loves him, is strong enough to renounce him for the sake of his wife. By accident, she learns that Diaz has degenerated into a morphine fiend and is living as an outcast in the slums of Paris. Without a moment's hesitation, she leaves for Paris.

She finds Diaz, but under horrible circumstances. He is in one of his paroxysms and fails to recognize her. He suspects she is some sort of spy and attempts to kill her. He then rushes to another room, and after an injection of morphine returns, abjectly ashamed. Carlotta explains that she has come to do all she can for him, that her lack of faith has helped to ruin him in the past and that her faith will and must cure him in the future. She at last persuades him to go with her.

What tortures she endures we must imagine, for the next scene shows him several months later, the old confident Diaz. That night,

he is to make his reappearance at a London concert. At the last moment, he goes off without her, saying that he must learn to depend on himself alone. That, in his moment of triumph, she should be left behind, is bitter. But even more so is the moment when he returns and says calmly that he is off to a reception, that he cannot stay with her for he has his career to consider before everything else. When he is gone, she realizes at last that her sacrifices have brought her "nothing, nothing."

This seems to us the logical ending of the play. Even the stir in the audience indicates that they too feel how inevitable is such an end, where a temperamental genius is concerned. The species "genius" is always selfish and Diaz is true to type.

When, therefore, the play goes on for some fifteen or twenty minutes to the much lauded "happy ending," the result is a serious drop from the standpoint of interest. Diaz, of course, returns and after Carlotta shows what she has done for him, he declares that she counts more than his career and tamely concludes with the suggestion of marriage.

After several years before the camera, it is a treat to have Elsie Ferguson with us on the speaking stage again. To this new play, she brings all the old qualities and an added poise that makes her irresistible. Her acting in the scene with the maddened Diaz, is tremendously appealing.

Jose Rubin is Emilio, and as the distinguished musician, plays the polished gentleman skillfully. As the morphine victim, he is superb. We are rather fed up with degenerates in this last theatrical season, but Rubin's performance ranks with the best.

Leon as a French coquette, is perhaps without so called morals, but is humanly lovable. She is ably played by Mrs. Denise Corday. Lord Francis Alear, an interesting old gentleman is splendidly portrayed by J. Sebastian Smith. Included in the excellent cast are Alexander Onslow, Augusta Saviland Bertha Kent, Maude Milton.

Maxim Gorki's "Night Lodging" opened at the Plymouth Theatre Tuesday evening.

E. H. Southern and Julia Marlowe in their four weeks' Shakespearean festival will open with the "Twelfth Night" at the Shubert Theatre, Monday, April 26th.

The revival of "Florodora" at the Century Theatre has completed two enormous weeks. The cast of one hundred and fifty includes Eleanor Painter, George Hassell, Christie MacDonald, Margot Kelly, John T. Murray, Walter Woolf and Harry Fender.

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