

"My righteous-
ness I hold
fast, and will
not let it go."
—Job. 37.8.

JUSTICE

"Workers
of the world
unite! You
have nothing
to lose but
your chains."

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES GARMENT WORKERS UNION.

Vol. II. No. 37.

New York, Friday, September 10, 1920.

Price: 2 Cents

STRIKES AND SETTLEMENTS IN THE CLOAK SHOPS IN N. Y.

The relations between the Cloakmakers' Union and the Protective Association of New York is daily growing more strained. Strikes in over twenty shops of the firms belonging to the Association have been declared with the full support of the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union. The reason for the strikes is the same. The employers refuse to abide by the award handed down by Governor Smith's Arbitration Commission last Winter.

These strikes have disturbed the entire trade and have injected a great deal of unrest and strife in the relations between the workers and the manufacturers. The strikes began several weeks ago with the appearance of more work and with the readjustment of prices for the coming season. It is very possible that the firms in question would not have forced the strikes had it not been for the false attitude on the part of the administration of the Protective Association with regard to wage increases in the cloak industry decided upon by the Governor's Commission.

During the past two weeks twenty-eight shops settled with the Union. The owners of these shops are the less important manufacturers who realized that it would be a waste of money to keep their shops idle. They realized that they would do very little business with a couple of scabs. Then it is altogether too expensive to hire gangsters to watch the scabs who are afraid to move alone. Then they must be taken to and from work in automobiles which amounts to far above the wage scale demanded by the Union workers. The wiser and fair-minded manufacturers have realized this and settled.

The following firms have settled with the Union during the last two weeks: Rogers, L. & K., Samuel Meadow, Kaufman and Kaufman, B. Schnell, Victor S. Everett, D. Baron and J. Kinsler. All these firms are members of the Association.

The following Association firms have not yet settled: Louis Greenberg and Bros., Stern and Heinsman, S. A. Oppenheimer, J. Ludwig, Hanover and Arenstiel, Rosenfeld and Zimert, Goldstein Bros. and Bruckner, Samuel Blum, Clear Bell Skirt Co., Novick Bros., B. Heller and Frank Worth. The Union is conducting a vigorous and energetic fight against these firms who will sooner or later realize that they are fighting a losing battle. The sooner they realize this the better will it be for them.

It may be noted here that all the offices of the Joint Board are humming with activity. The busy season is already making itself felt. The activities of the cloakmakers' Union under the direction of the new General Manager, Isaac Feinberg are bearing fruit.

Cloakmakers Join Strike of Division Street Salespeople

DIVISION STREET CLOAK STORE BOSSES RESORTING TO FOUL MEANS TO BREAK STRIKE OF THEIR SALESPeOPLE.
—CLOAKMAKERS' UNION LENDS FULL SUPPORT TO THE STRIKE.

The strike of the Salespeople's Union, Local 131, against the stubborn owners of the cloak stores in Division Street has assumed a new character this week. It is not alone their salespeople that the bosses have to deal with now but the entire Cloakmakers' Union.

When Secretary Baroff has announced a week ago that the stubborn opposition of the Division Street bosses to deal with their salespeople will extend the strike to the cloakmakers employed in these stores, they regarded it as an idle threat. They know better now. The shops behind the stores are empty. The cloakmakers have joined their striking brothers and sisters and will stay out until victory is theirs. The foul methods employed by the Division Street store keepers to break the strike are notorious. They are hiring gangsters who are inciting street fights with peaceful pickets who are parading the sidewalks with strike signs. Lately they have resorted to the shameful charge that some union officials are responsi-

ble for the murder of a man. These tactics of the Division Street storekeepers has called out the condemnation not only of the Cloakmakers' Union but of all right-minded people. At the meeting of the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union last Friday evening the question of taking proper action against the nefarious means of the bosses has been taken up. And it was decided to strike. The cloakmakers have again demonstrated their solidarity and their readiness to fight not only the battles that touch their own interests but when it is a case of defending the rights of their fellow workers.

On Tuesday morning, September 7, the cloakmakers working in the Division Street cloak stores went down on strike in sympathy with the salespeople. If the storekeepers will persist much longer in their present obstinacy they will doubtless destroy their business. No fair minded people will buy their clothes from these store-

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Organized Labor to Re-elect Ousted Socialist Assemblymen

The entire labor movement of New York as well as all the forward looking men and women must unite in a single effort to return the Socialist Assemblymen to office by an overwhelming majority at the special election which will be held on September 16th. The largest number of citizens in the Eighth Assembly district, down town, in the 17th District Harlem, in the Bronx and Brownsville have no other thought than giving their vote to the Socialists. Non-Socialists admit that not only will the five ousted Socialists be returned but a sixth Socialist assemblyman will be added, Nat Rubin of the 19th District of Williamsburg.

The big task now is to organize for the manning of the polls to block the usual frauds of the politicians of the two parties and to forestall any attempts that may

be made at the polls to intimidate Socialist voters.

The Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union and the Joint Board of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers have decided that all their employees, officers, business agents, secretaries, etc., should serve as watchers at the polls on election day, September 16. These

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Petticoat Makers' Union Launches Organizing Campaign

The Petticoat Makers' Union, Local 46, has undertaken a vigorous organizing campaign in the entire petticoat industry.

Several months ago the Petticoat Makers' Union conducted a

SEND DELEGATES TO CENTRAL BODY CONFERENCE

On Friday evening next, September 10th, there will take place a meeting of exceptional importance to the labor movement of Greater New York. Delegates of all local unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor will on that evening elect a Central Federated body for Greater New York.

The call for this meeting has been issued by President Gompers and sent to all heads of organizations in Greater New York; in which, among other things, it is stated:

"The essential need of an all-embracing, comprehensive and constructive central labor movement of the organized wage earners of Greater New York has long been manifest to all. Suffice it to say that in two of the boroughs the central bodies have ceased to function and in the cities of New York and Brooklyn approximately two-thirds of the unions are not represented in the central bodies."

General Secretary Baroff has, accordingly, issued a circular letter to all our local unions in New York to elect three delegates each to this meeting and to take an active part in the election of a Central Federated Union for the Greater City. It is to be hoped that every one of our twenty-five locals will be represented at this convention-meeting and will help shape the policy of the local central body in a progressive and forward-looking manner. It is high time, indeed, that our locals in this city took a more active part in the work of the Central Federal Union and were more adequately represented thereon. This work of selecting a general central body will, probably for the first time, bring our men and women together with the delegates of the entire labor movement, and once having acquired the habit, they will, let us hope, come regularly to the meetings of the central body and become a legitimate and permanent part of it.

strike with a view of organizing the trade. The bosses have fiercely combatted the Union. They have lost thousands of dollars in their effort to frustrate the organization plans and refused to settle with the Union. Their hope was that when the Union will be defeated they could then safely make huge profits.

They were entirely mistaken, however. It is true that the Union was compelled to call off the strike at the end of the season, but the bosses got their lesson. They could appropriately repeat the

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INTERNATIONAL UNION CENTERS OPEN ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th, 1920

All International Union Centers of Greater New York will open on Wednesday, September 15. Registration for classes are already going on in the offices of all the locals. Those living in the Bronx may register in the People's Cooperative Society, 231 Brook Avenue.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK

By N. S.

The B. R. T. Strike

THE second week of the strike on the Brooklyn Rapid Transit lines marks no appreciable change. The company continues to be as uncompromisingly opposed to deal with the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees as from the first day. The conciliatory statement issued by William D. Mahon, President of the Amalgamated, did not effect in the least the hostile attitude of Receiver Garrison. Mahon went a long way in his statement in complimenting Judge Mayer and Receiver Garrison upon their "broad mindedness," and rebuking the union representatives for their "bitterness." He appealed for a general conference between the company and the Union to adjust the differences between the two parties. But Receiver Garrison and Judge Mayer stand pat on their refusal to treat with the Amalgamated or any of its representatives.

The company has served an ultimatum upon the men last Saturday that they must report for work by noon Wednesday, September 8, or lose their seniority rights and the increase in wages now offered by the company.

The union equipped auto trucks as buses which are being operated by the strikers. The men who needed the money most are put on the trucks as conductors. All the money left over from their wages and hire of the truck is to go to the union treasury.

The company has succeeded in importing a number of scabs to run the trains. Clashes with strikers are a daily occurrence. Accidents resulting in the death of many passengers are the direct outcome of the scabs running the trains.

The press is playing its usual role in this strike. Louis Fridiger, general counsel for the union, declared that the National Publishers' Association sent out word to every paper in Greater New York to color up all the facts in the situation in favor of the company and to make it look as black as possible for the men.

In the beginning of the second week of the strike four strikers were arrested on charges of homicide following the death of a passenger on one of the B. R. T. trains. On Labor Day a riot took place in which one striker was shot and many were severely hurt.

The company is fighting the same battle Judge Gary fought last winter and with the same means. But the workers are determined to fight to the end for the very life principle, the preservation of their organization.

More Investigation Into the Mine Strike

MORE than 100,000 of the 1,750,000 miners engaged in the production of anthracite coal failed to appear for work last week in protest against the double crossing administered to the leaders of the United Mine Workers by President Wilson and his Anthracite Coal Commission, which first excoated of the leaders a promise to accept any award and then returned an award admittedly lower than the American living standard.

The general scale committee of the United Mine Workers sent a telegram to President Wilson and

Secretary of Labor Wilson stating that in the interest of continued peace and prosperity in the anthracite field they should take some steps toward revising the award of the majority commissioners. After reciting that the operators at the joint meeting refused to agree to a reopening of the award the telegram continued:

"Our request that the wage scale be reopened is not only based upon the belief that the award of the commission is inadequate, but also in view of what has transpired recently in the bituminous coal mining industry, wherein you directed that a meeting of the representatives of the United Mine Workers of America and the representatives of the various coal operators' associations comprising the central competitive field of Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and West Virginia be held for the purpose of remedying the existing inequalities in the award of the Bituminous Coal Commission."

After detailing the increase received by the bituminous miners under the revision and pointing out the difference in pay in the bituminous and anthracite mines, the telegram continued:

"The custom has been that whenever voluntary increases have been granted during the life of agreements in the bituminous districts similar action has always been taken in the anthracite region."

In answer to the strike and the telegram a new investigation has been started by Hugh L. Kerwin, head of the Bureau of Conciliation of the Labor Department. The conferees expect to get from mine operators and union officials exact data on the course of the strike and the number of men out and report to Secretary of Labor Wilson.

Longshoremen Strike for the Release of MacSwiney

ONE of the most remarkable strikes of American workers is that directed against the continued imprisonment of Terence MacSwiney, Lord Mayor of Cork, who is approaching death in Brixton Prison, London.

Five big shipping centers, outside of New York, are seriously affected. British liners in Galveston, Newport News, New Orleans, Philadelphia and Boston are tied up as a result of these protest walkouts. As for New York, fully 4000 men are still out, and in Brooklyn another 2000 are holding fast. All the grain elevator men of the city joined the strike demonstration against British oppression.

A strike demonstration against the imprisonment of labor and Socialist leaders is not altogether new even in American labor history. And it must be admitted that such strikes failed completely to achieve their end. An illuminating example is the Mooney tragedy. His continued imprisonment is a painful commentary on the impotence of American labor. The imprisonment of Debs and the large number of other political and industrial "criminals" emphasizes this. The longshoremen strike for the release of MacSwiney is not altogether a class fight. It is more of a nationalist fight and that is why it is more tolerated by the press. The fact that the Irish-American Athletic Club has offered its assistance to the longshoremen shows that

this is not a class war but a nationalist struggle for independence. But this fight may inspire more workers to apply their energies in the struggle for the liberation of the class prisoners.

The Strike of the Metal Workers in Italy

REPORTS of the metal workers' strike in Italy are too fragmentary to lead to a definite appraisal of the situation. It is estimated that 400 of the largest metal factories have been occupied by workers and the movement is still expanding, threatening to extend to the extreme south. But it is not certain whether the workers are determined to take over the control of the industry if the employers will grant their demands.

A conference of the General Confederation of Labor and the Committee of Action of the Metal Workers' Federation and allied trades was held last Monday, at which it was decided that the movement organized by the Metal Workers' Federation was justified. The delegates promised to assist in adjusting the dispute, but hope was expressed that the employers would not adopt an uncompromising attitude, which would compel all workers to make common cause with the metal workers.

The metal workers apparently are not interested in political action and they do not want a change in government. Their primary aim is an overturn in industry. Meanwhile the Italian Government is remarkably tolerant toward the strikers. Minister of Labor Labriola is actively engaged in seeking a solution to the present situation in the industry. Thus far the Italian Government has not resorted to troops and is not unduly interfering in the strike. The workers after the Soviet fashion have detained the managers and experts who are essential to the functioning of the mills.

The outcome of the strike is far from certain. There is evident a general unpreparedness on the part of the Italian Socialist and labor movement to bring about an overthrow of the present order of society at this time.

British Labor in Action

NINE hundred and fifty delegates to the Trades Union Congress at Portsmouth, representing six and one-half million workers, took their stand against the government in the MacSwiney test. The conference passed a resolution reminding the government that organized labor would hold it responsible for MacSwiney's death, should he die. The following resolutions were adopted:

"The conference, representing six and a half million workers, views with horror and indignation the government's decision to allow MacSwiney to die.

"We wish to remind the government that rebellion is first preached by those who condemn to death all others who are fighting for the freedom of their country.

"We, in the name of the whole of organized labor, will hold the government responsible for the death of MacSwiney.

"We wish to remind the government that such blind stupidity will render reconciliation of Ireland and England impossible."

British labor is not only active on the Irish front. It is as vigilant with regard to the Russian-Polish situation. British labor has

sufficient cause to be suspicious of the Poles in their armistice dealings with the Soviets. In the two previous conferences between the Russians and the Poles, the diplomats in Warsaw sent out statements laying the blame for armistice delays on the Russians. It developed afterwards that the Poles were causing the delays, awaiting the help of the Allied governments to stop the Soviet advance and start a new offensive. The Laborites' Council of Action therefore has decided to send William Adamson and James Purcell to Riga to watch the armistice negotiations. The two representatives are instructed to get first hand information on the proceedings and report directly to the Council of Action—"in order that British labor shall not be misled."

On the industrial field the British workers are facing a situation not less serious. The Central Council for Economic Information—an employers' organization—has recently issued a prophecy of what will happen to the business world if the miners' strike actually takes place.

According to its figures, the strike would call out 1,200,000 miners within the first week, necessitating the closing of the chemical industry, employing 50,000 and the cotton industry with 300,000 within six days. After two weeks of the coal strike, it is forecasted, 300,000 shipbuilders, 6,000 Sheffield silversmiths and 300,000 more cotton workers would be thrown out of work through the forced closing of plants, and at the end of three or four weeks, 45,000 agricultural engineers, 24,000 brass founders, 80,000 automobile workers, 40,000 machine tool workers, 30,000 cable makers, 30,000 explosive trade workers, 97,000 shoe manufacturing employees, 35,000 seamen, 100,000 dock and riverside laborers.

What it all amounts to is that the employers are threatening a general lockout to combat the labor movement in England.

British labor is now fighting the entire existing social order, its diplomacy, its national and international politics, its industrial organization. And it is fully conscious of the tremendous task it is facing.

September 13

SEPTEMBER 13th was set by the Socialists for a country-wide demand for amnesty. On this day President Samuel Gompers of the A. F. of L. and a committee of labor leaders will call upon Attorney General Palmer to plead for the release of all political prisoners.

September 13th is the second anniversary of the day on which the jury in Cleveland found Eugene V. Dets "guilty". It is therefore the most appropriate day to make the demonstration as effective as possible, so that even the bureaucrats in Washington might hear it.

The Educational Department of the International Opens New Season

What do the men and women in our organizations want to learn and know?

Of course, this is the question that is constantly confronting those in charge of labor education in our organization. It is one thing to outline a plan, or prepare a course, put it under the general heading — Labor Education — and leave it at that, in the hope that the membership will respond and take advantage of it. But it is quite a different task to outline a plan and to prepare a course, not in a trust-to-luck manner, but one that would meet a real need, would fill a want and would be of constructive help to the organized labor movement.

The Educational Committee of our International, like other labor educational agencies, has been grappling with this problem for more than one term in its history. It has tried to make clear for itself the purposes, the scope and the true demands of the membership with regard to labor education. The Committee learned, as it went along, gradually emerging from the stage of immature planning to the level of knowing what it wants, and acquiring a growing confidence from the success of its work that it gauges aright the feeling of our masses in this respect.

Among the plans proposed by the Educational Department for the coming term, there is one that deserves particular advance notice and consideration. The various local unions will be called upon to furnish lists, from 100 to 300 each, according to their sizes, of men and women endowed with a reasonable degree of native intelligence, energy and the desire to serve the labor movement. The members of the educational faculty will confer with these groups for the sake of finding out from them directly what they want in the form of education. It is intended to organize for these groups special talks and lectures on applied economics, political science, industrial financing and methods — all in an elementary and popular vein — for the purpose of supplying these more advanced elements within our organization with rudimentary knowledge that would enable them to form their own opinion on the current problems and events of the day, particularly problems of industry and economics. It must be admitted that the basis of our movement — of the labor movement in general — has been the lack of constructive criticism, the fact that our arsenal has heretofore consisted of an ever-readiness for offhand criticism, only too often without the knowledge of the facts, methods and environs of the subject and situation that came under the range of our attack.

To give our men and women an inside view into industrial financing, marketing, the organization of credit and the distributive agencies of the country and the world, — would be the lifting of a veil from the main stage of the world's activities, which have been hidden from them, and would at once open to them — even though in a percursor manner — the vista of their own possibilities and the possibilities of their class in the industrial and economic scheme of our social system.

These groups — after the natural

process of elimination had taken place — will offer to our locals, eventually and logically, the best material for the selection of executive boards and committees. The talks to these groups will not be confined to any particular, rigid place or time; for that matter, but will be arranged to suit — in English, Yiddish and Italian — in view of the fact that it is recognized that the type of person comprising such groups is, as a rule, the busiest in the organization. The present executive boards in all locals will be included in these groups, and the instruction hours will, in all likelihood, be mostly on Saturday afternoons and Sunday mornings, in halls and assembly rooms in residential localities.

The unity centers of the Educational Department will open on September 15th, and the schools have already been arranged for the use of these centres. At the special request of a number of members residing in the Morrisania section of the Bronx, a new centre has been opened in that district, at a public school, near East 140th Street. Applicants for courses in that locality may register at the office of the People's Cooperative Society, 231 Brook Avenue.

The work is on. Another few days and actual instruction will begin in all districts and centres. The membership of the International is urged not to delay registration and proceed to enroll at once. The educational committees of the locals are particularly called upon to begin activities without delay and to proceed to select group lists of members for the pur-

The Menace of Unemployment

By JULIET STUART POYNTEZ

(Continued from Last Week)

The United States must soon adopt the principle of social responsibility for the unemployed. Workers have a right to sustenance when they are idle because the economic system provides no work for them to do. The right to bread is even more vital than the right to work. An economic system which keeps large armies of workers standing in reserve in bad times and slack seasons waiting to return to the factories when there are running full again must provide sustenance and a living place for these reserve armies of industry just as do the governments for their military armies. England, Germany and many smaller countries have well-developed forms of social insurance for the unemployed. In some cases the state or city pays large funds in to the unemployment funds that the trade unions have organized for their own members. Such is the so-called Ghent system. This is the most advanced principle, but it is difficult to have it adopted on any large scale by a capitalist government. It has mostly been applied in small towns. It is further of use mainly where there are already strongly organized trade unions and is of course of no benefit to the unorganized workers.

The English system of unemployment insurance provides for payments to the unemployed workers, from funds to which the work-

In an article contributed to the "Yorkshire Evening Post," Alderman Ben Turner, President of the Woolen Textile Federation of Great Britain and Chairman of the British Labor Unions to Russia, gives some interesting facts regarding hours and output at the clothing works now being worked under Bolshevik administration in Petrograd.

He says: "We visited the first Government clothing factory, employing over 1,500 people, 35 per cent of them females and young persons. It turns out 2,000 military overcoats per day, 5,000 military garments other than overcoats, and 500 civilian suits for men and lads. It began with 13 employees in April, 1918. They work on two shifts per day, 600 working on the forenoon shift of eight hours, and 900 on the evening shift of seven hours. That 5.30 to 12.30 (midnight) shift, including half-an-hour for a meal, is snappy, and fair play. In some factories or "enterprises," where three shifts are worked, the night shift is six hours only. They fix, by meeting and through their trade union, the hours of labor, and also grade the productivity of the employees. They consider that for the 43 operations neces-

pose indicated above.

By applying at the office of the International, or at the office of Local No. 25, members can secure tickets, which entitle the bearer thereof to two half-priced tickets for the new play, "An Enemy of the People." These tickets are good for any evening, and cost but 10 cents each.

sary to complete a military overcoat, three hours is required.

One reason given for the preponderance of employes on the evening shift was that the authorities must overcome illiteracy, and the adult women who cannot read have to go to a day school each forenoon to be taught. The factory was too crowded, the pressing room too hot, and they had not many machines in a good factory. Shortage of machinery was the cry here also. They showed us a room from which, when Judenitch made his offensive on Petrograd, the workpeople could see the battle raging. They resolved to make more coats for their soldier-brothers, and the output increased.

"The little tailors' shops have been closed," adds Mr. Turner, "and the workpeople put into a clothing factory, both for economy and productivity. They are making productivity a fetish — in such a way as, I think, our folks at home would not tolerate, but when I said this they retorted, 'We shouldn't do it for a capitalist, or speculator, but we will do it for ourselves, and we are the State.'"

Mr. Turner goes on to say that, "In all the factories there are shop committees, and for 12 clothing and other factories there are two inspectors — a woman and a man. They have to see the sanitary and health conditions are complied with, the wage tariffs kept, the machinery made safe, and the food of the workers kept up to regulation. They are chosen by the trade unions, the names being submitted for confirmation to the local Commissariat of Labor."

er, employer and the state each contribute. This system which at first was applied as an experiment to the workers in certain specified trades only is now being extended to all trades, and reaches skilled and unskilled, men and women, organized and unorganized. It is too strongly collectivistic in many respects, that is to say, it emphasizes the power of the state at the expense of that of the trade unions which have too little to say in the administration of the insurance act. The unorganized workers also demand that they be relieved of contributions altogether and that the state and the employers take the whole responsibility for the unemployment situation. The organized workers on the other hand prefer to continue their contributions to the insurance funds throughout their unions or friendly societies in order that they may have a greater voice in the management of the insurance funds. In some cases they have very large sums amounting to millions of dollars invested in these funds.

Germany has had to expand her system of unemployment insurance to meet the situation created by the war and the treaty of Versailles and has had to pay out of the public treasury vast sums in unemployed benefits to the workers to keep them alive in this period of industrial disorganization.

These two great measures of industrial organization of the labor market and insurance for unemployment must soon be adopted in America, and must be developed under the influence and control of the organized workers. The organization of the labor market through a national system of employment bureaus would give the worker some sense of security, would oil the wheels of industry by an efficient distribution of labor and would distribute the new immigration under an effective and intelligent control instead of leaving it to collect in pools along the eastern seaboard and underbid in the labor market. If the government does not take this matter in hand the garment trades should certainly establish some central bureau of the kind to distribute the large new Jewish immigration in such a manner as not to depress the conditions of labor.

This is only the A. B. C. of our problem. The problem of unemployment is the problem of industry and is as complicated and far-reaching as industry itself. There are many other measures for relieving and adjusting unemployment, for reducing the seasonal fluctuations in industry, for assigning the responsibility and burdens of industrial irregularity to those who are best able to bear it. These measures will be discussed in a subsequent article.

EDITORIALS

THE STRIKE ON THE BROOKLYN RAPID TRANSIT LINES

It is nearly two weeks since the employees on the B. R. T. lines are out in a bitter struggle against their employers. The strikers do not want the sole control of the transportation system. They are citizens. Of the social revolution they do not know a thing. All that they want is a wage which should enable them and their families to tide through the present high cost of living. And this demand they are prepared to submit to arbitration. Let impartial persons decide whether their demands are just. They are prepared to abide by such decision even if it be unfavorable to them.

Can there be a more moderate demand? The demand of the B. R. T. employees are the more justifiable because their agreement with the company on all disputes arising between both parties. But Judge Mayer ruled that the question of wages cannot be submitted to arbitration. The company would take no chances for the workers might get a favorable decision.

A child can understand that this is a mere pretext. Men who are selected as arbitrators are certainly no hold-up men. No Capitalist is known to have suffered bankruptcy as a result of the decision of an arbitrator. In many cases it is the workers who feel themselves defeated by such decisions. Yet Judge Mayer is firm in his stand.

He cares not a whit that the people of greater New York are inconvenienced by the strike. He cares little that every day witnesses several killed and hurt as a result of the inefficiency of the score of cabs who make a show of running the cars, and because of the terribly chaotic state of the traffic. The Judge who never tires of chanting the formula, "law and order" in ordinary times is now responsible for the bloody lawlessness and wild disorder simply because he chose to be above arbitration.

One would think that this Judge is firmly convinced that an increase in wages is impossible under the present financial situation of the B. R. T., and for this reason he is opposed to arbitrating this point.

But this is far from being the case. Last Saturday he issued a statement to the effect that he is prepared to offer an increase in wages of 10 per cent to all employees on the B. R. T. lines on one condition and that is that all employees should leave their Union. The Judge has cleared the air with this announcement. The Judge is not so worried by the demand of a wage increase. He is distressed by the fact that the employees are organized in the powerful Amalgamated. Give up your Organization, this Judge declared, and you get your wage

raise of 10 per cent. The "rebels," of course, will not be accepted.

It is interesting to note the attitude of the capitalist press toward the strike. Imagine a strike in which the employers propose arbitration and the workers reject it. What a storm of protest the press would raise! The workers against arbitration! The workers bringing so much suffering to the public by imposing their demands through coercion and violence! This is terrible. Don't we live in a country of law and order! But the case is different today. The workers only ask for arbitration of their demand but our law and order loving press have no good word for them. As is its custom in such cases, it colors all the facts; it lies and slanders the strikers. Mr. Louis Fridgen, the counsel for the Union, issued a statement declaring that the B. R. T. bought the entire press. But this, in our opinion, is unnecessary. Such action was expected. Has the press ever acted differently? It must not be said to this or that company, although this is often the case. It is always sold to capitalism. That is why in any struggle between capital and labor it sides with the former.

THE WORKING SEASON SLOWLY BEGINS.

From the report of Brother I. Feinberg, manager of the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union, it is to be seen that the long expected working season is slowly beginning. No one is in such a position to know the situation in the trade as is the manager of the Joint Board, and when he reports that "almost all the workers are on their jobs although a full week's work is not yet a general case. Similar reports reach us from various cities. This will doubtless make an end of the cries we heard during the last few weeks.

It seems to us that the clamor was far from justifiable. Recently we had a conversation with Vice-President Sigman, former manager of the Joint Board. According to him all these complaints are unfounded. During the slack season, he believes, about 80 per cent of the cloakmakers had some work to earn enough to tide through the bad times. The present slack was particularly unsavory to some because it followed close on the heels of a few years of prosperity.

The trouble with our workers, Sigman continued, is their special love to exaggerate. If it is busy and some workers make big money, say \$100 a week, the rumor is immediately spread that all cloakmakers are simply coining money. If on the other hand slack comes and some workers lose their jobs, it means that all cloakmakers are going idle and starving.

In both cases, Sigman declared, exaggeration is extremely dangerous and this habit must be discouraged as far as possible. If the fact that a few cloakmakers are making big wages is exaggerated to mean that all cloakmakers are earning high wages, many workers who earn less than the legendary sum are dissatisfied and grieved. Each of them feels that he is the only unfortunate one who is not making a hundred a week while all the others are so many Rockefeller. This leads to an endless speeding up which undermines and saps their strength and which is destructive to their organization. During slack time again there is that clamor of general idleness which depresses and frightens the worker to such a degree that he agrees to work for any wage no matter how low. The bosses, of course, are utilizing this general feeling of depression for their own purposes. It is therefore of the utmost importance for the workers not to indulge in the dangerous habit of exaggeration whether it is the slack or busy season.

Brother Sigman is right. The workers must not lose their heads, no matter whether it is a prosperous or slack season. Only workers who can squarely face a situation are truly good and devoted union men.

THE LABOR FILM SERVICE CORPORATION

The "movies" occupy a prominent place in the lives of the workers. Who are most of the frequenters to the moving picture theatres that one finds on almost every block? Workers, their wives and children. And they often see things which are frequently hostile to the workers. The education supplied by the "movies" is not such as to be of any help to the workers. It is therefore an excellent idea that some labor leaders hit upon when they founded the Labor Film Corporation of which Comrade Cannon, the Socialist candidate for Governor of New York state, is president. The plan is that the movies the workers, their wives and children are visiting should have a healthy educative effect upon them.

But in order that the Labor Film Corporation should meet with success, so that it could produce pictures of the life and struggles of the workers, a considerable amount of money is required. It is a big business which needs big capital. None of the initiators of this plan, however, is blessed with thousands or even with hundreds of dollars. They have the good will, the ideas and plans, but they lack the necessary capital. They can only appeal for help to the various labor organizations who should become partners in this undertaking. It is our opinion that the labor unions can do nothing better than invest as much as possible in this corporation.

The moving pictures are a great educative factor in our life. And in everything else, it was the ruling class that provided us with moving pictures. The result is that the pictures are far from being helpful and educative. They are, in fact, harmful. They have done their bit in spreading the mad hysteria which is called patriotism. They have spread perverse ideas about labor struggles. The movie has been the most fatal instrument in service of dark reaction. The Labor Film Corporation has undertaken as far as is possible to counteract the harmful and misleading propaganda.

That is why it deserves all the help and encouragement. The Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union has made the first steps in helping this movement by buying 10 shares from this corporation. If all other labor unions and locals will follow this example, the Labor Film Corporation will be in a position to make itself felt in the movie world.

"FROM THE STANDPOINT OF THE BUSINESS MAN"

In our note on slack and busy seasons we spoke of the harmful effect of exaggeration upon the workers. This would not have been so harmful had it not been for its effect on the outside world. The fact is that in most circles, outside that of the cloakmakers, there prevails the idea that the cloakmakers are the highest paid workers. People become very envious. Why should the cloakmakers earn so much? We know, however, that this is not the case. We know that the slack eats up all of the earnings of the busy season. That when we divide the cloakmakers' earnings into 52 weeks their wages will amount to less than do the wages of some workers in other trades. But the outside world forgets these facts and only clamor of the high wages of the garment workers.

The Sunday Times usually carries an article under the name, "The Business Man's Standpoint." As if the rest of the Times is written from any other standpoint! This business man declares that the workers in the needle trades simply wallow in gold. He says: "It is only a few years since the revolt against the sweat shop system has taken place. And now these workers, outside of those who become business men themselves, are the highest paid workers, while at the same time they turn out as little work as possible. They are largely responsible for the high cost of men's and women's clothing. There are indications of a revolt against their methods which are almost unendurable."

It is not our intention to enter into a discussion with this writer. It is either deliberate lies or he swallowed these lies dished out to him by some business man. We only want to emphasize that the workers themselves are in a measure responsible for this legend. They have absurdly helped to circulate this bluff. The fact is that the cloakmaker earns in the busy season not more than \$60 a week. Discount the weeks that he goes around idle and you have at most \$40 instead of \$60. And in this the wages of the highest paid workers when the dollar really amounts to 40 cents!

REVOLUTION IN ITALY

We are using the word "revolution" because the movement of the Italian workers in the different cities of Italy, seizing and operating the various factories and ousting the former employers, is a revolution in the strictest sense of the word. It is not a paper revolution as when a proclamation is issued that private property is abolished while in actual life it remains a fact. The Italian workers have apparently abolished private property. And the fact that the Italian Government silently and tolerantly watches this movement is of the profoundest revolutionary significance. A capitalist government cannot afford to remain passive and indifferent when the sacred institution of private property is so openly attacked. It is her duty to come

The International Clothing Congress At Copenhagen

Copenhagen, Denmark,
August 19, 1930.

Yesterday, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, the Congress of the International Clothing Workers' Federation came to a close, and tomorrow I am leaving this city. I am going from here to Stockholm, and from there, to Reval, from which point I shall make an attempt to enter Soviet Russia.

I spent this entire day in getting my passport vised by the Swedish and Estonian Consulates, and will devote tomorrow to the task of looking over the city of Copenhagen. It was impossible for me to prepare as yet a complete report of the transactions of the Congress. I expect to do that when I am back to the States. In this letter I shall only attempt to present a brief review of the proceedings:

There were 26 delegates from 11 countries present at this Congress: America, 4 delegates, two from our International, one from the Amalgamated, and one from the Journeymen Tailors' Union; Holland, 4 delegates, 3 from the General Holland Tailors' Union, and 1 from the Holland Syndicalist Tailors' Organization; England, 3 delegates, 2 from the United Garment Workers' Trade Union, and one from the Amalgamated Society of Tailors; Germany, 3 delegates; Denmark, 3 delegates; France, 2 delegates; Sweden, 1 delegate; Belgium, 2 delegates, one from the Belgian Clothing Workers' Union, and another from the Belgian Syndicalist Tailors' Organization; Austria, 1 delegate; Switzerland, 1 delegate; and Czechoslovakia, 1 delegate.

These 26 delegates represented 607,000 members in good standing. There were no delegates from Poland as their departure from that country was made impossible by the war. Italy and Spain sent no delegates because the clothing workers of these countries have no national organizations. Hungary and Norway were not represented, because the local unions have no means for the delegates' expenses. Nor were there any delegates from Russia, as the committee in charge of the arrangements of the Congress did not know how to get in touch with the tailors' organization of that country, and Russia was, therefore, much to our regret, left without an invitation.

The Congress lasted 3½ days. It was opened on Sunday morning, August 15th and closed on Wednesday, the 18th, in the afternoon. Business was conducted in 4 languages, English, French, German, and Danish, and as my colleague, Brother Lefkowitz, speaks a little French, besides English and German, he made himself quite useful at the Congress as one of the interpreters.

but, it with all the powers at its command. But it does not do it, which is the most eloquent demonstration that it could not do it. The military and police power which is always the chief protector of private property is not any more on the side of private ownership but for its abolition. In other words, it means that the machinery of the Italian Government is bankrupt and collapsing.

If the reports are true, a social revolution is taking place in Italy. And when we read of everything taking place there, we ask ourselves, will we ever live to see this movement in our country?

By BENJAMIN SCHLESINGER

• The principal task of the Congress consisted in adopting a constitution for the Federation. This constitution was prepared in advance by the committees appointed at the Amsterdam Conference during last December, and the Congress was to debate and decide upon each point and article either for adoption, rejection or amendment.

In the course of the debates, the conditions of the clothing workers in the various countries were brought to light by many delegates. In comparison with the garment workers of America, the European tailors are many, many years behind. The clothing industry all through Europe is yet practically a home industry, which means that instead of working in factories, most workers are doing their work at home; the hours are much longer and the wages much lower than in America, and the treatment accorded by the employers is a great deal worse than in the United States. The delegates regarded with pride our tailor organizations in America, and placed great hopes on the fraternal aid which we might give them through the International Federation in their struggles for more humane working conditions.

The summer, our industry in Europe fared much worse than during the preceding years. There is very little work to be had, and the delegates from France, England and Germany constantly complained about it. In the ladies garment industry the situation is even worse than in the men's clothing trade. In explanation of this unusually bad state of affairs they advance the same causes that are offered in the United States. A garment is an article that can be patched up when it is worn out, and the great masses of the people in Europe would rather, under present conditions, go about in patched clothes rather than with empty stomachs. In addition to that, there is a scarcity of woollens and other materials, which as a result, the prices of clothing are raised so high that it is absolutely impossible to get any new garments even for those who would have them. They are hoping, nevertheless, that this situation will not last long and that it will change to the better soon.

The Congress adopted a forceful resolution against the piece work system. The representatives of the clothing workers of all the countries were unanimously of the opinion that as long as piece work prevails, the system of home work can not be abolished, the working hours will be long and the general working conditions will remain as miserable as at present.

Resolutions were also adopted expressing bitter indignation with regard to the present reactionary government of Hungary, and praising the attitude of the British Labor Party with regard to Soviet Russia.

Comrade Vanderheeg of Holland was elected as International Secretary. The provisional secretary was Brother Heinrich Stuhmer. As members of the Secretariat (General Executive Board) the following were elected: Pierre Dumas, (France); Wm. Rines, (England); Benjamin Schlesinger, (America); Heinrich Stuhmer, (Germany); Villem Arup, (Den-

mark) and Karl Folber, (Czechoslovakia). The International Bureau will be located at Amsterdam, instead of Berlin where it was before the war. General congresses will be held every three years, and the next congress will take place in the summer of 1933 at Geneva.

The delegates of the countries which were involved in the last war were more friendly towards each other at this Congress at Copenhagen than what they were six months ago at the Conference in Amsterdam. The bitterness displayed by the French against the Germans, and vice versa, was not as apparent at this Congress as at Amsterdam, and most of the proposals by Charles Stuhmer from Berlin and Schmitka from Vienna, were heartily supported by the French.

It is only a question of time before the hatreds engendered by the war among the workers of the various countries will disappear entirely and they will begin to feel like one great family. It is reasonable to expect, likewise, that the experience of the war will make it impossible for the capitalistic masters to incite the working class of one country against another, as they have so successfully done in 1914.

The Executive Committee of the Danish Tailors' Union arranged a banquet in honor of the Congress, at which we spent a very pleasant evening. In addition to the very tasteful Danish dishes and liquors (which Denmark imports from America) we enjoyed a very interesting concert rendered by the Danish Garment Workers' Singing Society. We, I recall, have endeavored, several years ago, to organize a cloakmakers' singing society in New York. That at-

tempt failed, leaving behind it only a frail memory of the renowned cloakmakers' song, "From Milwaukee to Kentucky." In Copenhagen, the Tailors' Singing Society is known as the best workers' choral organization in Denmark, and we were given a remarkable treat, indeed, that evening.

There have begun to immigrate into Copenhagen, during the past several years, a number of Jews from Russia and Poland. These immigrants are employed largely at garment making, and they belong to the Danish General Tailors' Union. They are not employed in shops, but take work to their homes, where, assisted by their wives and children, they manage to eke out a living. All told, there are in Copenhagen, together with those born in Denmark, about 3000 Jewish families. The Danish-born Jews are quite prosperous. They have equal rights with the Danes and play an important role in politics and business. The several hundred families of Jewish immigrants, however, fare rather poorly. It is very difficult for an immigrant to become a citizen. He is regarded as a stranger and can be deported at any time.

The Jewish garment workers have their own clubrooms and library. Two nights ago, there was a meeting at this clubhouse and Brothers Lefkowitz, Schlossberg and myself addressed them and spoke to them about America. They are coming regularly to this library the "Forwards" and are quite familiar with the history of our organization and the accomplishments of the tailors of America. They arranged for us this evening a sort of an entertainment at the clubhouse, and, of course, we have accepted their invitation with delight.

SCHLESINGER AND SCHLOSSBERG SEND GREETINGS FROM CLOTHING CONGRESS AT COPENHAGEN

Greetings to The Call and to the American working-class are contained in a joint message just received from Copenhagen, Denmark, by Benjamin Schlesinger, president of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, and Joseph Schlossberg, secretary-treasurer of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.

The message of the two representatives of the American needle trade reads, in part, as follows:

"We are glad to take this occasion to thank The Call our sincere congratulations upon its splendid work. It is our hope that The Call may continue, and even more effectively than heretofore, to carry on its work of enlightening the American workers upon their common interests and so lead the way to their final emancipation."

Both men are now visiting the important industrial centers of Europe with the view of ascertaining the drift of immigration to the United States of needle workers and the possible effects of the migration upon the union wage standard established here.

They attended the recent International Clothing Workers' Congress as the representatives of the two dominant American unions.

In reference to the world solidarity now established among the

needle trades organizations they made the following report:

"The International Clothing Workers' Congress took a great step forward at its first convention since 1915 in the direction of upbuilding the solidarity of the working class of the world.

For the first time America was represented by its lowest workers representing the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America and the Journeymen Tailors' Union of America. This fact was highly appreciated by our European Comrades.

It was an inspiration to see German, French, English, Austrian and delegates from other countries but recently opposed in war, exchanging greetings and pleading themselves to international working class unity. The presence of American delegates made this "League of Nations" real and complete.

"The powerful clothing workers' organizations in America are a source of great encouragement to our fellow workers in the European countries."

The message closes in the following manner:

"Our cordial greeting to the American workers generally and the great membership of our organizations in particular."

THE 1920-21 SEASON OF RAND SCHOOL

Preparing for the great growth of the co-operative movement in the United States, the Rand School of Social Science in New York City has established a Department of Co-operation which will conduct classes for workers who wish to take an active part in co-operatives.

The Department of Co-operation is designed to serve the following purposes:

1. To establish a harmonious understanding between Socialists, Industrialists and Co-operators as to the essential identity of their interests.
2. To develop among Socialists and Unionists a practical acquaintance with the problems and possibilities of co-operation.
3. To develop for the Co-operative Movement a supply of trained and devoted workers of every type.
4. To furnish a general educational center for the Co-operative Movement.
5. To promote research in co-operation.

A three months' training course in co-operation will begin work on October 4 and continue until December 24. An advanced course of three months will be organized if a sufficient number of students desire to continue their studies of the co-operative movement.

Full time students in the Department of Co-operation will take about eighteen hours of class work per week, half of which operation, and the remainder will include economic history, labor problems, economics and such other work as may meet the special needs of individual students, such as English, bookkeeping and accounting, public speaking and other subjects.

The full time class of the Rand School will continue their studies until May 7. There will be about 15 days for class work, with an average of three or four sessions a day. As far as practicable, the class sessions for these students are held in the daytime, but it will be necessary for them to attend some of the evening lectures or classes.

The tuition fee for this six months course, covering the complete service of the school, is \$75. This fee, except in special cases, is paid at the beginning of the term. Many students have been able to fight the cost of living by forming co-operatives which get cheap living quarters. The cost of maintenance for the term will be about \$300 or about \$12 a week. There are a number of scholarships, ranging from \$75 to \$250 a year, for students who are unable to pay for their entire tuition and living expenses. Members of the International who wish to compete for one of these scholarships should write at once to the Educational Director of the Rand School, 7 East 15th Street, New York City.

We Must Now Organize

By EUGENE V. DEBS

The greatest work ever cut out for it now confronts the working-class and issues its challenge to the Socialist movement.

The world is now ready for the workers, but are the workers ready for the world?

That is the great question of the day and its answer will shape the future and determine the destiny of the race for another generation and perhaps another century.

The choice the workers of the world now have to make is between capitalist despotism and Socialist freedom; between wage-slavery and industrial democracy. Their masters and exploiters are, of course, uniformly for capitalism and slavery and it naturally follows that their press, their pulpit, their political henchmen and their retainers on the bench, at the bar, in school and college and every other social institution, are for the same program.

Against this powerful and hitherto impregnable combination the workers of every nation have contended in vain, the only result of the beating of their wings against the bars of their industrial prison being to obtain a few paltry concessions from their masters, and these have served to placate discontent and silence protest except upon the part of the small minority of revolutionary Socialists who have kept the agitation alive and who have persistently demanded the overthrow of capitalism and the destruction of wage-slavery, thereby incurring the hatred of not only the master class, but of the very slaves by whose side they toiled and for whose liberation they are battling as well as their own, knowing that the solidarity of their class, at whatever cost to themselves, was the price of liberation.

And now these revolutionary Socialists, these "undesirable citizens" in the eyes of the thieving profiteers and exploiters, looking backward over the past, especially the last four years, are asking the workers of the world if they are prepared to take their masters at their word—the masters of all nations who united in the battle-cry of "Democracy"—and establish democracy, real democracy throughout the world.

The profiteers, plutocrats and pirates who constitute the ruling class of every nation on earth under the present system of capitalism all abeted in union that the war was for "democracy" and now let their exploited slaves who outnumber them twenty to one, proceed to carry out the purpose for which the deluge of blood was shed in the war, the purpose which justified the war and made it a patriotic and humane war according to the aristocratic and plutocratic masters—let the toilers, peasants and soldiers, the common people, the useful people who operate the mills, till the soil and harvest the crops, delve in the mines, sail the ships and perform all other necessary social service, let them now unite to carry out the program of the war as announced by the masters and establish the democratic commonwealth in every nation on earth.

The extent to which the workers will succeed or fail in carrying out this program will be deter-

mined by the extent to which they are industrially and politically organized. Without organization or with organization that is either lacking in revolutionary spirit and purpose or entirely reactionary, there is no hope. The revolution may be precipitated by the forces underlying society, but the workers will be in no position to take advantage of it and install themselves in power, thereby achieving their freedom and enjoying its blessings for soon, very soon, the counter-revolution will throw their unorganized, undisciplined ranks into confusion and dismay and drown their revolution in their own blood.

Now, as never before, the working class have their opportunity to free themselves from the bondage of the ages and walk the earth its sovereign rulers. If they fail and sink back into the slavery which existed before the war and still exists, the catastrophe will be due entirely to the lack of revolutionary industrial and political organization.

In Germany the workers are at this hour face to face with their immediate fate and their future destiny. At the beginning of the war the great majority failed the cause and were swept into the torrent of militarism and reaction. Their weakness, to put it mildly, destroyed the International and created bitter disappointment in Socialist circles throughout the world.

There is not the slightest cause for discouragement. We have lost nothing and we have gained much. The people are now far readier for Socialism than they ever were before. We have but to proceed without delay to build up our organization, revive our press and our propaganda, and prepare for the great work of industrial and social reconstruction that confronts the world. The Socialist party, to be the factor it should be in this stupendous task, must be strong in number, in self-discipline and in the Socialist spirit, and it must have clear understanding of its high purpose.

Now is the time for every Socialist to serve as builder.

To build the party is to mould the future.

The industrial and social democracy will not be dreamed into existence. It will have to be organized and to that supreme historic task we must give ourselves patiently, persistently and understandingly with all our hearts and all our souls.

Let us all unite as we never have before and build together in union a harmonious Socialist party that it may rise to power in all its historic mission to emancipate the working class and bring democracy and peace to the world.

LABOR DAY, 1920

By ABRAHAM BAROFF

What is the biggest issue labor will confront in the course of next year?

It will be, in my opinion, first of all, a great organization effort, another mighty endeavor to put within the fold of organized labor the hundreds of thousands of workers engaged in the steel mills, mines, forests, who are still being ground under the heel of the mercenary regime of industrial autocracy. Secondly, organized labor will turn its attention, in a greater degree than heretofore, to co-operatives, union-owned enterprises and similar activities, in order to escape in a measure the gouging practices of the jobbers, market cornerers and other traffickers in life's necessities.

The astounding and steady rise in the cost of living, the futility and insincerity of our ruling officialdom to check or ameliorate it, are a powerful stimulant in this direction.

The inevitable fiasco of the "reward-your-friends and punish-your-enemies" political scheme of 1920 will, let us hope, be the last nail driven into the casket of labor's political helplessness and dependence. After this we shall see the rapid growth of independent and fearless political action on the part of the workers of America—the only kind of work that counts and that will raise the labor movement to the heights toward which it is aspiring.

By MAX D. DANISH

The next twelve months will, doubtless, witness some very portentous events in the labor movement of America.

With the political campaign out of the way, and the haze of campaign camouflage and trickery vanished into thin air, the industrial magnates will very likely try their heaviest hand in a frontal attack upon organized labor.

The authentic reports of a huge fund collected by the Merchants' Association of New York and elsewhere to combat that hoary bugaboo, the "closed shop," or, in simpler words, the labor organizations of this country, are fairly indicative of the "reconstruction" plans of the industrial powers that be.

The recent judicial decisions in the labor cases, particularly the Roderick-Rochester decision, and their forerunners, the sweeping Federal and state injunctions, are straws which indicate the course the winds of industrial reaction are blowing. In that they have received the practically unanimous and wholehearted support of the spineless and reptile press.

The next few years hold in their fold some crucial conflicts that will test the mettle and the endurance of the opposing forces. The eventual outcome of these battles is certain; Labor will emerge from them stronger, clearer in its aims and nearer to its goal.

THE WEEK'S NEWS IN CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10

By SAM B. SHENKER

General

The attention of the membership is called to the Special General Meeting that will be held on September 27th, 1920, at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place, where a number of problems of feeling Local No. 10 will be taken up.

One of these is the affiliation of the raincoat cutters with the Dress and Waist Branch. This recommendation was made by the Executive Board as a result of the full-fledged affiliation by the Cloak and Suit Division with the Joint Board, which left the raincoat cutters out in the cold, so to speak. The Board thought that the only thing to do was to recommend the amalgamation of the raincoat cutters with the Dress and Waist Division. It is urgent that raincoat cutters attend this meeting en masse, so that they may express their opinion on this question.

Other matters to be taken up are the consolidation of the Miscellaneous Branch with the Dress Division; the choosing of a manager for the Cloak and Suit Branch, and the amending of the Constitution accordingly. These, in brief, are the most important matters that will be taken up.

Of course, there are the usual recommendations of a general character that affect the membership. There hardly is, therefore, the need for urging the members to attend the meeting, as its importance is obvious.

Waist and Dress

Developments in the last few months in the Waist and Dress industry have been such that it requires most acute alertness, on the part of the staff of officers, in order that labor conditions secured as a result of the last general strike may be safeguarded.

First of all, because of the many and varied styles and the short duration of the season, it is possible for new shops to spring up every once in a while. This, of course, necessitates watchfulness and organization, so that union conditions in shops with which the union has agreements will be made secure.

Another important problem of the present situation in the trade is the desire on the part of the employers who are members of the so-called Dress and Waist Manufacturers' Association to operate their factories on the open-shop basis. However, the Cutters' Union was always a thorn in the side of this organization, and little difficulty is encountered to overcome this. As soon as reports reached the Dress and Waist Division that the few remaining members in the defunct Dress and Waist Manufacturers' Association were instituting a movement that no cutters should be hired for more than the old minimum scale of wages, the office immediately set about issuing proper instructions to the workers in the shops where this movement was likely to be effected.

In cases where cutters were hired for the old minimum of \$38 instead of the present minimum of \$44, the office either compelled these men to receive the prevailing minimum or they were ordered off the job. In addition to this, a number of shops discharged cutters who had worked the required

trial period and had demonstrated their ability. As soon as this was found to be the case, steps were immediately taken with a view to reinstating the men. Where the office found this difficult, the cutters employed were summoned to a shop meeting and the matter was laid before them. The men were told that to allow the discharge of a man instead of giving him an equal share of all work in the slack season would be a blow at the very existence of the union in this trade.

In this instance the cutters thereupon took the matter in their own hands, under advice of the office of course, and gave their employers the alternative to either reinstate the discharged men and give them an equal share of work, or be left without any cutters. Action of this kind proved quite satisfactory to the branch; the discharged men were reinstated in every case and were placed on an equal footing with the rest of the cutters in the shop.

Dress and waist cutters are, no doubt, familiar with the present discussion going on within the organizations controlling the dress and waist trade with respect to the formation of a Joint Board. Last week's issue of this paper carried an article and an editorial note on the full-fledged affiliation of the Cloak and Suit cutters with the Joint Board of Cloakmakers. Forward-thinking members, no doubt, are gratified over this move. The days of absolute craft control of an industry are gradually passing away. Workers feel nowadays that in order to properly control an industry they must be organized along centralized lines—organization work should be under the direction of a central body. And this is what mainly led the cloak and suit cutters to affiliate fully with the Joint Board.

In order that the dress and waist trade may be properly controlled, a similar form of centralized activity must be instituted. To those in direct contact with organizational problems in the dress and waist trade a Joint Board is an absolute necessity. The energy and financial loss resulting from the present form of organization is beyond comprehension. In order that the resulting chaos may be done away with, an effort is being made by the Cutters' Union to establish a Joint Board or District Council in the Dress and Waist industry. It is as yet somewhat inopportune to go into details as to the measures taken towards this end. Suffice it to say that discussions are being held at Executive Board meetings and meetings will be held with committees of the locals affected towards the establishment of a Joint Board. The members will hear reports at regular meetings of the progress of this move, and should it be necessary to take a final step, the members will be consulted at a special meeting to be called for such a purpose.

Readers will note the absence of the name of the regular conductor, Brother I. Lewin, of these columns. This is due to the fact that he is away on his vacation, and during his absence, therefore, the news of Local No. 10 will be given by the managers of the respective divisions.

The Origin of Labor Day

By Clint G. Houston

Labor Day was first officially observed September 2, 1882, in New York City when the Central Labor Union there celebrated its organization with a parade, followed by public addresses. Later a resolution was adopted by the Central Labor Union designating the first Monday in September as Labor Day, and thereafter the annual parade of labor was held on that date. In 1884 the American Federation of Labor declared the first Monday in September to be Labor Day.

However, while the first celebration of the day was held in an Atlantic coast city, the State of Oregon on the Pacific coast had the honor of enacting the first Monday in September as a holiday. The Oregon legislature passed this measure February 27, 1887. New Jersey was the second State to enact such a law and New York the third. Congress passed a bill recognizing Labor Day as a national holiday for the working classes June 23, 1894.

During the thirty-eight years since Labor Day was first observed in the United States the

workers have been struggling for a greater share of the wealth which they produce. This battle has been largely fought on the principle of collective bargaining as the best method by which the workers could obtain a modicum of justice in this commercial era. The success which has attended this effort is shown in the greatly increased membership of labor unions, local, State and national, shorter hours, and higher wage scales than could have been secured through any other medium.

Today labor has a broader vision. It is looking to a time in the not distant future when the producers shall a part in directing industry. No human movement remains at one level—it must go forward or backward. We have just gone through a great conflict with the hope of making the world safe for democracy. Labor is now determined that there shall be democracy in industry. This is the goal of American labor today. Labor will achieve this goal because American labor has never known, in the higher sense, the meaning of failure.

Petticoat Makers' Union Launches Organizing Campaign

(Continued from Page 1)

known phrase: "Another such victory and we are lost." That strike was too expensive an article for the bosses. And what is worse the Union is far from being destroyed. Several shops settled with the Union and although the strike was not altogether successful there were several hundred workers who were members of the Union.

The petticoat makers know that the reason the strike was unsuccessful was not due to any heroism on the part of the employers but to the slack season. Due to the speculations in the petticoat goods the season was exceptionally slow and the bosses could very well allow the workers to strike even the entire season.

The case is different now. There is plenty of work. The bosses are crowded with orders and all indications point to a very busy season. It is therefore the best time to strengthen the Union in the petticoat trade. The workers in this trade will not be behind the other workers in the ladies' garment industry. They will not remain unorganized and helpless when the workers in the other branches of the ladies' garment trades are enjoying the benefits of their Union. All petticoat makers of Greater New York must now rally to the call of their Union. They must join their organization which is the only power to protect and defend their interests.

The Petticoat Makers' Union has launched an organizing campaign and as Brother H. Zucker, manager of the Union says, the workers are responding to the call of the organization. New members are daily coming into the Union, and its office, 15 West 25 Street, is buzzing with activity.

The Union will soon submit new demands to the employers in the trade. But before submitting these demands to the bosses the Union wants to discuss them with the

workers of the entire trade. For this purpose a big mass meeting is called for next Thursday evening, September 16, in Casino Hall, 88 East 4th Street, where good speakers will discuss the questions in the trade. It is the duty of all petticoat workers to attend this meeting. All the workers of the trade must come to the meeting and demonstrate the fact that they are firmly determined to have a strong union and fight for better working conditions.

Cloakmakers Join Strike of Division Street Salespeople

(Continued from Page 1)

keepers when they are conducting such a ruthless war against their salespeople.

The truth of the matter is that the Division Street salespeople have not submitted any new demands. They only asked for the renewal of their old agreement which they had fought out a year ago. But the storekeepers decided to use everything in their power to break the Union and the first thing they have done was to lock out their salespeople. They will now realize that they were grievously in error in their calculations.

The salespeople now joined by the cloakmakers and supported not only by the International but by the entire labor movement in New York are fully determined to win their just fight. The strike which is under the supervision of Vice President H. Wander and a committee of the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union has taken a fresh and vigorous turn. The storekeepers are beginning to realize that they are facing a mighty and well organized Union that is impossible to break. If they wish to remain storekeepers they will have to come to terms with their salespeople.

DESIGNERS OF LADIES' GARMENTS ARE IN GREAT DEMAND!**A GOOD PROFESSION FOR MEN AND WOMEN!**

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CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10, ATTENTION.**NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETINGS**

NOTE—Owing to "Eosh Hashonah," and "Yom Kippur" there will be no Waist and Dress meeting during the month of September.

MISCELLANEOUS:
SPECIAL GENERAL:
CLOAK AND SUIT:
WAIST AND DRESS:

Monday, Sept. 20th.
Monday, Sept. 27th.
Monday, October 4th.
Monday, October 11th.

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.

WHY DENVER CAR MEN STRUCK

The recent street car strike, followed by rioting that resulted in the death of several persons, can be directly traced to the policy of Denver tramway company, its imported gun men, the inflammatory propaganda of the local press and to the citizens' alliance and its non-union shop influences.

The average wage of the street car men was 50 cents an hour, and in refusing increases the company rejected every offer of compromise or arbitration.

RICH, CREAMY MILK AND PURE CANE SUGAR

Save the Labels for Valuable Premiums

Write for
Free Card Book "The Milky Way"

NESTLE'S FOOD COMPANY

130 William St., New York

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS**Organized Labor To Re-Elect Ousted Socialist Assemblymen**

(Continued from Page 1)

unions are also calling meetings of shop chairmen with a view of mobilizing them for the great army of watchers.

The leaders of the Socialist campaign in New York have already made preparations for this great day. It must be remembered however that the voting for the Socialist candidates is half the work. The votes must be watched and counted. For this purpose 2,000 volunteers are necessary. There will be over 200 polling places in which the Socialists must be well represented to protect their interests.

The members of our unions must volunteer in great numbers. They must serve as watchers. 555 new Socialist voters registered in the six assembly districts, and not a single new Republican or Democratic voter registered. That is the result of the active campaign of the Socialists.

As is known only new voters registered for the September elections. And it is significant that not a single one of them registered for either of the two capitalist parties. The press admits that the Socialists will be elected even in those districts where fusion candidates were put up by the Republican and Democratic parties.

BUY

WHITE LILY TEA
COLUMBIA TEA
ZWETOCHNI CHAI

EXCLUSIVELY**EXECUTIVE BOARDS OF ALL LOCAL UNIONS IN GREATER NEW YORK**

are kindly requested to elect local Educational Committees for the ensuing term—1920-1921—to co-operate in the work of the Educational Committee of the International Union.

ABRAHAM BAROFF, Chairman

FANNIA M. COHN, Secretary

Educational Committee, I. L. G. W. U.

TO ALL SHOP CHAIRMEN IN THE CLOAK, SUIT, SKIRT AND REEFER INDUSTRY:

CUTTERS' UNION, Local No. 10, is now affiliated with the Joint Board. You are therefore requested to attend to the interests of the cutters in your shops in the same manner that you attend to the rest of the workers.

Kindly see that each cutter is in good standing and that he has a working card; the color of this season's working card is green.

EXECUTIVE BOARD, LOCAL No. 10.**LEARN****AT OUR LOW SUMMER RATES**

how to design, cut and grade patterns for women's, misses', juniors', children's and infants' cloaks, suits, waists, skirts, dresses or underwear. A "Practical Sketcher" is given free with every course. Individual instruction given during the day and evening hours.

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222 East 14th Street, New York.
Bet. 2nd and 3rd Aves.
Tel. Stuyvesant 8317.

Attention of Dress and Waist Cutters!

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

Jesse Wolf & Co.,
105 Madison Ave.
Son & Ash,
105 Madison Ave.
Solomon & Metzler,
33 East 33rd St.
Clairmont Waist Co.,
15 West 36th St.
Mack Kanner & Milius,
138 Madison Ave.
M. Stern,
33 East 33rd St.
Max Cohen,
105 Madison Ave.
Julian Waist Co.,
15 East 32nd St.
Drexwell Dress Co.,
14 East 32nd St.
Regina Kohler,
333 Fourth Ave.
Deutz & Ortenberg,
2-16 West 33rd St.
J. & M. Cohen,
6-10 E. 32nd Street.
West Point Waist,
119 W. 24th St.

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