

"My righteous-
ness I hold
fast, and will
not let it go."
—Job. 31A.J

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. 39.

New York, Friday, September 24, 1920.

Price: 3 Cents

General Strike of Ladies' Tailors In Baltimore Settled

After a strike of one week the ladies' tailors of Baltimore have won a complete victory. The employers have speedily realized that the ranks of the workers are united, their spirit invincible, and that it would be costly and futile to keep their factories idle. They therefore consented to resume negotiations with the workers which led to a settlement:

It was not only a fight of the ladies tailors in Baltimore. All the resources of the International Union were behind that struggle, and the very fact that Vice President Sol Seidman conducted the strike convinced the manufacturers of that. They realized that sooner or later they would have to reach a settlement with the Union, and they decided to do so now.

The chief points in the agreement are as follows:

1. A 44-hour working week as heretofore.
2. The minimum wage scale to be raised from \$44 a week to \$50. This raise of \$6 applies to all workers in the trade. That is, it also includes all workers whose wages are above the minimum scale.
3. All workers in this trade shall receive pay for four legal holidays a year.

According to the old agreement, it must be remembered, the workers were entitled to legal holidays! But through various tricks the bosses got around this provision in the agreement and the workers never got their holidays. When a holiday would approach the bosses would close their factories for the week and the workers would thereby lose a week's wages. The present agreement explicitly provides for four legal holidays a year with pay.

4. Only union workers shall be employed, or workers who will within two weeks become members of the union.
5. Overtime work shall be paid at the rate of time and a half.

The agreement between the Ladies Tailors' Union and the Manufacturers' Association of Baltimore was reached at their conference last Saturday. The conference came to a close at 12 o'clock noon, and two hours later a large membership meeting was held. The union conference committee reported the negotiations with the employers and read the new agreement to the members. The settlement was enthusiastically accepted by the membership. Great satisfaction was expressed for the immense help rendered to the strikers by the International.

On Monday morning, September 20, all workers returned to their shops with full consciousness

of their victory and greater confidence in themselves and in their Organization.

The committee of the workers represented at the conference consisted of Vice President Sol Seid-

man, representing the International, and Brothers Tasman, Grosfeld and Lieberman. The Association was represented by Messrs Miller, Wolf, Cohen, Alstram, Fischel and Dorsey.

Socialist Party Appeals For Labor Support

Among all the workers in the United States, the men and women in the needle trades have been the pioneers in the struggle for a system of society that will have neither master nor slave.

We have battled when the clouds were heavy and the hopes of victory hidden behind them. We have stood for Eugene V. Debs every time he ran as a nominee on the Socialist ticket since 1904. We followed the "Red Special" across the river. We escorted him in the Suffrage parade of 1915, and we are going to fight for him now more than ever, since the common enemies of labor are determined to break his health and spirit in keeping him behind heavy prison gates.

Our working class brothers in Europe are fast gaining the upper hand in the management of their affairs. We, in the United States, must not and cannot fall behind. We have an easier, more modern, way of reaching our common goal. We, here in the United States, can do more through our class conscious intelligent use of the ballot than our brothers in Europe did with the aid of the ballot. The ballot used by the majority of the workers in selecting representatives of the workers' party, the Socialist Party, and placing a majority of Socialists in the United States Congress as well as in all State Legislatures, could be and would be as great a means of accomplishing or bringing nearer the social revolution as any method ever

used heretofore. Hence, our appeal to you, men and women in the ladies' garment trades to support the Socialist Party in its national, state and city campaign this year as much and more than you ever supported it before. In doing this you will not only show your strength but at the same time, by giving the Socialists a three million vote on the national ticket, aid in bringing about amnesty for Eugene V. Debs and the rest of the political prisoners.

Back up the Socialist Party in this State in its energetic campaign for funds. We urge you to see to it that your locals call a Shop Chairmen's meeting and place a list in the hands of every Shop Chairman. We urge you of the rank and file to help the Shop Chairmen fill the list to the best of your ability. We want you to bear in mind that the first week in October has been set aside by the Socialist Party as "Shop Collection week" in deed and not in name only. The money collected is to go to your local or Joint Board and turned over by them to the Socialist Party. Thus, giving the credit for the large amounts received to you personally as an individual and to your union as a whole. Do not let your union fall behind others. Show what you can do. You have given generously for relief—five thousand miles away—we ask you now for your own relief, political and economic, right here in the United States.

Vice Pres. Sigman With General Office

Brother Morris Sigman, First Vice President of the International Union and former General Manager of the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union of New York is now with our General Office. At the meeting of the New York members of the General Executive Board last week Brother Sigman was appointed to this post.

That Brother Sigman should be connected with the General Office was the express desire of President Schlesinger before he left for Europe. Brother Sigman will now work together with General Secretary A. Baroff.

Vice President Morris Sigman needs no introduction to the large membership. His long years of activity in the labor movement and particularly in the Cloakmakers' Union is known. He will doubtless prove himself as helpful in the General Office as he had done in the Joint Board. His rich experience and splendid abilities will now find an even broader field for expression.

Division St. Salespeople Return To Work

The strike of the Division Street salespeople finally ended after seven weeks of bitter strife. The charges brought against Brothers R. Block and Morris Newman, officers of the Salespeople's Union were shown to be groundless and the case was dismissed by the court.

An understanding between the cloak store keepers and their salespeople was reached shortly after the two union officers were cleared of the shameful charge. All the strikers then returned to work after the prolonged and costly struggle.

Unfortunately there is an element among the salespeople who are not dominated by the spirit of working class solidarity and who deserted the fight and returned to work thereby dealing a blow not only to their striking brothers but to themselves. Complete victory could not be achieved with such a destructive element in the midst of the salespeople.

Such action on the part of some of the salespeople has been highly damaging to themselves as well as to all the striking salespeople. Many of them have not yet learned the meaning of a union, and have not yet discovered what their true interests are.

REGISTRATIONS FOR CLASSES AT OUR UNITY CENTERS NOW GOING ON

All the offices of our local unions and Unity Centers are open for registration to members of the International. Members availing themselves of the educational opportunities offered them should cooperate with the Educational Department and register now.

The Joint Conference of all the Educational Committees of the International Union will take place on Saturday afternoon, October 2nd. The place where the conference will be held will be announced next week.

Professor Dana who recently returned from a trip to Europe where he investigated the problem of labor education will address the conference.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK

By N. S.

Socialist Assemblymen Again Ousted

WILL the re-elected Socialist assemblymen be seated? was the universal question and it was generally answered in the affirmative. It was stated that the Republican legislative bosses were ready to reseal the Socialists in order to respond to the desires of Nathan L. Miller, Republican candidate for Governor. Even Speaker Sweet was said to have completely surrendered to Judge Miller.

Accordingly, on September 20, the opening day of the special session of the Legislature it looked as if the Socialists were regular members of the Assembly. The New York "World" reported that "Speaker Thaddeus C. Sweet paved the way for a resealing of the five reelected Socialist assemblymen."

All signs seemed to point on the opening day of the session that the Sweet forces have surrendered. Sweet read a statement which was a bitter pill for him to swallow where he pointed out that the Socialist Party had "Americanized" itself, for which, of course, the Assembly deserved full credit. The American people, he declared, owe the Assembly, or rather Sweet himself, a "debt of gratitude" for having reformed the Socialist party. That is, the Socialist assemblymen after they had been purged by Sweet, Lauck and Co. are now to be admitted into the halls of the lawmakers. It was conceded however that it was a costly lesson to the teachers. Sweet, in fact, was poignantly aware of this. "When he began to read his address," the New York "World" says, "his hand trembled and his voice was weak." What is more the legislator who had gubernatorial ambitions is returning to private life on January 1 of the next year. What were Sweet's dreams when he planned the expulsion of the Socialist assemblymen? A Savior of America. A Governor of this state as the first step. But republicans are ungrateful. Now Sweet is planning to return to private life.

The important point is that it looked as if the powers of reactions surrendered. But that was on September 20. On the next day the Assembly by a vote of 90 to 45 again expelled three of the five assemblymen—August Claessens, Louis Waldman and Charles Solomon. By a vote of 87 to 48, it voted to reseal assemblyman Samuel Orr, but as soon as they could get the floor, they denounced the 90 who had voted against their colleagues, and walked out of the House.

The action of the Assembly was led up by the action of the Judiciary Committee which refused to be a party to Sweet's backdown. The debate in the House began last Monday night by Assemblyman R. H. Gillet demanding the reexpulsion of all five Socialists. Finally a compromise was engineered by Louis A. Cuvillier who proposed that three of the five be ousted and two be permitted to retain seats. The Assembly voted for this compromise.

The second expulsions of the Socialist Assemblymen shows that

the Albany legislation care very little what the decision of the voters might be. They are true to the interests of plutocracy, and they are prepared to serve it even if it violates the constitution of this country.

The special session of the Legislature was called by Governor Smith to deal with the housing question. In the message to the Legislature Governor Smith said that it must handle the housing situation fearlessly and decisively, as the State's economic future is at stake and the health of its large cities menaced. The United Tenants' Organization, representing 600,000 renters, belonging to 338 affiliated organizations in the greater city, planned to call upon the Legislature to urge it to adopt a comprehensive housing program. The Socialist Assemblymen had a definite and constructive program to submit to the Assembly. But the astute politicians in Albany have divided the attention of the public by ousting the Socialists. There is not only a housing question but also a question of the right of representative government in this state. There is an opportunity for the politicians to shift from one question to the other without doing anything. This action of the Assembly is a fair index of how far it will go in solving the housing question. There is no doubt but that these lawmakers will continue to be loyal and devoted to the manufacturers and landlords and that no laws will be passed in any way which might prove harmful to their proteges.

The Wall Street Explosion

ALMOST simultaneously with the occurrence of the explosion on Wall Street the newspapers announced in bold type that it was the result of a plot by a Bolshevik, anarchist, "red" plot. An "undesirable alien" was arrested in connection with the "plot." Rumors were circulated to the effect that Bill Haywood was arrested in Chicago and Carlo Tresca and other "anarchists" were to be rounded up. Palmer, Flynn and a whole army of secret service men rushed to the spot of the explosion with the ready-made theory that it is somehow connected with "red."

A few days ago Fire Department officials discovered a marked shortage somewhere in the check-up of all stores of explosives lawfully held in the city. There is also evidence that a Du Pont explosive carrying wagon was near the scene of the explosion a few minutes before the explosion occurred. All the evidence however failed to disclose the real cause of the disaster, and after a week of the occurrence the investigators are as far from knowing anything about it as they were on that fateful day.

But if nothing is known about the cause of the explosion there is at least the consolation on the part of William J. Flynn, Chief of Investigation of the Department of Justice, that they still have a "conviction" in the matter. In a statement issued by Mr. Flynn last Wednesday evening, he says: "Our unshaken conviction is that talk of the disaster in Wall Street last Thursday be-

ACTIVITIES IN THE CLEVELAND LOCAL UNIONS

By M. P.

The readers of Justice did not hear very much of Local No. 29, Women Garment Makers of Cleveland, because it is a new Local. The great majority of the members of this Local have joined recently. Local No. 29 has a membership now of about 1,800 women working in the Cloak and Dress Trade of Cleveland.

Extraordinary efforts were needed to have the members of this Local join the Union, but since they have joined, it is evident that this Local will become one of the most powerful organizations in our International Union. There are a good number of girls in this Local who are ready and willing to sacrifice evenings and if necessary days to work for the members in the Local and in the shops.

In a good many shops the members of this Local were elected as chairmen and are attending to their duties with full realization of the importance of the office they hold.

When we speak of this Local, we must also have in mind the type of people who make up the Local. There are girls of different nationalities, American, Bohemian, Italian, Jewish, etc. The great majority of them are American born and do their work in a constructive American way.

The International has spent a whole lot of money and energy to organize the girls in Cleveland, but now they are organized and the efforts have brought the desired results.

Our girls, besides being active in the shops and active at their Local are doing their utmost in developing those who are in the Union.

Education, Labor Education, is now the cry of the members of this Local and a broad Educational program has been worked out and put into effect immediately. To supervise the Educational and Recreational activities undertaken by the Local together with the other Locals, Miss Sonia Forthall, a student of Oberlin College, was engaged. Miss Forthall accepted her position temporarily and when she had to return to college Miss Harriet Silverman was engaged to take her place.

Miss Silverman was formerly connected with the Joint Board of Sanitary Control in New York and through the efforts of Miss Fannia M. Cohn, Vice President of our International and Secretary of our International Educational Committee, she was engaged as the Educational and Recreational Organizer in Cleveland.

As soon as Miss Silverman will come to this office, the machinery of the Local will be set in motion

ing an accident is plain bunk. We're not being diverted or deterred by rumors and reports of stray powder wagons in the neighborhood or anything of the sort. It was a criminal outrage. We are positive of that and we are going ahead on that theory."

The Department of Justice then will "go ahead on that theory" and it will not be "diverted or deterred" from its "unshaken conviction." To say the least, such procedures reveals an obsessed mind, and the owners of such minds should be under the observation of mental experts. They at least have not the minds of investigators.

and the work will begin. The Program for the classes is as follows:

- (1) Chemistry, The basis of life.
- (2) Labor Movement.
- (3) English Literature and Drama.
- (4) English Grammar and rhetoric.
- (5) Sex Hygiene.
- (6) Current Events and Civics.
- (7) History since 1815.
- (8) Appreciation of Music.

Recreational Classes:

- (1) Gymnasium and Swimming.
- (2) Social Dancing.
- (3) Interpretative Dancing.

A broad program is also being contemplated for bi-weekly concerts.

Besides these activities, the Local is very active in supervising a Sick Fund. It seems to be that Local No. 29 is the only organization of women having a Sick Benefit Fund. Big sums of money are paid out to sick members weekly.

At present, the Local is contemplating the organization of a Health Department under the supervision of a trained nurse. The duties of this trained nurse will be to visit sick members at their homes and give them proper care. All in all, we may say that all those who have worked to bring about the organization of Local No. 29 are certainly proud of their work, knowing the character of the people of this Local, they know that whatever emergencies may arise in the future, that our girls will know how to stand up and fight for their organization.

CUTTERS' LOCAL NO. 12

As hard as it was in Cleveland to organize the girls, it was much harder to organize the cutters.

The majority of the cutters were the last to join the Union, but they are organized now. The Cutters' Union, Local 42, is considered one of the most loyal and best organizations in Cleveland, and when I watch the cutters transact business at their meetings I really wonder what was the trouble with these men, why did it take us so many years to make them realize the necessity of organization?

It is a pleasure to be present at their meetings. The business is conducted in a business way; meetings are being attended regularly and the cutters are fully represented in all the activities of our Union.

The individual members of this Local who have struggled for years to bring about an Organization of Cutters are now really enjoying the fruit of their Labor.

The last ones to join the Local of the Cutters, were the cutters of the M. T. Silver Co. They have joined the Union a few weeks ago. Now all the cutters of the city with the exception of the Prints Biederman Co., are in the Union.

For years and years the cutters have worked in the Industry of Cleveland not knowing each other and it took the Organization to bring them together. Some cutters are working in the same shop, from ten to twenty-five years and a great majority of them have never worked in any other shop so that they did not know the cutters of another shop. It was the Union that brought them together, and there is the Cutters' Union of Cleveland now with its motto "all for one and one for all."

The International Clothing Workers' Congress

(Continued from last week)

The Constitution as adopted reads as follows:

Draft Rules of the International Clothing Workers' Federation

Name.

Art. 1st. The International organization of clothing workers of all countries shall be called "The International Clothing Workers' Federation." (I. C. W. F.)

Headquarters.

Art. 2nd. The Headquarters of the I. C. W. F. shall be established at Amsterdam.

Objects.

Art. 3rd. The objects of the I. C. W. F. consist in promoting and maintaining the industrial organization of clothing workers of all countries in a strong and unbreakable international federation in order:

- a. to further the economic and social interests of all clothing workers;
 - b. to support such joint national and international action as the circumstances may require in the struggle against the exploitation of labor and to maintain International Working Class Solidarity.
- Art. 4th. The I. C. W. F. shall work for the objects mentioned by:

- a. establishing and maintaining friendly relations between the trade unions of clothing workers of all countries;
- b. supporting and promoting the organizing of clothing workers in those countries where they are not organized or only feebly organized;
- c. publishing a journal in the various languages;
- d. holding international congresses and conferences;
- e. collecting, elaborating and circulating data and information concerning wages and labor conditions of the clothing workers in the various countries;
- f. collecting, elaborating and circulating data and information and regulations of the various countries on behalf of the protection of the workers employed in the clothing trade;
- g. protecting the rights and interests of the members of during their stay in foreign countries and by promoting and creating regulations concerning the transfer of members from the organizations of one country into those of another;
- h. granting moral and financial support to organizations engaged in industrial disputes,

i. e.:

1. by taking the necessary steps to obtain international financial assistance, when any affiliated organization has exhausted its funds in a dispute of long duration with the combined employers;
 2. by taking the necessary steps for the purpose of preventing work of a place involved in a strike from being made elsewhere.
- i. by entering into and regularly maintaining relations with the International Federation of Trade Unions and the International Secretaries of other trades and industries.

By BENJAMIN SCHLESINGER, President, I. C. W. F. and JOSEPH SCHLOSSBERG, Gen. Sec.-Treas., A. C. W. of A.

Affiliation, Resignation and Expulsion.

Art. 5th. All unions of clothing workers are entitled to affiliate to the Federation provided they are affiliated to their national centre and recognize the objects as defined above and the resolutions passed at the Congresses of the I. C. W. F.

When however any organiza-

tion not affiliated to its national Federation of trade unions applies for admission into the I. C. W. F. the matter shall be taken up with the national federation concerned and the result of the deliberation shall be submitted to the International Congress.

From the decision of the congress there is no appeal.

When more than one organiza-

tion of clothing workers of one country apply for admission to the I. C. W. F. such application shall be submitted to the International Clothing Workers' Congress for decision.

Art. 6th. Affiliation to the I. C. W. F. shall be effected through the International Committee after application in writing and after recognition of the duties which the Federation imposes.

Art. 7th. Should well-founded objections be raised to the affilia-

(Continued on Page 6)

Labor Education From Within

THE WORK OF OUR EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT AS VIEWED IN ENGLAND, BY VETERANS OF LABOR EDUCATION

At the beginning of the new educational year it may be fitting to acquaint the readers of these pages with the opinions held about our educational work by our friends in the labor movement abroad, particularly in England, where the work of adult education is much older than in the United States and where efforts in the field of labor education have been broadly organized and carried on for more than two decades. This opinion is the more interesting because it epitomizes the true character and nature of our work in a few words as it was seldom done before, and brings out tersely the basic principle that was laid at the foundation of all our educational activities.

In a letter received by Miss M. Cohn, the secretary of the Educational Committee, Brother J. M. MacAviahi, the General Secretary of the Workers' Educational Association of England, a federation of over 3,000 educational and workers' organizations, founded in 1903, writes:

"I feel that your Committee is doing a most excellent work, in some respect an improvement on ours, for you work within the Trade Union Movement, whereas we work from without. I was thoroughly convinced that the former is the better way, although many do not agree with me. I have watched with intense interest the development of your work."

T. W. Price, the Assistant Secretary of the Workers' Educational Association, wrote as follows:

"As one who has devoted the major portion of his life to adult working-class education and is the oldest officer in the Workers' Educational Association, I feel that I must send a word of congratulation. In the future, when I feel depressed by the apathy of the workers, or am appalled by the stupor of the task before us, I shall think of you and your work and take heart again."

These words of praise, coming as they do from men who had made the field of labor education their life work, are sufficient to fill the hearts of our pioneers in this work with courage and gratification. For after all, it is this work "from within the labor movement" that is the sum and substance of the entire work of the Education Committee of our International. There have been in this City of New York and elsewhere, for many years, agencies outside the legitimate trade union movement which have undertaken, either regularly or occasionally,

to provide adult labor with education in the form of lectures and courses. It is not nevertheless, a secret that these attempts have only scratched the surface here and there, and the great masses of our workers have remained unresponsive to the call for "more light." The endeavor of our International, later followed by other organizations, to give and supervise directly educational work on a broad scale "from within" was the key that opened the door to mass working-class education in this country. And regardless of differences of opinion, it is now certain that labor education has come to stay and grow, and it is daily winning the confidence of the masses who know and feel that this education is offered to them by their own and from within their own ranks.

The meeting of members of Local No. 9, the Tailors & Cloak Finishers of New-York, two from each shop, called together on Saturday last, in the afternoon, at Labor Temple, 14th Street and Second Avenue, to discuss the problems of labor education and to enlist the cooperation of the rank and file in the carrying out of our educational program during the term just begun, had proved a remarkable success from every point of view. We have been accustomed to have cloakmakers, men and women, spend long hours on Saturday afternoons in the discussion of wage raises, shorter hours, and various other economic questions. But it was truly a most refreshing novelty to have hundreds of cloakmakers, coming straight from the shops, devote hours in the discussion of educational problems and listen to the expositions of what the various study courses prepared and suggested by our Committee might mean to them. The meeting was addressed by Miss Fagnia M. Cohn, secretary of the Educational Committee, and Brother Sorkin.

This meeting should serve as a signal for every local in the Greater City to do likewise. There can be no doubt that such meetings are an excellent means of arousing widespread interest and enthusiasm for labor education and of putting the work in immediate contact with the masses. It would also serve to stimulate registration and would make the work of the Committee the talk of the workers in the shops throughout the city.

The educational committees of

the locals are meanwhile being urged to hold their meetings, preliminary to the general conference of all the local committees, to be held under the auspices of the Educational Committee of the International on Saturday afternoon, October 2nd, at a place to be announced next week. The local committees must come to this general conference with plans and suggestions, so that they might be able to contribute constructively to the work of the Educational Committee. Dr. H. W. L. Dana, who has just returned from a trip to Europe, where he went to study labor education, will be on hand to address this conference and will share with our workers the results of his investigations and studies in this field abroad.

The formal opening and reunion of the Workers' University, an event which is eagerly looked forward to by the host of students and friends of our unique institution, at the Washington Irving High School, has been definitely set for Saturday evening, November 20th. An elaborate musical and literary program of an exceptionally high grade is being prepared, and the evening will be made a memorable one for all who will attend.

The curriculum—the full arrangement of the lecture and study courses—will be ready and on hand for distribution next week. Attention is called again to the fact that a new Unity Center, in the lower Bronx, was opened by the Educational Committee at P. S. 43, East 135th Street and Brown Place.

For the benefit of the Italian members of the International, we wish to announce that a number of the best lectures in our curriculum will be given in the Italian language and special arrangements will be made through our Italian locals and press to get in touch with the largest number of Italian workers possible to have them enroll for these lectures and to interest them otherwise in the work of labor education.

And meanwhile, register. This should become the slogan in every shop and at every meeting of our workers. Register for all the courses and lectures now. Don't postpone for some other time in the future. By registering early you will help yourself, and you will help the Educational Committee to arrange its work in better shape. So do it today!

JUSTICE

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EDITORIALS

GOMPERISM AND BOL-SHEVISM

One of the prime motives for the opposition of Samuel Gompers, president of the A. F. of L., to Bolshevism is its utter lack of the element of democracy. Gompers contends, and with justice, that Bolshevism is autocratic, and as a real, Jeffersonian democrat, as he expressed himself recently, that is, three-fourths anarchist, he does not do nothing but combat it.

There is no doubt that Gompers has a full right to his opinion. But one has also a right to demand of him that he lives up to his profession of faith and that he is not himself guilty of acts of autocracy.

Unfortunately the way he conducted the meeting at which the new central labor body for Greater New York was founded leads one to the conclusion, against the best feelings one may have for the aged labor leader, that Gompers acted as a dictator and autocrat.

As soon as the plan for the founding of a new central labor body became known a rumor was circulated that this undertaking was directly aimed at the destruction of the progressive elements in the labor movement of New York. President Gompers promptly denied this. No one therefore questioned the intentions of this undertaking. In fact the progressives greeted the reorganization plan with enthusiasm. Why should not the organized workers of New York be fully represented in a mighty and effective organization? Why should not nearly a million workers exercise the immense influence which they could have done if they were properly organized and if their ranks were united? That is why we impatiently waited for the birth of the new body.

When we learned that Gompers himself would be the chairman of the conference at which the new labor body would be formed we were certain that honest and straightforward methods would be used for its achievement. But what really happened is just the opposite of what was expected from an honest and representative labor gathering.

While the greater part of the evening was wasted in talking about nothing when the conference finally approached the questions which it came to meet the democracy of Gompers seemed to have evaporated and he turned the politician, the Bolshevik who does what he likes without the slightest regard of what becomes of the great principle of democracy.

The constitution of an organization is its soul which largely determines its future course. There was no more important task than the election of the men who were to frame the new constitution. Yet when this question came up Gompers suddenly realized that the election of a committee on constitution would be altogether

too troublesome, roundabout and risky and he took the shortest but highly anti-democratic method to appoint the members on the committee.

This question, it is true, was submitted to a vote by the majority of which was for the appointment of the committee. The question nevertheless arises, would Gompers undertake this if he were really a Jeffersonian democrat? What is more he had the list of names all ready beforehand. He apparently knew that the majority would not have the courage to take this work in their own hands. That would mean that Gompers has not the confidence of the conference, and his suggestion was endorsed. But was it fair for Gompers to make use of the confidence in him to assume the role of an autocrat?

Thus far however there may still be found some extenuating explanations for his autocratic acts. But this was followed by something which destroyed every lingering belief in Gompers' democracy.

Among the names on the list were those of Mr. Holland and Mr. Brady. A storm of protests broke out when these names were mentioned.

What did Gompers do? Did he act as a democrat and submitted these names to a vote? No. The Jeffersonian democrat toly ignored the great protests, and Holland and Brady remained on the committee as he had decided before he came to the meeting. Is it democratic? Can Gompers who acts like a Bolshevik under the cloak of democracy sincerely accuse the Bolsheviks of autocracy?

The same evening Holland and his lieutenants employed the methods of terror. This is another justifiable reason why Gompers opposes Bolshevism. But the ugliest form of terror reigned at a meeting of which Gompers was chairman. Has Gompers protested against it? No. Holland who used violence against one of the delegates without cause whatever still remained as one of the framers of the constitution.

That is why the difference between Gompers and the Bolshevik is slight. The former only employ the phrase of democracy, while the latter is honest enough to deny it.

Some may contend that these tactics are of little significance because the constitution will ultimately be submitted to the delegates, a majority of whom could reject it if it will so desire. But the fact is that where the practice of terrorism is tolerated little justice could be expected in the election. Imagine, the constitution is read. Debates follow. Suppose that certain clauses are found to be against the wishes of the majority of delegates. Do you think that the gangsters would permit their plans to go smash? With

or without causes they would resort to violence. As a result they would leave the meeting altogether, others, thoroughly terrorized would abstain from voting, in that way the constitution would be adopted with a "majority." Would such a constitution really express the spirit of the labor movement in New York?

This conference has clearly demonstrated that there is a wide chasm between the actual practices of Gompers and what he pretends to be; it has also demonstrated that there is still room in the labor movement of New York for such leaders as Holland and Brady. We knew that beforehand, and we had to make peace with the idea that the Hollands and the Bradys unfortunately represent a goodly number of workers in New York. To that extent they certainly have a right to be represented in the general labor body, and also have a voice in the framing of the constitution. From this standpoint the delegates who hissed Holland and Brady when their names were mentioned as members of the committee were not altogether justifiable.

This however is not so important. What is clear now is that the rumor that the reorganization of the central labor bodies in New York was directed toward the suppression of the progressive elements in the labor movement has unfortunately turned out to be true. This is the worst part of it all.

Although the progressive element is in many respects in disagreement with the official leadership it is nevertheless tolerant and ready to go a long way toward creating unity in the ranks of the labor movement. But there is a limit to human endurance and sacrifice, and we ask whether the terror employed at the conference has passed the limit of endurance. Such disgraceful methods can only lead to an open split which will prove disastrous for the labor movement.

That is why we regard it as our duty to appeal to all progressive and honest unions to apply all their energies in preventing the terrible cancer of terrorism eat away the vitals of the labor movement. A strong and unequivocal stand must be taken. The methods of intimidation and terrorism must be fearlessly combatted, and their instigators and upholders will be driven to abandon these tactics. One thing is certain that the progressive elements cannot afford to leave the field free for rowdies and gangsters. Difficult as the fight may be it must be fought until the labor movement will be purged.

THE SOCIALIST VICTORY

The five Socialist assemblymen who were ousted from the Assembly last winter by the Sweet clique were returned by a still greater majority at the special election on September 16.

The Democratic and Republican parties, the two warring political factions, have joined forces and became one and indivisible in each of the five districts. The politicians have of course tried every measure at their command to defeat the Socialists, but of no avail. The five Socialist assemblymen were elected.

What will the Albany politicians do now? It is difficult to say. Will they have the effrontery to violate the fundamental right of representative government and oust the Socialists again robbing thereby, a large portion of

the citizens of New York from their rights to be represented in the legislative body at Albany?

It may very well be that they will do this. They have done so once before. Our politicians have no lack of impudence, and they have the power. But it may also be that they will surrender now having in mind the elections next November. They may not dare to repeat at this time the Tar-like act of last winter and oust the Socialists again. They may find a good excuse now in reversing their decision. They would assume the role of true democrats declaring that it was their duty to expel the Socialist assemblymen before, because they believed that the voters in the five districts had been misled by the Socialists. But now there can be no doubt that the voters knew for whom they were voting. They have done their sacred duty in enlightening the people as to who the Socialists were, and plain democratic justice demands that the Socialist assemblymen be seated as the chosen representatives of the people.

The Albany politicians are in a difficult position. They will be in a predicament no matter what action they will take.

What is of prime significance is the result of the special election. What is important is that the Socialists have become the only staunch supporters and defenders of the principle of democracy which has been so brutally and disgracefully violated by the politicians. Large numbers of people who never claimed to be Socialists but who were honest and forward looking have indignantly worked for the victory of the Socialists. If the Albany politicians persist in their obstinacy they will force tens of thousands of citizens to vote for Socialists as the only true upholders of democracy. It is hard to believe that the politicians will follow this course. But the gods first make blind those whom they wish to punish. And who deserves to be punished more than our politicians?

The chances of the Socialist ticket in New York as well as all over the country are very favorable. There are hundreds of thousands who look upon Debs as a saint who is held by the hypocritical, idiotic government behind bars. On the other hand there is the action of the politicians in Albany. No better and more effective propaganda for the Socialist ticket is possible.

The unusual opportunity to correct the blunders and crimes of the government by declaring general amnesty in response to the plea of the delegations of the A. F. of L. and the Socialist party was lost through sheer blindness and stubbornness. The Socialists have luck, for every fair minded person will have no other choice than to vote for them. At any rate it looks as if the present administration is not too anxious to help the Democratic candidate, Governor Cox. Or perhaps it is conceded that in spite of the efforts of the A. F. of L. on behalf of Cox the Republican candidate will be elected.

By the way, has not the unsuccessful visit of the A. F. of L. delegation to Cox-Palmer taught the labor leaders a lesson? Has The A. F. of L. unanimously adopted a resolution in favor of general amnesty. It is an organization of over four million workers whose loyalty and patriotism is not questioned. Why then has

their plea met with no result? Why did the Administration disregard their appeal? Is the Administration not afraid of the power of the A. F. of L.? Have not the labor leaders thought about this illuminating situation? If they could only think a moment they would realize the terrible impotence of American labor when compared to the power of the labor movement in England and Italy.

THE NEW SEASON OF OUR EDUCATIONAL WORK

There is no question but that one of the most important activities of our International is the educational work among its members. The importance attached to this undertaking may be seen from the fact that at our last convention twice the sum of last year has been designated for this purpose.

What is the purpose of our International educational work? Is it to make professors out of the workers? Certainly not. Is it perhaps to supply the bit of education that the workers had missed when they were young? To certain extent, yes. But it is far from being the primary object. After all, that little education is not of such importance as to be worth all the trouble and energy. The prime object of the educational work of the International is, or at least should be, the preparation of its large membership for a more responsible role in life than was the case hitherto.

The worker has until now been considered as a tool for the wealth and profits of others. He was taught only to the extent as to make a good tool. It was con-

To protect the workers during the slack season, I pointed out in my last article, was one of the chief questions that a national industrial parliament, composed of workers and manufacturers, would have to take up.

This may perhaps sound like an exaggeration of the actual situation, but when I see our members go around dejected and forlorn from shop to shop in search for work, when I look at their faces expressing a world of fear and suffering, when I behold their harrowing conditions I cannot help but think that the prime concern of the Union is to undertake a solution of the slack problem, not through speeches and resolutions, but through actual deeds.

sidered dangerous to teach him anything else.

The International has one great aim in mind. It is to make its members who attend the classes in its Workers' University and in its Unity Centers independent thinking men and women, who could in time assume the responsible work in the labor movement. It is also the object of the International to re-educate the workers for taking over the control of their industry in their own hands.

This is the principal aim of the educational work of our International. We trust and hope that the educational work will continue to more and more effective so that it will present a living example of the true meaning of labor education.

Unemployment Insurance

By M. PERLSTEIN

It is true that the question of slack and seasonal work in general is one of the most painful and involved that confront us today. But difficulty and complexity must not deter us from attempting to alleviate the sufferings of our brothers.

It is also true that the question of slack and season is not only characteristic of our industry. Many other industries in this country find themselves in the same or similar situations. Some may ask why should we be the first in the American labor movement to attempt to solve this problem. The answer to this, first, our union was always in the vanguard to undertake progressive measures, and there is no reason why we should not be the first in this case. And in the second place, the question of slack in our industry is far more acute than in other industries.

We must place ourselves in a position that our unions should alleviate the hardships of the workers not through speech-making, whether radical or conservative. We will not be of any help to the workers if we only say to them, be good union men, pay your dues and God will help you. Workers, it is true, must be good union men and pay their dues, but the problems must under all circumstances be answered.

Our American unions have not yet undertaken to deal with this question. The only group of workers who attempted to deal with this question are the miners who

demand a six-hour day and a five-day week in order to extend the working season. (The miners also have a season.) We must not forget however that coal is not cloaks or dresses. Coal has no styles. A mine cannot be crowded with more workers than it can hold. Neither can a mine be moved over to some other district where children could be easily employed. This however is possible in the cloak industry.

The miners then have attempted to solve this question. But the measures which would be of help to the miners would be of little help in our trade. We want shorter work hours, it is true; we want more leisure for other things than work, but this in itself will not do away with slack.

Some may suggest the following way out: Raise the wages to such a degree as will enable the workers to tide through the slack season. This may sound well but it is unworkable in practice. We cannot earn enough in one week to last us for three months, no matter how high our wages should be.

The last few seasons in the cloak trade were not bad. The wages were tolerable. But what did they amount to, on the average?

That is the case when there are good seasons. But how about seasons such as we have now? What becomes of the so-called high wages, when there is only part time work? How could the workers live through the year?

Personally I well remember the

Organizing the Women Workers of St. Louis

By MAX AMDUR

My first report on the St. Louis situation will necessarily have to be confined to mere facts that I have had the opportunity to learn during my short stay here.

There are in the ladies' garment industry of St. Louis, as I am reliably informed, from 5,000 to 6,000 workers—90% of them women. Of the remaining 10% a small part is organized and consists of the existing cloakmakers' union with branches of cutters and skirt makers. The mass of unorganized women workers are employed in skirt, dress, waist, children's dress and underwear shops. The St. Louis cloakmakers have a tolerably good organization which controls the local trade in the system of week work in the cloak trade was introduced here through the aid of President Schlesinger and Vice-President Lefkowitz, at the beginning of the current season. The workers appear to be quite satisfied with the new system, with the exception of a few men here and there who still hanker after the old task method of making cloaks by the piece or such whose loyalty to the organization is rather of a dubious character.

Brother Gilbert, the business agent of the Cloakmakers' Union, is an active and able young man, and he is loyally assisted by an energetic Executive Board composed of a group of devoted men who cheerfully give up their hours of rest and recreation for the work of the organization.

Next in importance, from an or-

ganization point of view, come the skirt and dressmakers—almost all women, numbering approximately 2,000. My present work is concentrated for the time being, within this field of activity. The reason why I have selected these shops is because they are of a definite type by themselves and are not of a miscellaneous nature, as all other shops where a mixture of children's dresses, underwear, skirts, waists and all other articles of apparel are being made. I have hopes that in the course of my work in the skirt and dress shops, I shall gradually familiarize myself with the general run of things in all other shops in this city.

As regards my task in St. Louis, I am inclined to believe that it will not be quite an easy one. It is an accepted fact that women are difficult to organize, particularly English-speaking native women. The cause seems to be the same in St. Louis as everywhere. The native English-speaking girl is so different, in a psychological sense, from the foreign non-English-speaking woman, and their notions that they belong to a totally different class of workers, are so deeply rooted, that they can only be overcome by assiduous educational work and tactful persistent agitation. In addition to it, work in the shop is regarded by all these girls as a passing, temporary occupation, a means for arriving to the final goal—marriage. After that, the years spent in the shop

are to most of them a distasteful memory.

These are in general some of the reasons why women prove to be a difficult element to organize in our trades. Here in St. Louis, there are a few more reasons why my task may prove to be very hard. For instance, in Philadelphia, New York, Boston and other organized cities, there have always been, among the mass of girl workers, groups of women above the ordinary level of intelligence, who have exhibited at one time or another enthusiasm for a union. These groups were the initiators in organization work and have helped to build unions in the waist and dress trades. This type of girl worker, it appears, does not abound in St. Louis. During the few weeks that I have spent here, I succeeded in enrolling a number of girls into the local organization. I have not yet, however, managed to build up a strong organization committee among them, and this is due to the spirit of indifference pointed out above. Eventually, however, I hope to gather together a nucleus of workers who would be ready to contribute something to the work of visiting shops, distributing literature, calling meetings, and the other necessary routine of organizing.

The conditions in the skirt and dress trades offer another difficulty for the work of the organizer. When comparing the wages paid to the girls in these shops with the wages paid to women in other in-

dustries in St. Louis, we find that the women in our trades earn a great deal more. The girls in the boot and shoe shops in St. Louis, —and there are thousands of them,—receive a minimum wage of \$12.50 per week, whereas it is difficult to find a girl in a skirt or dress shop averaging less than \$25.00 a week. The employers make much of this difference and that, of course, militates against our work.

My work consists in pointing out to them that women in the same trades in all other cities earn above \$40.00 per week, and those who work on piece work get twice as high prices for the parts of their work than what the women in the piece work shops in St. Louis get.

The local employers are trying to spread among the women workers rumors that the International is endeavoring to organize a union in St. Louis for the purpose of throwing the women out of the trades and making room for men workers. Surprising as this is, believe me, of course, I am trying to combat these rumors with the true fact that the number of female members in our organization has been growing constantly and that we have as many women workers in our International as men.

I appreciate that it will be a hard job, but I am similarly confident that we shall get there in the end. We have gained a foothold meanwhile in some shops and one of them is at present fully organized. The next few weeks will witness additional, sure though slow growth.

International Clothing Workers' Congress

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terrible meaning of this when I worked in a shop, when I would impatiently wait for the season, and when the season would finally come I would sit down to work and begin to build castles in the air and plan what I would do with the money I would "make" through the season. And right at the beginning of this, an operator would come and announce that the season is at end, that the cutters are already being laid off. This would greet the workers as if it were a bolt from the clear sky. The castles in the air would be smashed. Again the endless search for a job, again hunger, starvation and suffering. An idea would occur to me: Run, escape, flee from the cloak trade, anywhere at all. But where? What is to be done? It is impossible for all the cloakmakers to leave the trade.

The bitter slack, the terrible suffering of our workers in the slack season! This was the chief demoralizing effect on the workers. There must be found a way out. Which way?

Through the nationalization of industry, some reply.

But there is a great deal to say on this question. Personally I am not very enthusiastic about the nationalization. I am for the socialization of industry. Are the Post Office employees happy, because their industry is nationalized? They are hardly to be envied.

It will take a long time to socialize industry in this country and it is supremely worth while to work for it. But what I want is not a hope for a remote future but an immediate, tangible achievement. Concrete accomplishments now will not stop us from striving for more in the future. The fact was that we are working for our employers, that we are clothing everybody except ourselves. The question now arises, what are we to get for making cloaks? The conservative American labor unions say that the workers must be secured a minimum wage scale. I say that this is not enough. In New York, for instance, there is a minimum of 50 dollars a week in the cloak trade. But the season only lasts six months during the year. The minimum then becomes 25 dollars a week, to this a sufficient wage to meet the present cost of living!

Some may suggest that we should demand 100 dollars a week. Of course we can demand, but will we get it? Very unlikely, under the present conditions. A minimum wage of 5 dollars a week may be more or less satisfactory, but for one week and not for two. I must live whether I work or not. It is not my fault that I cannot find work. My services are not required.

The policy of the conservative American labor unions does not solve this problem and we must not under any condition follow it. We must know when the train comes in. We must be assured when the next train arrives so that we can wait for it. As it is we are called when the train comes in, that is, when the season comes. When the train leaves we are just told to wait for the next train at our own expense. Could we imagine firemen to be paid only for the time a fire breaks out and go around idle and at their own expense between such occurrences? A fireman is paid by the year and when a fire breaks out it is his job to put it out. Why should our case be different?

We all know the evils of slack.

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tion of any organization, the admittance of such organization may be refused.

Appeals against refusal of admittance may be made to the next International Congress.

Art. 8th. Every organization having become a member of the I. C. W. F. shall retain its entire independence, with the exception of such obligations as are imposed upon it by these rules, and by the congresses.

Art. 9th. An organization wishing to resign from the I. C. W. F. shall give three months' notice of such resignation to the International Committee.

Art. 10th. Expulsion from the I. C. W. F. can be affected only by the International Congress. The International Bureau may suspend an organization:

- a. which is a year in arrears of its contribution and fails to pay same in spite of all applications made; or
- b. acts against the interests of the I. C. W. F.

Contributions.

Art. 11th. Contributions shall be paid by the affiliated organizations for defraying the necessary expenses of the International Clothing Workers' Federation computed on the basis of the average number of members for whom contribution has been received during the preceding year.

Art. 12th. The contribution shall be 5 cents (Dutch currency) at the prewar rate of exchange, per member per year and is payable quarterly.

Art. 13th. A delay in the payment of the contributions due may under special circumstances be granted by the International Committee.

Art. 14th. The receipt of the contributions shall be acknowledged by means of a receipt signed by the treasurer while once a year the amounts received shall be published in the periodical of the I. C. W. F.

A complete statement of accounts indicating the receipts and the expenses shall also be published.

Management.

1. The International Congress.
2. The International Committee.
3. The Committee of Management.

The International Congress.

Art. 16th. The supreme control shall rest with the International Congress which shall meet at least once every three years.

Art. 17th. The Congress shall be convened by the International Committee by arrangement with the Committee of Management which two bodies shall prepare the reports, the draft of the agenda and shall further make all necessary arrangements.

Art. 18th. All resolutions to appear on the Agenda and the National, Sectional and Industrial Reports shall be submitted to the Committee of Management at least 6 months prior to the date of the Congress, in order to leave ample time for consideration and, if necessary, for amendments to be submitted, and thus to enable the International Committee to have same printed and the necessary translations made for the final agenda.

This final agenda shall be sent out to the affiliated organizations, not less than 3 months before the date of the Congress.

Art. 19th. The voting power shall be as set out hereunder:

- a. national federation with a membership of 5,000 members 1 vote;
- with a membership from 5,000 up to 10,000 2 votes;
- from 10,000 to 20,000 3 votes;
- 20,000 to 50,000 4 votes;
- 50,000 to 100,000 5 votes and above 100,000 members 6 votes.

Art. 20th. The expenses of the delegation to the International Congress shall be defrayed by the represented organizations.

Art. 21st. The duties of the International Congress shall be i. e.:

- a. to receive and consider the various reports of the International Committee and the Committee of Management;
- b. to fix the contributions;
- c. to designate the place where the headquarters of the I. C. W. F. shall be established;
- d. to designate the city where the next International Congress shall be held

B. The International Committee.

Art. 22nd. The International Committee shall be composed of 7 members who shall be elected by the International Congresses in such a manner as to provide, as much as possible, for the representation of the different countries affiliated in this committee.

These members shall be elected 1 from the Scandinavian countries as follows:

- " " German-speaking "
- " " " Latin "
- " " " Slave "
- " " " English-speaking "
- " " " America "

The international secretary shall be the seventh member and shall be elected by the International Congress.

Art. 23rd. Each country or group of countries entitled to representation on the International Committee shall have the right to appoint a deputy member who shall attend its meetings in the event of the member appointed by the Congress being unable to attend.

Art. 24th. The International Committee shall be empowered to discuss and decide all matters which may arise in the intervening time between International Congresses.

Art. 25th. The International Committee shall meet when three of its members or when the Committee of Management considers it necessary to hold a meeting.

Their expenses shall be defrayed by the I. C. W. F.

The Committee of Management.

Art. 26th. The Committee of Management shall be composed of 3 members.

Art. 27th. The International Secretary shall be a member of his own national organization to be elected by this organization and ratified by the International Committee.

Art. 28th. The duties of the International Secretary shall be regulated by the Committee of Management and the International Committee.

He shall carry out the decisions of the International Congress, the International Committee and the Committee of Management.

Art. 29th. The journal of the I. C. W. F. shall be called "The International Clothing Worker." It shall appear in the English, French and German languages.

Art. 30th. "The International Clothing Worker" shall serve:

- a. for propagation of the principles and apostolates of the I. C. W. F.;
- b. for discussion of important questions, actions and reports touching upon the interests of the clothing workers and the working class in general.

Art. 31st. Urgent reports about strikes, wage-disputes and import and export in the organizations shall be communicated by means of circulars in the languages required.

Duties and Obligations of the Organizations Affiliated

Art. 32nd. The organizations affiliated to the I. C. W. F. shall:

- a. Propagate and carry out the decisions of the I. C. W. F. in their own organizations, amongst their own fellow workers and in their own countries;
- b. report to the Committee of Management the date of their annual meetings, the decisions taken and the names of the president and secretary elected at same as leaders of their organizations;
- c. forward to the Committee of Management regularly at least 3 copies of their journal and their annual report as well as exact particulars about the numerical strength of the organizations and about important wage-conflicts, strikes, reciprocal agreements, etc.

Art. 33rd. The reports to be sent to the Committee of Management concerning wage-conflicts have to contain:

- a. particulars as to the demands of the workers and as to the cause of the conflicts, as well as the number of the workers employed;
- b. Character and developments of the negotiations with the employers so as to settle the conflicts in order to make them comply with the demands;
- c. measures taken on both sides to carry through the conflict;
- d. number of those engaged in the conflict;
- e. number of organized workers who may be involved and are engaged in the conflict.

Art. 34th. All those particulars have to be sent to the Committee of Management as are essential for compiling the reports and statistics.

(To be Continued)



THE WEEKS' NEWS IN CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10

By ISRAEL LEWIN.

On Sunday, Sept. 12th, as well as Sunday, Sept. 19th, "Vigilance Committees" consisting of 100 each were appointed by the Executive Board for the purpose of watching all shops where cutters were suspected of doing work on those days.

Some years ago committees were usually appointed for that purpose but lately this has not been practiced. However, some members on the Executive Board thought it advisable to have such committees and the result justified their contention. Almost one hundred cutters were found either going to work or working in the shops on the above Sundays. The majority of these were apprehended on September 12th.

When the fact became known that the Cutters' Union is on the lookout and that committees are at work, a number of cutters were scared away and did not appear in the shops as they had originally intended.

Members of the committees began arriving at the office of the union at 7 o'clock in the morning, from whence they were sent to the different elevated and subway stations in the garment district. There they stood watch until 9 A. M. They were then sent out to different shops, where not only did they succeed in stopping off cutters, but also in a number of instances, entire shops.

The various excuses given by the members for being in the district that morning were very interesting. One had to go to Wee-hawken, another to Hoboken, and a third to Ellis Island, although only one who is to go to Ellis Island should be at West 23rd Street instead of the Battery is beyond question. However, we expect that at the Executive Board those people will be able to explain their presence near their respective shops so early in the morning.

The next general meeting was advertised as a special meeting for the purpose of taking up the reconstruction of our local, occasioned by the proper affiliation of the Cloak and Suit Division with the Joint Board. But due to the fact that the committee of the Executive Board which was appointed to discuss this matter and bring in recommendations to the Executive Board failed to meet in time for the Executive Board to prepare any recommendations for the general meeting, a special meeting will be held at a later date.

The following are extracts from the Executive Board minutes of the past week:

Samuel Drebbin No. 5749 appeared on summons, charged by Business Agent Settle with having received \$40 per week in place of \$50 at the Arcade Dress Co., 40 W. 22nd St. A collection of \$80 was made in this case. This brother had a working card calling for \$45 per week and should have received an increase of \$5 per week which would make it \$50. When in the month of April Business Agent Settle came up to the shop and looked at his working card and asked him why he failed to receive his increase, the matter was brought to light and in that way it was discovered that not only did he not receive his increase but he received only \$40 per week which is \$5 less than his working

card called for. On motion a fine was imposed.

Abe Newton No. 6302 appeared on summons, charged by Business Agent Wilder with having worked on Saturday afternoon, Sept. 4th, at the Island Dress Co., 17 West 17th St. Brother Newton admits to having stayed in on Saturday afternoon but claims that having acted as manager of the place in addition to pattern-maker, he helped the draper sit out a dress on a figure. On motion a fine was imposed.

A communication was received from Jacob Zimmerman, Labor Manager of the Association of Dress Manufacturers, asking the Executive Board to reconsider the case of Cutter Jacobs, who was ordered removed from the shop of the Iris Dress Co., 142 Fifth Ave., on the ground that he is a partner of the concern. Mr. Zimmerman asks that he be given permission to stay there until October 15th. On motion secretary was instructed to communicate with Mr. Zimmerman and inform him that this brother, being a partner of the above concern, he cannot work there, and the firm must hire a cutter.

Morris Rappaport No. 5871 appeared on summons, charged by Business Agent Wilder with being a member of the firm of the A. R. Dress Co., 12 East 17th St. Ruben Foley, chairman of the above shop, appeared and substantiated the charge. Brother Rappaport states that he has dissolved partnership and is ready to show his papers to that effect. The Executive Board instructed him that he must leave this house by Saturday, Sept. 11th, or stand expelled from the organization.

Irving Kaufman, on application, appeared, requesting the Executive Board to reconsider its previous action and permit him working privileges for Frank Barnett, 13 West 31st Street. Mr. Kaufman appeared before the Executive Board on Thursday, Sept. 2nd, asking permission to join the organization. He was then employed in the shop here mentioned. The Executive Board granted him permission to join on condition that he leaves his job, which he did. On motion the Executive Board decided that its previous decision stand.

Max Hellman No. 9561 and Samuel Fox No. 68 appeared on summons, charged with working on Sunday, August 29th, at Mitchell & Kraper, 40 East 25th St. Isidore Cohen, No. 11175, chairman of the above shop, appeared as witness in behalf of the two brothers, and stated that special exemption was granted to their shop to work on that Sunday. He thought that since the cloak and suit cutters were full-fledged members of the Joint Board, any orders issued by the chairman were applicable to the cutters as well. The cutters pleaded guilty to the charge but had the same excuse to offer as the chairman. The Executive Board, however, pointed out to the men that Sunday work was prohibited among the cutters; that this rule is one of the oldest in Local No. 10; that there was

Unemployment Insurance

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What effective measures could be taken to remedy this condition?

We must come to our employers and say: You cannot use us only during the time when you are in a rush. Do you want us to work for you? Good and well. But we must have enough to live on the entire year that we will want to work. We know that the higher wages we receive during the rush season is bluff. We want to know how much we will get for 52 weeks in the year because we want to live 52 weeks a year.

There are two propositions. One is that every manufacturer should hire a worker for a year. It is not the fault of the worker if the manufacturer will not have enough work for the entire period. The worker just like the manufacturer must make a living the entire year. That is, every worker must be guaranteed with a number of weeks during the year for which he should get paid.

There are enormous difficulties in the way of bringing this system into effect in such a trade as ours which is broken up and scattered among numerous petty bosses who cannot be held responsible.

There is the second proposition, —slack insurance which is easier to bring into effect, that is, every boss could give a certain percentage, say, 10 per cent. of his income or the pay roll during the working weeks. This money should make up a fund from which to pay every worker who receives no pay in the shop. The workers should be paid during the slack to be able to wait for the next season.

Are not we justified for such an undertaking? Is it not essential to our very life? Of course there are difficulties in the way. But once committee with limited pow-

er no excuse for the violation; and that if they were in doubt, they should have sought the advice of the office first. On motion a fine was imposed on each brother.

Sidney Gladstone, a member of the United Garment Workers No. 2, of Manchester, England, appeared, requesting working privileges in the cloak and suit trade. According to his dues book, he is a good-standing member and has paid up to July 3rd, 1920. On motion, secretary was instructed to communicate with the Manchester local and ask for a transfer, temporary working privileges to be granted meanwhile.

A communication was received from the Ladies' Waist and Dress-makers' Union, 16 West 21st St., replying to the letter sent to the secretary of the Executive Board in which the existent locals in the dress and waist industry were invited to attend a conference which was to take up the matter of the formation of a Joint Board. Briefly, Local No. 25 states that their Executive Board has accepted our invitation to the conference, with the stipulation however "that instead of electing a committee of five from our local to participate in this conference, the Executive Boards of the respective locals should participate in it." The acting secretary was instructed to reply to this counter-proposition stating that the Executive Board did not intend to vest this confer-

ers which was to report back to the respective Executive Boards, are we not organized for the purpose of bettering the conditions of the workers, difficulties or no difficulties. There is no use of making noise about it. We have to alleviate the sufferings of our brothers and sisters. If we cannot do so peacefully, we must strike for it.

Such an unemployment insurance fund could be brought into effect much more easily than a guaranteed number of weeks with full pay a year. It is bound up with less difficulties. The boss will contribute each week a definite sum toward the fund. Such a fund will sooner or later lead to a guarantee on the part of the bosses. This is the first step in that direction which will in itself do something toward relieving the suffering of the workers and their families.

This is the burning question of the day, and measures must be taken toward its solution. But before undertaking this problem we must come to our employers and tell them what is on our mind.

This is not a local question; it is of national scope. The cloak-makers of the entire country find themselves in the same position, and all cloakmakers, dressmakers, etc., must concern themselves about it. This question may be discussed locally with the employers, but it can only be solved nationally.

In order to bring this into effect we must have a conference with the bosses at which the jobbers should be represented. The jobbers sell the cloaks we are making. If they want to get cloaks to sell they must make peace with the idea that those who make the garments must live.

Such a national conference with the manufacturers is what I call a national industrial parliament.

There are of course other questions which the national parliament would take up.

But are we prepared to take up this question? Are we prepared to undertake measures which should effectively better the conditions of our people.

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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.

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CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10, ATTENTION.

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETINGS

GENERAL:	Monday, Sept. 27th.
CLOAK AND SUIT:	Monday, October 4th.
WAIST AND DRESS:	Monday, October 11th.
MISCELLANEOUS:	Monday, October 18th.

Meetings begin at 7.30 P. M.

AT ARLINGTON HALL, 23 St. Marks Place

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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.

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136 Madison Ave.
M. Stern,
35 East 33rd St.
Max Cohen,
105 Madison Ave.
Julian Waist Co.,
15 East 32nd St.
Drexell Dress Co.,
14 East 32nd St.
Regina Kobler,
352 Fourth Ave.
Deutz & Ortenberg,
2-16 West 33rd St.
J. & M. Cohen,
6-10 E. 32nd Street.
West Point Waist,
115 W. 24th St.