

"My righteous-  
ness I hold  
fast, and will  
not let it go."  
—Job, 27.3.

# 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. 40.

New York, Friday, October 1, 1920

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## GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD RENDERS DECISION IN CASE OF LOCAL 25

Members of our International will learn with little surprise that a factional fight is on within the Waist and Dress Makers' Union, Local 25. This local union has never lacked, even in most harmonious times, sharp and rancorous differences of opinion. The present situation is, however, of a far more acute nature.

As the readers may learn from the signed statements given below by members of local 25 and the Brooklyn branch of that organization and addressed to the special meeting of the General Executive Board, held in New York City during the past week, the Executive Board of local 25 was charged with willful violations of the constitution of the International Union. These charges have received careful consideration from the General Executive Board at a special hearing before which the entire Executive Board of local 25 and its executive officers were summoned to appear and state their case. The General Executive Board subsequently rendered a decision upon these charges, which we reproduce below together with the signed statements by the members of local 25 in order to afford our readers an opportunity to form a comprehensive opinion regarding the entire situation.

The following is the letter addressed to the General Executive Board by members of local 25:

To the General Executive Board, Greetings!

"We, the undersigned, members in good standing of Local No. 25, beg to call your attention to a matter of grave importance, which requires your immediate attention and action.

"At a recent meeting, the Executive Board of Local No. 25, the Waist and Dressmakers' Union of New York, voted to submit to the members of that local a proposition for the transfer of the legislative and executive power of the affairs of the local to a group of

shop chairmen, vesting the last-named group with authority for the selection of an executive board for the local and for acting with full authority upon all vital matters concerning Local No. 25.

"This action, even if sanctioned by the vote of the members, is in clear violation of Section No. 6, Article No. 6 of our Constitution, which provides that all officers of the Union shall be elected through ballot by the members of the Union; and of Section No. 7 of same Article, which provides for the holding of regular members' meetings for the transaction and control of the affairs of the Local.

"Under the Constitution of our International Union, no executive

board, and no local, has a right to abdicate its powers in favor of any group of members, and has no right to deprive the members from the control of the affairs of the Union.

"We trust that you will see the danger of this basic infraction of the laws of our organization and will take steps to rectify this violation immediately."

(Signed)  
Harry Weissblat  
Louis Foster  
Bertha Wagnan  
Bertha A. Kaplan  
Hyman Korynsky  
Ida Abramovitz  
Mark Carman.

A signed letter with similar

contents was received by the General Executive Board from a large number of the Brooklyn branch of local 25. In this statement the identical charge is made that a plan is being hatched to rob the general membership of the reorganization of its voting power and to transfer same to a group of shop chairmen. The signers of the protest call upon the General Executive Board to take an immediate hand in the situation.

The General Executive Board has thereupon, after giving the matter a most searching investigation, forwarded the following decision to local 25:

Sept. 28, 1920.

"To the Executive Board and The General Membership of the Waist and Dress Makers' Union, Local No. 25, I. L. G. W. U. Greetings:

"The General Executive Board, in special session assembled on Friday, Sept. 24th and Saturday, Sept. 25th, 1920, having heard the charges presented against the Executive Board of your organization containing allegations of transfer of the legislative power of your organization to a group of shop chairmen and the defense presented by the promoters and upholders of this transfer of authority, has given due consideration to every argument presented pro and contra in the situation thus created, and has rendered a decision which is embodied in the following resolution:

"The General Executive Board fully recognizes the right of every member of our International, and of every group of members, to make themselves heard and to advocate views which they honestly believe to be to the best interests and for the advancement of their fellow workers within our organization. The General Executive Board will not only not challenge such a right, but will encourage by every means the development of independent discussion and the promotion of ideas and plans of organization no matter how novel or unusual.

"The General Executive Board, nevertheless, finds that the organization of a new body of legislative authority within Local No. 25, namely, the shop chairmen's body, which is to be vested with the power of selection of an executive board for the local and of acting with full authority upon all vital matters concerning this local, is in direct and flagrant violation of our constitution, infringes upon the rights of the individual members and sets a precedent which, if allowed to remain, will destroy the very principle of democracy upon which our organization is based and which has made it vigorous and influential.

"Section No. 6 of Article VI of our constitution provides explicitly for the election of executive committees and other committees by the 'Local Union.' Under our constitution and in the course of

## BOSTON LADIES TAILORS IN GENERAL STRIKE

The Boston Ladies Tailors' Union, Local 36, declared a general strike in every ladies' tailoring establishment on Wednesday last, September 29. The workers responded to a man, and the trade is at a standstill. First Vice-President Sigman is in Boston and is temporarily in charge of the situation.

The strike grew out of the failure of the employers to discuss in conference with the workers the demands presented by the latter

in a communication addressed to the employers several weeks ago. The demands embody conditions similar to those won by the Baltimore tailors a week ago and include a 30 per cent increase in wages, double time for overtime and pay for legal holidays.

A movement to unite all locals of our International Union in Boston under one Central Joint Board or District Council was set on foot some time ago. Vice Presi-

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## Alexander Fichandler New Head of the Educational Department

Every true friend of adult labor education may be gratified, indeed, with the splendid choice of director of its educational activities made by the International. Dr. Alexander Fichandler, who assumed his new post at the beginning of the current week, comes

to our Educational Department with an equipment, experience and tried ability in the work of public instruction, second to none in the entire educational field in the Greater City.

Under the lead of Dr. Fichandler the formation of the faculty of teachers and lecturers has assumed definite shape. A staff of high school teachers, uniformly men of proven ability, most of whom have been on the teaching staff of our department during the several preceding years, have been re-engaged to conduct the courses in the various Unity Centers throughout the city. These lecturers have already prepared the outlines for their prospective courses, each of which bids fair to surpass in comprehensiveness and interest anything undertaken so far in the field of adult education in this city.

One of the most important courses on Contemporary Labor Problems, to be given by A. L. Wilbert, will consist of a series of lectures divided under the following titles: 'The Right to Organize; The Right to Voluntary Association; The Right to Strike; Free

(Continued on Page 7)

## International Aids in Drive to Elect Hillquit and London

General Secretary Baroff has forwarded to all our locals in Greater New York a stirring appeal to organize a wide collection of funds in every ladies' garment shop in the city to help elect the Socialist candidates this fall, and particularly to insure the count of votes on Election Day in the 12th and 20th Congressional Districts in New York where Meyer London and Morris Hillquit are running.

It looks like a winning year for the Socialist candidates. The atmosphere is fairly surcharged with protest, and the criminal stupidity

impetus to the wave of resentment and disappointment with the old capitalist twin parties and their marionettes.

Morris Hillquit, for years adviser to our International, we are glad to inform our readers, has returned to active life and leadership in the labor movement, after a forced retirement of more than two years on account of ill health. He will make his first public appearance in this campaign on Friday, October 10, at the Lexington Opera House. Meyer London, Joseph D. Cannon, candidate for Governor and Justice Panken will also address that meeting.

our entire existence and practice, the term "Local Union" was, and is, meant to be the general membership of the local, and not any privileged or delegated group. It is within this body of the membership that the legislative and voting power exists, and it is from this general membership that the various committees chosen by ballot derive their authority or executive power. An attempt to transfer the legislative and voting power from the membership to any group, no matter how well-meaning or idealistic in spirit, must, of necessity, strike at the very heart of our organization, at the rule of genuine democracy, and at the rights of those who compose our local unions and in whose interests the organizations are maintained.

"The General Executive Board wants it to be understood and recorded that it is not opposed to any such a representative body as a shop chairman's committee acting in an advisory capacity and supplementing the legislative and the executive activities of the member meetings and of the executive committee in a manner of suggesting plans and means of improvement of trade and local conditions. Such a body, changeable and fluctuating though it might be in composition and form, is likely to contribute considerable good to the organization, to stimulate interest among the members in the various shops and arouse greater numbers to come to meetings and to take part in the affairs of the local. The General Executive Board will not, however, countenance the arrogation of any essential rights belonging to the members and to the committees elected by them through a ballot, by any such a supplementary body as a shop chairman's committee."

"The General Executive Board, in view of the above stated, declares the action of your Executive Board, in transferring the rights of legislation and of the election of an executive board from the members to the shop delegates' committee, as illegal and null and void. Regular member meetings of all the branches of the local should be called forthwith, at which nominations and elections for an executive board be made and carried through. In making this decision, the General Executive Board is actuated solely by the sincere desire to preserve the strength and integrity of your organization, as well as the integrity and well-being of our International Union as a whole."

"The International is at present devoting its principal activities to the organization of the waist and dress-makers in territories surrounding New York in order to strengthen your local situation in the immediate future. This organizing campaign, to which the International is devoting great funds and a big organizing staff, will, if successful, increase your power for maintaining and improving working conditions in your industry in New York. In order to accomplish it, however, concerted action and the aroused interest of your members are necessary. We call upon you to eliminate whatever dissensions differences of opinion have lately created within your local, and to assume leadership in the beginning of a new era of intelligent and truly democratic conduct of affairs of your organization."

"On behalf of the General Executive Board."

"Fraternally yours,  
"Abraham Baroff,  
General Secretary-Treasurer."

## TOPICS OF THE WEEK

By M. D. DANISH

### THE IMMIGRATION CHAOS

For several years, men of foresight and intelligence have urged a rational and feasible program for the control and distribution of immigration. Ever since 1914 it has been obvious that the end of the war would bring a great tide of immigration to America, yet not one effective step has been taken to cope with it. Moreover, present conditions at Ellis Island are actually worse than during the record immigration before the war.

During the last few weeks, the conditions at Ellis Island have become well nigh unbearable. In one instance, 3,319 were detained in quarters with sleeping accommodations for 1,500 persons. The result was a tempestuous night. Those who could lie down passed the night sitting on benches. Many literally slept on their feet. So slow is the progress of examination and of discharging the new arrivals, that their friends and relatives have to wait hours in the narrow enclosure set apart for them. Lately, this condition on one occasion grew into a general clamor, during which the crowd broke open the iron gate and stormed into the information room, at the time when the guards and attendants had gone for the night.

This chaotic condition at the gateway of the nation's immigration is a very serious matter. It is but one of the many tests to the unpreparedness and backwardness of our national authorities in handling a situation which should have been expected by them, and for which they should have been prepared. The great European upheaval and the appalling misery that accompanied and followed it were bound to start a great immigration tide towards these shores. A farseeing and wideawake government should have prepared its receiving agencies to handle the mass of incoming immigrants without adding more misery and misfortune to these new arrivals.

### THE RENT SESSION AT ALBANY

The much advertised mountain has brought forth a mouse. The extraordinary session of the legislature at Albany called by Governor Smith for the purpose of passing emergency housing legislation, and incidentally, to embarrass the Republican majority in both branches of the legislature on the eve of a general election, met, re-elected its Socialist members, and passed out of existence in an atmosphere of general distrust and dissatisfaction.

In a mad rush of less than three days, the legislature passed a number of bills and resolutions, the exact nature of which was not definitely made familiar, it is safe to assert, even to a great number of the legislators themselves. The entire proceeding was more in the nature of a fencing between the Republican majority and the Democratic minority than a sincere attempt to relieve the unbearable housing situation in the big cities of the State.

In the way of direct legislation, nothing, or next to nothing, has been done by the extraordinary

session to stimulate new construction, the most vital need, if the housing problem is to be solved. What has been done amounts to three concurrent resolutions ordering legislative investigations into the price of building materials; one calling on the federal authorities to investigate and provide national measures of relief with regard to the procuring of building materials; and a third, asking for priority in transportation of building materials, next after foodstuffs and coal.

A series of bills proposed, making it obligatory upon insurance companies and savings banks to invest a certain part of their funds into building activities, was lost, as well as a bill to exempt mortgages from the State Income Tax. The law enacted at the last regular session, making it impossible for landlords to raise more than 25 per cent over the price paid during the preceding year by the tenant, was stricken out. The reason for this elimination was a supposed "general misunderstanding as to what it really meant." In reality it was a concession to the clamor raised by landlords and realty owners' boards all through the State against this only real measure of relief passed by the last legislature.

A bill providing for the creation of a permanent State Housing Board as one of the administrative state departments was defeated, along with a number of other measures tending to give the State greater control over home building and housing.

Meanwhile, the merry race between one section of the city and another in sending up rents for apartments sky-high is continuing, and whatever hopes there were raised by the board promises of our state administration to relieve this abominable situation, they have gone aglimmering at present. Firmer than ever, the people of the State of New York, and its poorer working class residents in particular, are in the grip of profiteering landlords. Investigations and commissions will do just as much this Winter for the relieving of the shortage of homes and the price of building materials as they have done in the past.

### ARE PRICES FALLING?

The columns of the daily press carried, during the past week, conspicuous news items of a "wave of lower prices sweeping the country," citing with ecstatic glee a few scattered facts of a drop in the wholesale price of some cotton products and cuts announced in the price of some automobile makes. From these isolated instances, the effect of which, they carefully state, will not immediately affect the consumer, the hopeful belief is being held out that "food is next" and that the purchasing power of the dollar is on the way back to its former level.

At the same time very eloquent announcements — such that we are inclined to take unreservedly — are being made to the effect that "lower clothing prices are not looked for until next spring," and that "retail prices would have to change very slowly," etc. These "calm" statements, indeed, we have heard them last Spring;

we took hope from them last Summer, and the present Fall season was very definitely held out to us by the newspaper wizards and cheer leaders as the peak of high prices after which things will come tumbling down and a sane and normal era will be ushered in.

Small wonder that we have but little faith in these spontaneous outbursts of cheer, on the part of our manufacturers of optimism and forecasters of lower prices. National elections at hand, and anything that can draw the mind of the people, away from the terrible burden of the profiteer's yoke, is being deftly manipulated with and flashed forth to delude, to pacify and to set a rest.

Side by side with these doctored "reports" there are trickling through accounts of slackening industry, falling wages and an increase of the unemployed. The latest statement by the Massachusetts State Employment Bureau shows a decline in wages except for domestic servants, larger numbers looking for work and general expectation or more unemployment in the coming Winter. These accounts are not flared up on the front pages of the metropolitan press. They nevertheless are the true register of the tense industrial situation, and they augur a period of uncertainty and hard times. The organized workers can benefit by no illusions fed to them through the mouths of their masters' press. They should rather look facts straight in the face, stern as they may be, and array their own forces to meet the emergency.

### THE VICTORY IN ITALY

The remarkable industrial situation in Northern Italy brought to a climax three weeks ago by the seizure, occupation and operation of factories by workmen on their own account, without the slightest opposition on the part of the Italian Government, bids fair to terminate in a clean victory for the workers. The employers have, in fact, already consented to meet all the demands of the men.

This seizure of the factories, the most novel method yet employed in the course of enforcement of demands by organized labor in Western Europe, was confined to the city of Turin and the neighboring industrial territory of Piedmont, and involved about 165,000 workers employed in the steel plants, automobile shops, rubber works, chemical factories, leather, shoe and textile shops of this Italy's most industrial district. This army of workers had raised the red flag over several scores of plants and refused to surrender these plants until their demands were conceded in full by their employers.

To understand fully the background of this highly dramatic incident of industrial revolution, it is essential to state the three they are for a wage increase of 4 lire a day, as from last July. The second is for full pay for the three weeks which the workmen have been in possession of the factories trying to work for themselves instead of their masters, and the third is for the right of labor to participate in the future management of industries. The wage increase has been agreed to by the employers because Premier Giolitti, in his effort to prevent the spread of the rebellious conflagration which was threatening to engulf all Italy, insisted upon it. The matter of participation in control has been left to a commis-

# A Rejoinder by William Feigenbaum

Editor, "Justice":

My letter in "Justice" for July 30th on the Socialist Party and the Farmer-Labor Party, has aroused the healthy interest that I expected and hoped that it would provoke. I had intended to rest the case of the Socialist Party (so far as I personally am concerned) with this letter, and let other readers of "Justice" take up the discussion where I left off. A letter by Mr. Abraham Lefkowitz and another by Max Hayes, however, impel me again to take up the cudgels for the Socialist Party, as the organization that members of the I. L. G. W. U. should support rather than the newly organized party.

Both your correspondents, as well as the editor of "Justice" in an editorial about a month ago, make the same point, a point that I think can be disposed of in a moment. They likewise mention the fact that I saw fit to bring up—quite incidentally—a personal matter or two; and then Mr. Lefkowitz makes what I believe is the only real point on his side of the discussion.

All three writers seem to consider it wrong for the Socialist Party to maintain what they call an aloofness, thus making (they say) united working class political action impossible. Mr. Lefkowitz brushes aside my statement of conditions in Chicago where the Labor Party in three elections challenged the Socialist Party for working class support, and denounces the Socialist Party for refusing to enter into a co-operative arrangement with the new organization in New York. The answer to Mr. Lefkowitz's point is very simple.

The Socialist Party exists; it has existed in New York in one form or another for nearly fifty years; the Socialist Party is the Labor Party of New York. The giant unions of the Empire State, just those that have made such a magnificent fight for industrial and economic justice have been identified with the Socialist Party from the beginning. There has never been any question of mutual and reciprocal favors, as the editor of "Justice" in his editorial comment on my letter suggests. The Socialists are with and for the unions all the time; and those unions are with and for the Socialists. By that co-operation the Socialist Party has grown to its present proportions in New York State.

At the last election, in spite of sion to study methods, and the industrial barons of Italy will accept that because they must.

The question of pay for the three weeks the workers have been running the plants is now being fought out at a conference at Milan. The employers are fighting against this pay for the seizure period because such payment would amount virtually to a recognition of the right of the workers to seize factories. The remarkable display of solidarity and unity of leadership on the part of the industrial workers of Italy has, however, stunned the manufacturers into a state of helplessness, and, coupled with the fact that the present Italian cabinet would not risk military intervention for fear of a workers' revolution, it may be safely predicted that the employers will yield on all points.

the most savage persecution in all American history, the Socialist Party polled nearly 200,000 votes in New York City, and nearly 250,000 votes in New York State. Today the Socialists have as their candidate for Governor, Joseph D. Cannon, a man who is known by the entire labor movement as a brilliant and devoted labor leader of the most advanced type.

Now, the Socialists contend that if those who claim that their sole desire is to unite the working class on the political field meant what they said, they would not organize a new party in the same territory where this great Socialist strength already exists. There are between twenty-five and thirty-five districts in New York State where the Socialist Party is either first, or a good second, or third and up with the leaders. It appears to most Socialists that here there is a pretty good, pretty efficient and pretty powerful labor party, and that the nomination of candidates for Governor against Joe Cannon (who, it is conceded, will poll upwards of 300,000 votes, and possibly half a million) is not in line with the announced policy of this new organization to unite the workers upon the political field.

Socialists want to see the working class unite. They will sacrifice much to secure that unity. But they will not voluntarily step aside after having built up this great strength in New York, in Milwaukee, in Chicago, in St. Louis, in Cleveland, Toledo, Dayton, and many other cities in the United States, merely upon the hypothesis that a new party that has not yet passed through a single election might possibly cast a larger vote than the Socialists.

Indeed, the experience of the Socialists and the Labor group in Chicago tends to the conviction that the nomination of Labor party candidates (many of whom are lawyers and other professional men) in opposition to the Socialist Party candidates (most of whom are working men and women) tends to split the labor vote, and to drive away many thousands of people who otherwise would have voted either the Socialist or the Labor ticket.

Mr. Lefkowitz, the editor of "Justice" and others have called attention to the cordial co-operation between the Independent Labour Party of England and the Labour Party, and they hint that such an arrangement might be effected in this country. Socialists reply that if the Labor Party had confined itself to nominating candidates in those places where there was no Socialist Party, or where the Socialist Party was weak, and then proceeded to work for united action with the Socialist Party, such an arrangement might be considered.

There is just one argument that was made by Mr. Lefkowitz that has any foundation in reason. It is this:—"The name 'Socialism' and the word 'Socialists', thanks to our subsidized press, churches and schools, connotes everything which the workers fear and despise, such as war on religion, free love, dividing up and other bunk." Mr. Lefkowitz feels that he wants to go out and organize the workers, and if he calls himself a Socialist, he is afraid that the name will prejudice the minds of the people against him; he wants to get his message over to

them undisturbed by the prejudice that is likely to be used against him if he uses an "unpopular" name.

Let us see. There is nothing particularly horrible about the word "Republican." Yet sixty years ago when Abraham Lincoln was sweeping the country before him as a Republican, it was suddenly discovered by the enemies of freedom that Republicanism stood for "war on religion, free love, dividing up and other bunk."

There is nothing particularly blood-curdling in the words "Non-Partisan League", but if Mr. Lefkowitz will go with me into the Northwest, he will find that the enemies of the farmers have identified those tame and unassuming words with "war on religion, free love, dividing up and other bunk."

In other words, Mr. Lefkowitz, you cannot fool the capitalist class. You call yourself a Socialist, and the capitalist class discovers that the word connotes something dreadful. Lou change your name, and you think you fool them. They are not quite as simple as that. No matter what you may call yourself, Mr. Lefkowitz, if what you stand for is opposed to plunder and robbery and exploitation, you will be denounced as a bomb thrower, a Bolshevik, as a free lover—indeed, who knows this better than the members of the I. L. G. W. U., who have again and again discovered that their demand for a little better wages and a little cleaner shops, meant Bolshevism, Anarchy and murder—in the minds of the capitalist enemies. And at the same time, Mr. Lefkowitz, you can call yourself anything you want and get away with it, if you are not fighting the enemy.

I am very sorry that I was dragged into a personal controversy with Max Hayes, a man for whom I have had the warmest admiration for two decades. I am sorry that Mr. Lefkowitz should have thought that I was casting slurs at Mr. Christensen. Let me say one word about the Presidential candidates; when Mr. Christensen was nominated for President, it was necessary to explain to the labor movement who he was. His membership in the Labor movement consisted in the fact that once as a newspaper reporter he was a member of the News Writers' Union.

Did the members of the I. L. G. W. U. have to have an explanation as to who and what Debs is? And in that connection, does the nomination of Debs, or the nomination of Christensen, tend to divide the labor vote?

I deeply regret that these personal remarks had to be made, but when a new organization comes to challenge the old organization, when that old organization has such a sterling record of magnificent service and when its standard bearers are men of the type of Debs and Stedman, does it tend to unite or to divide the workers when a new organization comes challenging the old with men at its head about whose record and service there may be either a question or a cloud?

In writing this long letter, I am confident that I am expressing not only the feeling of the overwhelming majority of the class-conscious workers of America, but also of the tremendous majority of the International, that the only way to "use the workers politically" for their emancipation is under the banner and upon the platform and program, and behind the candidates of the good old Socialist Party.

Fraternally yours,  
WILLIAM M. FEIGENBAUM,  
Director, Publicity Department,  
Socialist Party.

## LABOR NEWS

### DEMAND STRIKE RIGHT

At the annual convention of the Belgium Trade Union Federation the government was called upon to remove restrictions against workers who would strike to improve conditions.

The workers are demanding the same liberty against enforced labor that Belgium people demanded when the Germans invaded this country.

Legally Belgium workers have the right to strike, but judicial decisions have reached the point where strikers are penalized as violators of "liberty to labor." The government promised to remove these restrictions, but as yet has failed to do so.

The trade unionists also demand that the government increase out-of-work benefits, which now amount to a pittance and full far short of supplementing the trade union benefits as it was intended to do.

### FRENCH CO-OPS. PROSPER

The French wholesale co-operative society has done business this year to the amount of over 150,000,000 francs. In 1914 the business totaled 19,000,000 francs. In Douai the co-ops. reduced the price of foodstuffs 33 per cent, much to the disgust of profiters and to the joy of wage earners.

### KIDDIES FACE DARK FUTURE

New York, Sept. 25.—Hopeless conditions and a dark future for Europe's children was painted by Dr. Livingston Farrand, of the American Red Cross, on his return from a trip abroad. He said the most conservative estimate by the Red Cross indicates that at least 11,000,000 children in Europe are fatherless from war and they face the next few years without hope of adequate care, unless outside assistance is given.

"When to these orphans," said Dr. Farrand, "are added the millions of other children undernourished and under developed physically and mentally, the dangerous situation is obvious. It is this generation, devitalized and neglected, upon which in a few years the stability of Europe must rest."

### 105,000 KILLED YEARLY

The battle of the Marne was only a skirmish compared to the every-day hazards of peace, according to members of the health and accident underwriter's association, at their meeting in Chicago.

It was stated that 105,000 persons are accidentally killed every year. During the war 31,000 Americans were killed in battle, whereas here at home, with no battle going on, 126,000 Americans died of accidents during the same period.

# JUSTICE

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## EDITORIALS

### YEARNING FOR THE PAST

Our garment manufacturers, of various hues and shades, have of late begun sincerely to yearn for the good old days of the piece-work system. We can fully understand why a return to that system should appear so alluring to our employers. We can assure them, nevertheless, that their day-dreams, to bring back the task system in the garment trades, will never be realized. The garment worker who has tasted week-work will never return to the accursed system of piece-work.

The manufacturers are raising a continuous cry that the garment workers are not producing enough under the week-work system. We assume that in raising this clamor they have in mind quantities and bulk exclusively. Can it, however, be honestly maintained that production under the piece-work system was, even in a quantitative sense, a healthy normal phenomenon? Had it been so, the piece-work system would still prevail in the garment shops. It was because that system overtaxed and undermined the strength of the average worker that it had to disappear after years of ceaseless struggle. The week-work system under which men and women normally has come to supplant it, and are our manufacturers really in earnest in their declarations that they would bring back the slavery of piece work into the garment shop? Can they even for a moment believe that they could ever accomplish this?

We, who know the true attitude of the workers with regard to week-work, can assure them that their efforts are in vain. Week-work has come to stay. Moreover, the men and women in the garment shops are coming fast to the realization that the industry in which they are engaged owes them not only a weekly wage, but an all-year-round sustenance. The manufacturers will, very likely, raise even a greater hue and cry against such an "unheard of" demand. We are confident, nevertheless, that this demand will have to be met, in one way or another, in the course of time. The preposterous idea that the worker and his family are entitled to a living not only during the busy season, but during the slack season as well, and that the work produced by him in the industry in the course of the year must be the source of his living and support all year round is gradually becoming the firm conviction of our men and women.

There is an interesting background to this suddenly awakened yearning of our manufacturers for the flesh pots of the piece system. There are rumors afloat — we do not know how true they are — that the great consuming public, which had heretofore paid fancy prices for garments without a

murmur, is becoming more economical and is buying less and less garments these days. The manufacturers know full well that only lower prices for garments can stimulate the purchasing of clothes. But who shall pay for this lowering of prices? Of course, not the manufacturer, not the stockholder.

Our employers, obviously, did not have the temerity to come out in the open and say that they would cut the wages of the workers. For that they are too "liberal," our manufacturers. Instead they are saying to the workers: "Give us more work for the wage we are paying you. You must earn your bread now in the sweat of your brow." Fortunately, the spell of this ancient slogan is quite lost upon our workers these days. They believe in working in a normal, human manner. They will not submit to any wage cutting no matter under what subterfuge or cover it is presented to them. There is sufficient slack time in the garment trade as it is. "Stimulated" production will only strengthen it and add to the misery of the workers.

We quite agree that the great consuming public will begin actively purchasing garments only after garments have come down in price. Clothing must become cheaper. The reduction in prices must, however, come from a contraction of the swollen profits of the manufacturers and the middlemen. These profits are big enough, and a paring down will leave enough for the manufacturers and the retailers to get along on. The wages of the workers, however, must not be cut, as these wages never gave them more than a bare existence under the best of circumstances.

### THE WORKERS' VICTORY IN ITALY

Those who had believed that the seizure of the metal factories by the workers of Italy meant a final blow to capitalism and the ushering in of the era of collectivism, communism and all that goes under the heading of social revolution, — will very likely feel bitterly disappointed over the outcome of that dramatic event. Was it really worth while to seize the factories in order to return them to the owners?

We did not belong to this species of thinkers. We believe, nevertheless, that the struggle of the Italian workers and its results are of great revolutionary importance not only for Italy, but for the workers of the entire civilized world. We believe that this contest opens a new page in the history of labor's struggles.

Of course, it would have been highly gratifying if the seizure of the factories had meant the immediate downfall of Italian capitalism and the socialization of

industry. The stern fact, nevertheless, remains that its attainment is yet impossible. The workers of Italy are not ready yet to take over the capitalist economy into their hands and to convert it into a socialistic one. The very fact that the workers had to compel the factory managers and superintendents to do managerial work for them while they were in possession of the factories, is eloquent testimony that while the workers were strong enough to seize the factories, they were still too weak to maintain them in running order.

It must be pointed out that the workers never had it in mind, when they had seized the factories, to keep them. This seizure was merely a novel strike weapon to enforce an increase in their earnings and other demands. The fearful cost of living in Italy had forced the metal workers to demand a raise in their wages, a raise which, in American currency, would amount to about \$2 per week. The employers refused this demand. The metal workers thereupon conceived the following strike method: They were to stay in the factories, but instead of continuing normal work, they would do as little as possible. Of course this met with bitter opposition from the employers, and the latter decided to lock the workers out of the factories. In anticipation of this move, the metal workers decided that in case the employers attempted to carry through a lockout, they would take possession of the factories and defend themselves, even at the cost of bloodshed. It can thus be seen that originally the workers had no intentions of retaining permanent possession of the plants.

It is possible that had the Italian Government been less far-sighted and had it attempted to use force against the workers, this seizure of the steel plants would have evolved new and more revolutionary objectives. As it happened, the Italian Government had acted very carefully in this situation. It probably was well acquainted with the true nature of this move of the Italian steel workers and did not want to aggravate a sore situation. Nevertheless, the workers have won practically all their demands, the most important of which was that the metal workers participate in the control of the plants. It is certainly an irony of fate that just at a time when our own garment manufacturers are nursing plans of bringing back into the shops the old discipline and the indiscriminate right to hire and fire, the Italian metal workers should have won, through this strike, an equal say with the owners in the management and control of the plants.

The Italian Confederation of Labor has every reason to regard this result as of great revolutionary importance. There is not an iota of exaggeration in what the Confederation has to say in its circular addressed to the members, after the strikers had decided to return the factories to their owners: "Our victory has humiliated our opponents and has compelled them to admit that a genuine revolution had taken place in the world of labor. The new relations created between the workers and employers represent a real revolution within the walls of the factory. The owners have lost the autocratic power which they have had until now."

This is the sum and substance

of this victory. If it is not yet a revolution in full swing, it is surely its beginnings. After the workers will have participated for a time in the management of industry, they will not need to kidnap managers for the running of the plant. When they again seize the industrial plants of Italy, they will be in a position to keep and run them as well. The most striking thing about this marvelous occurrence is that the Italian workers, have become familiar with a new and far-reaching fighting weapon which they will sooner or later use again to their advantage, and each time with more success.

Therein lies the full significance of the struggle and the victory of the Italian metal workers.

### THE LESSON OF THE SALESMEN'S STRIKE

The old adage that those who would not help themselves could not be helped by others was brought out clearly again during the last strike of the Division Street salespeople. Had these salespeople been real strikers, they would have won their fight. Not a man would have remained at work in the cloak shops working for these stores before the Division Street storekeepers would have conceded the demands of their salesfolk. Unfortunately, this strike was marked, from its very beginning, by a treacherous attitude on the part of the majority of the salesmen towards their union. The loyal strikers were in a small minority, and regardless of the financial assistance extended by the International in the course of this strike, the contest was doomed in advance.

The regretful thing about this entire affair is not the few thousand dollars that were spent during this strike, or the energy wasted by Vice-President Wander in its conduct. What is regrettable is the fact that the prospects for a healthy resurrection of the salespeople's union are very slim, indeed, at present. Let us hope that when they rise to their feet again they will remember the lesson of their present failure and will be better prepared for victory.

### FAST WORK WELL DONE

The ladies' tailors of Baltimore had a brief fight and a clean-cut victory during the past week. The strike lasted only several days and the workers have won all their just demands. This victory is certainly a credit to the local union as a whole, and to its able leadership. The ladies' tailors' employers of Baltimore too deserve a word of credit in this connection. Less far-sighted employers would probably have struggled another week before finally giving in. The Baltimore employers, however, saw the futility of further opposition and conceded without much ado. We congratulate the local and its strike committee with Vice-President Seidman at the head.

### A BLESSING IN THE GUISE OF A CURSE

If nothing could ever open the eyes of the people to the farce of our political democracy, the last exclusion of the duly re-elected socialists from the Assembly, at Albany has certainly accomplished this purpose. It certainly is very laudable on the part of such real democrats as Louis Marshall and Samuel Untermyer to deny the fact that our Albany politi-

cians have acted in a flagrantly lawless manner. But what do these protests avail them? These good people will not bring back the evicted Socialist Assemblymen into the House. Moreover, the great majority of the voters who had re-elected these Socialist Assemblymen at the special election are as helpless as these individual protestants. The entire representative system of our democracy appears in this light as a ludicrous mockery.

And again, perhaps this is the only silver lining to this very dark affair. It has tended to remove the blinds from the eyes of multitudes who have heretofore refused to see the ugliness of the prevailing situation. Our great masses have heretofore remained deaf to every new idea, to everything "un-American" because they have believed that through out "democracy" everything can be fought out in a legalistic and most amiable manner. "You want socialism," they would say to us. "Good and well. Obtain a majority. Let this majority vote for you and your plans and the rest will come easy." How silly these admonitions sound in the light of the Albany spectacle!

This event is likewise of great importance for the socialists themselves, for those who have been steeped too deeply in the blind alley of parliamentary activities. They will have to seek different paths now. Of course, they will not abandon the parliamentary struggle — principally for the reason that the representatives of capital would rejoice to have the political arena left free for themselves. Another reason for not giving up parliamentary activities, is the fact that the present situation has created a fertile field for the propaganda of socialism, ably aided and abetted by the stupidity of the politicians. Eventually, however, it must become clear that the parliamentary struggle is not the ultimate road that will lead to the realization of socialism. The Albany politicians deserve full credit for their contribution to the inevitable growth of this wholesale idea. In their blindness they have helped in the regeneration of true revolutionary socialism and have probably saved it from the odium of becoming a mere reform movement.

#### ON THE WRONG TRAIL

We would gladly agree with the press and the detectives that the explosion in Wall Street was not an accident but the work of a demon in human form, or of an anarchist. But how can we! Is it not a commonly known fact that all the dangerous anarchists have been deported quite some time ago? To attempt to say that regardless of the wholesale deportations of all dangerous "reds" some have slipped through the fingers of our detectives would be to accuse our sleuths, Mr. Palmer and the entire Department of Justice of being criminally derelict in their duty.

Were we to adopt the supposition that the Wall Street explosion is the work of an anarchist, we would have had to accept as a fact the proposition that the manhunt conducted throughout the breadth and width of our land was in vain, and that the deportation of an Emma Goldman, a Berkman and all their colleagues was an act of insanity and that our entire detective machinery is a bluff and a fake.

Neither can we agree that those

# International Clothing Workers' Cong

By BENJAMIN SCHLESINGER, President, I. L. G. W. U.  
and JOSEPH SCHLOSSBERG, Gen. Sec. Treas. A. C. W. of A.

(Continued from Last Week)

#### Wage Disputes, Strikes and Lock-Outs.

Art. 35th. Only in the event of a struggle of considerable importance and extent taking place, or provided an organization has come to an understanding with the International Committee of the I. C. W. F. previous to the outbreak of a strike, recourse may be had to the International Clothing Workers' Federation.

If possible the organization should consult the International Committee of the I. C. W. F. before the outbreak of a strike.

#### Wage Movements.

Art. 36th. In the event of an organization affiliated wishing to move for better wages and working conditions, notice thereof must be given to the I. C. W. F. if it is to be expected that such movement will assume large proportions and will eventually lead to a strike. (It was understood that this does not apply to America.)

The International Committee has to give timely notice to the other organizations so that the latter may take the necessary preparations and take such measures as circumstances may require.

Art. 37th. The International Committee shall arrange all financial assistance and appeals in accordance with the decisions of the I. C. W. F.

Art. 38th. An organization not affiliated to the I. C. W. F. may not receive financial assistance from the I. C. W. F. unless exceptional circumstances render such assistance desirable.

Art. 39th. In the event of a strike or lock-out being contemplated in a country, the Executive Committee of the respective or

ganization in that country shall render an account as to the course of the struggle to the Committee of Management irrespective of the fact whether an appeal for international financial assistance has to be made or not.

It is the duty of the Committee of Management in such case to bring the necessary information to the knowledge of the various organizations as soon as possible.

Art. 40th. The management of a strike and the financing of such strike devolves upon the organization itself.

#### Transfers of members.

Art. 41st. Transfer of members from one organization into another should be effected gratuitously. The contributions shall be paid up to the day of clearance. Contributions paid in advance shall have no value in the country to which the member concerned has emigrated.

In case of such emigration it is the duty of the member to join the official national trade union of the country concerned.

Art. 42nd. All organizations affiliated to the I. C. W. F. are bound to act in accordance with the Congress' decisions laid down in these rules, should they desire to be fully entitled to any assistance whatsoever of the organized clothing workers.

Art. 43rd. Dissolution of the I. C. W. F. can only be decided upon by an international congress, provided a proposition to that effect has previously appeared on the agenda.

Such decision must be carried by at least two-thirds of the number of votes cast.

Art. 44th. These rules come into force September 1, 1920.

Alterations in these rules

can only be effected by the International Clothing Workers' Congress.

A. A.

It was decided that the new per capita go into effect January 1, 1921; that is, the per capita for the year of 1919 be paid at the old rate of two Dutch cents per member per year at the pre war rate, which was about one American cent; the per capita for the year of 1920 be paid at the new rate of 5 Dutch cents, or 2½ cents American money.

It was also decided that the publication of the journal begin January, 1921.

Secretary Van der Heeg announced that a tabulation of the memberships of the several organizations showed an aggregate membership of 607,000 which showed a tremendous growth.

The Congress elected a Commission on Home Work and a Commission on Wages. The American member of the former Committee was Joseph Schlossberg; of the latter, Benjamin Schlesinger and also Delegate Dahlman of the Journeymen Tailors Union.

Delegate Smitka of Austria, Socialist member of the Austrian National Assembly, reported the following resolution on home work, which was unanimously accepted:

#### Resolution on Home Work

The International Clothing Workers Congress held at Copenhagen, August 15-18, 1920, declares that

Due to the increasing influence of the trade union movement the working conditions of a part of the homeworkers have been improved; that

The efforts of the trade unions to bring about legislative regulation of home work in several countries proved successful.

The Congress is nevertheless of the opinion that the elimination of this backward form of production which is injurious to the workers, must be attained.

#### Home Work

1. Hinders the improvement of working conditions;
2. Renders impossible the introduction of regulated working time;
3. Means the carrying on of the production of clothing under unsanitary conditions and the endangering the health of both the producers and the consumers;
4. Promotes overwork on one hand and unemployment on the other hand;
5. Hinders the development of skill on the part of the workers and also technical progress.

The Congress declares it to be the duty of the affiliated organizations to demand of the employers to supply workshops and to enforce such demand with all means of the industrial and political struggle.

The Congress demands of the legislative bodies of all countries to enact such legislative measures for the regulation of home work, as are already in effect in some countries, and calls upon the clothing workers' unions in such countries where there are no legislative regulations to initiate vigorous action in favor of such

fanatics who say that for each jailed anarchist or "red," ten others spring forth as if from the very womb of the earth. At best it is a pretty phrase, and having discarded all these possibilities we must inevitably admit that there is not an anarchist on the soil of America to-day and that our police is wasting its energies upon the wrong trail in its effort to solve the horrible Wall Street riddle.

#### JACOB SCHIFF

The world of finance has lost, through the death of Jacob Schiff, one of its leading masters. Ours is not a part of that world. The world of philanthropy has lost through the death of Jacob Schiff one of its finest types. The world of religious Jewry has lost through the death of Jacob Schiff one of its pillars. We do not belong to either of these. Nevertheless, we feel that in Jacob Schiff — the banker, the philanthropist and the pillar of religion, — the world has lost a true humanitarian, a man with a big heart, who frequently rose above the interests of his own class and came in contact with men and movements that were not only far away from him but were essentially opposed to himself and his class. It will be a surprise for many, but it is a fact, that Jacob Schiff had a warm spot in his heart for the labor movement, and in the strike of the

cloakmakers in 1916 he was one of its chief financial supporters, contributing \$2,500 weekly throughout the duration of the strike, and lending his influence on the side of the workers as against the employers.

Of course, Jacob Schiff was in those days a traitor of his class. His place was with the employers and against the worker. But in seeking after the truth, he had learned that the manufacturers were totally in the wrong and he attempted to bring the employers to their senses. After he had failed in this attempt, he lined up with the strikers and did everything in his power to help them win a decisive victory. And inasmuch as Jacob Schiff had in that strike of the cloakmakers taken sides with the struggling workers as against their employers, disregarding the interests of his class, we surely can afford to make this fact public in gratifying reminiscence, now that this truly big human heart has ceased to beat.

We are certain that long after the world will have forgotten Jacob Schiff the financial genius, the philanthropist and the religious Jew, it will remember with a sense of deep esteem that Jacob Schiff who in the year of 1916 had helped, with money, counsel and act, the 60,000 cloakmakers of New York, to win their struggle against the obduracy of the cloak employers.

regulation with the ultimate purpose of complete elimination of home work.

An amendment by Dumas, France, was accepted to the effect that laws of various countries, bearing on home work be compared. National organizations collect documents and data with reference to home work and send same to the International Bureau, which shall then prepare a general draft for all countries. Where the action of the industrial organization is not sufficient they should enlist the cooperation of the legislative bodies. Wherever necessary legal talent should be engaged.

#### Resolution on Wages

Former International Secretary H. Stuhmer, of Germany reported the following Resolution on Wages, which was accepted by a unanimous vote:

The International Congress of Clothing Workers at Copenhagen declares that time wages are the best form of compensation for labor and the workers of all countries should therefore strive to bring that about.

Where there is as yet no possibility of introducing the week work system of wages the piece work wages should be fixed so as to guarantee the workers a living wage. The piece prices should be determined upon a time basis and the worker should be guaranteed a minimum of weekly earnings.

There shall be equal pay for equal work for men and women.

Speaking upon the resolutions, Delegate Stuhmer said that in Germany and Austria ladies tailors (custom work) are paid by the week; workers at ready-made clothing, men's and women's, are paid by the piece. Now such piece prices are regulated by the Unions. Formerly they were determined arbitrarily by the employers. Those two countries found week-pay best for the workers. The same was said by the French delegates.

#### Resolution on Industrial Form of Organization

The following resolution, advocating the industrial form of unionism was introduced by the German delegates and unanimously accepted.

The International Clothing Workers' Congress stands upon the principle of industrial organization and recognizes the necessity of the inclusion into one organization, national as well as international, of the several branches of wearing apparel, such as clothing workers, white goods workers, furriers, hat and cap makers, etc. It is our aim to combine small trade groups and branches into large and efficient bodies. The Conference calls upon the national organizations to work in that direction. It also directs the International Bureau to enter into negotiations with the International Bureaus of the Fur Workers, Hat and Cap Makers, and others, with the end in view of bringing about one united organization both nationally and internationally.

#### Resolution on Hungary

The following resolution on Hungary was adopted by a unanimous vote:

The International Clothing Workers' Congress joins the organized workers of all the world in the condemnation of the Hungarian reaction which has, by means of the white terror, murdered thousands of workers and their leaders, and is keeping thousands of others languishing in prisons, and permitting them to

#### Installation of New Local at Hackensack

The installation of the new local of the International at Hackensack, N. J. took place on Tuesday, September 7th. This local will be known as the Cloak, Waist and Dressmakers' Union of Hackensack, N. J., Local No. 134.

This installation meeting was also an organization meeting; 100 people came to headquarters and in view of the fact that organization work was started here only four weeks ago this is highly encouraging.

One of the interesting features of the meeting was the fact that some of the employers were there too. They were standing outside near the hall, casting angry glances at the workers as they were passing by to the meeting hall. The meeting was addressed by Luigi Antonini, Secretary of Local No. 89, and Miss Jennie Matyas. After the speeches, many of those present joined the union. The newspapers of Hackensack made prominent mention of the meeting, and on the next day after the meeting, The R. & S. Dress Co., the largest dress factory in town, signed an agreement with the union. The local now has a membership of 100.

The following shops have already signed agreements with the Union: The Bergen Skirt Co., H. Walter, J. Karness Cloak Co., H. R. & S. Dress Co. The situation in general is such that we have every reason to believe that within a short time the ladies' garment workers of Hackensack will be fully organized and working under standard and uniform union conditions.

#### The Mt. Vernon Local is Growing

Brother L. Maggio, in charge of the Mt. Vernon office of the International at 51 So. 4th Avenue, has a very encouraging report this week.

Three new shops have been organized during the past week, with an addition of 82 members to the union, and the local is growing by leaps and bounds. The industry is registering a steady growth in Mt. Vernon and surrounding towns, and some of the local shops are installing new machines.

A big meeting is in preparation for Thursday, September 30th, at headquarters, at which Local No.

die, for the purpose of strangling the labor movement in its embryo and halt the onward march of socialism.

The Congress extends its sympathy to the Hungarian workers in their heroic struggle and expresses the hope that in spite of all opposition they will come out victorious from this struggle in which they may safely depend upon the support of the International Proletariat.

#### Resolution on the Ultimate Aim of the Clothing Workers' International

The following resolution was introduced by Ploeg and Sabath (Germany), Schlossberg (America) and Schurter (Switzerland) and was adopted unanimously:

The Congress declares that the International Clothing Workers' will enforce upon this basis its principle of the class struggle, and upon this basis it will enforce its demands by all industrial and political efforts.

113 will be installed, and an Executive Board elected. An appeal to the workers of Yonkers, New Rochelle, White Plains, Harrison, Mamaroneck and Portchester, to come to this meeting, has been spread broadcast, and a big attendance is expected from those heretofore unorganized localities.

#### Activities at Newark, N. J.

The last meeting of the Newark Local, No. 115, took place on Thursday, September 23rd, at the headquarters of the Cooks' and Waiters' Union on Washington Street, and was attended by about 50 girls. At this meeting the election of delegates to the Essex Trades Council and to the Convention of the New Jersey State Federation of Labor took place, and the following were elected: Millie Messina, Fannie Schwartz and Bessie Simmons to the Trade Council, and Fannie Schwartz and Austina Einstein to the State Convention which is to be held at Newark on October 4th, 5th and 6th.

Organizing work is proceeding slowly through means of circulars and booklets distributed among the workers. On several occasions some of the employers have attempted to intimidate Miss Aldrich, the local International organizer, and have threatened her with arrest unless she stops approaching their girl workers with literature. Brother Henry Hillers and President Quinn and the Essex Trade Council are very friendly and have volunteered to help in the organizing work of our local.

#### WORK IN LOS ANGELES

by MAX GORENSTEIN,  
Vice-President

Matters are now quite lively in the local cloak organization. All workers are employed and the season is in full swing.

On Saturday, September 11th, a special meeting of Local No. 52 was held, at which a two-day pay tax was levied upon all members in order to prepare for any emergency that might arise in the future. We have had a conference lately with the cloak manufacturers, at which the question of the supply of help through the local's labor bureau was discussed. We have had considerable trouble, at

the beginning of the season, with the workings of this labor bureau, as many manufacturers would not consent to call upon the bureau exclusively for help. After being explained the justice of the demand, particularly in view of the fact that so many cloakmakers have been coming lately from the East to engage in work at Los Angeles, thus threatening working standards in the local labor market, the manufacturers agreed to this request.

As regards the waist and dress organization, Local No. 103, I can report that we are making considerable progress. We are having at present a strike in a large dress shop, Smith & Foldare. On Thursday last, September 16th, this firm discharged a presser for having dared to tell one of his fellow pressers that she ought to join the union. Following his discharge, another presser went to the firm and asked them to re-employ the discharged worker. For this he was also summarily discharged. A committee of the workers thereupon called upon the employer on behalf of the discharged pressers and they received a reply that if they do not like the action of the firm they too can leave. On the following morning, 45 out of the 50 employees responded to the strike call. At this writing the strike is in full swing. The firm is backed as usual by the Los Angeles Manufacturers' Association. Police, detectives and gangsters surround the shop. The firm has adopted the slogan of Mr. Gary, of steel-trust fame: "No outside interference in our business." They have advertised in the local papers for strikebreakers, but cannot get any help as the dress trade is now very busy.

The statement that appeared in some of the eastern papers, that we have such a demand for workers that increases of \$8 and \$10 per week have been offered to our girls, is not at all exaggerated. To be sure, our manufacturers are offering to the workers free tea and coffee in order to entice them into their shops.

I wish to add that Local No. 52, the Cloakmakers' organization, has been giving liberally out of its funds to the waistmakers' local for the conduct of the strike and is aiding us in our organizing activities.

This struggle is carried on by its affiliated organizations in order to secure for the workers the greatest share possible in the product of labor and to elevate them culturally and economically to the highest status possible with the ultimate purpose of the final abolition of the system of exploitation of man by man and the substitution of the capitalist system of society by that of socialism.

The following were elected as members of the International Bureau:

For the Scandinavian countries—Villem P. Arup (Denmark).  
For the German countries—H. Stuhmer (Germany).

For the Latin countries—Pierre Dumas (France).

For the Slavic countries—K. Folber (Czechoslovakia).

For America—B. Schlesinger.

For England—W. Rines.

Amsterdam was chosen as the seat of the International Bureau.

The next Congress will be held in 1923 either at Geneva or Lucerne, Switzerland.

After several appropriate remarks by members of the Bureau the Congress adjourned.

Monday evening, August 16th, the Copenhagen Clothing Workers' organization entertained the delegates at a very elaborate banquet. A clothing workers' chorus sang socialist and other songs.

A number of delegates were also entertained at a banquet given by the Jewish branch of the Local Clothing Workers' organization.

In conclusion it should be stated that Brother Samuel Lefkowitz, of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, rendered signal service to the Congress by his linguistic abilities. He assisted the official interpreter by translating the discussions into English, German and French.

JOSEPH SCHLOSSBERG,  
BENJAMIN SCHLESINGER

# THE WEEK'S NEWS IN CUTTERS UNION LOCAL 10

By ISRAEL LEWIN.

The next meeting of the Cloak and Suit Division will be held on Monday, October 11th, at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place. Due to the holidays, both legal and religious, within the last few weeks, no meeting of any division was held during the month of September, and it is therefore of the utmost importance that all active members attend the above meeting where the manager pro tem will render a report on the Cloak and Suit situation at the present moment and also on the results of our changed form of affiliation with the Joint Board. This being the only meeting before nomination night, we again urge all members not to fail to attend. Owing to the fact that there is a great deal of business on hand for that night, the meeting will start at 7:30 P. M. sharp.

The Waist and Dress Branch is at present passing through a period of tranquillity, without any strikes on hand which is very unusual for this branch. The strike at the West Point Waist Company, which lasted for a number of weeks, was settled to the satisfaction of the union, the firm having paid a fine of \$50 for insulting the shop chairman, and having granted to all workers in the shop an increase of \$2 per week.

It seems that the manufacturers in the Waist and Dress industry, knowing the strength of the union, especially that of the cutters' organization, are reluctant to start any trouble these days, and even the members of the defunct Dress and Waist Manufacturers' Association have come to realize now that it would not pay to challenge the power of the union and are settling all grievances with our business agents in an amicable manner.

It was reported some time ago in this publication, that a conference was held between the Children's Dress Manufacturers' Association and the Children's Dress Makers' Unions, Locals No. 50 and No. 10, for the discussion of the question of establishing minimum scales in that industry, as stipulated in the agreement between the two organizations. So far as Local No. 10 is concerned, there is a minimum scale in existence. What our union did demand, however, was an increase in the minima, to be based upon three different grades; namely,

Grade A, consisting of cutters who are in the trade not more than two years, such cutters to be entitled to a minimum of \$28,

Grade B, consisting of cutters who are in the trade not more than three years and not less than two years, these to be entitled to a minimum of \$35, and

Grade C, which would consist of cutters more than three years in the trade, these to receive a minimum of \$42.

These demands were submitted to the Association at the last conference. The conference committee of the Association claimed that owing to the dullness in the trade it is impossible for them to consider the establishment of minimum scales throughout the industry as well as a revision of scales for the cutters. The Union, however, contended that since the manufacturers had previously agreed to establish minimum scales for the entire industry, that it must be carried out in good faith, especially in view of the

fact that under present conditions the more fair and reasonable manufacturers are suffering on account of competition by some of their unscrupulous brethren at the expense of labor. The Union therefore insisted that the manufacturers comply with the provision of the agreement calling for the establishment of scale minima. The Association, nevertheless, replied that owing to the dullness in the trade they wish to postpone this entire matter.

On Monday, September 20th, another conference was held at which the same question was taken up. To the surprise of the union representatives, a counter-demand by the Association to the union was outlined in the opening remarks of the President of the Association, to the effect that in the event a minimum scale is established, the union must guarantee a definite standard of production by the workers.

This, the union realized was only an evasion by which the manufacturers tried to dodge the enforcement of a provision which they themselves agreed to some time ago. The slackness in the trade is really what prompts the manufacturers to assume such a defiant attitude.

Local No. 50 is now calling meetings of the different shops in the industry where the entire situation is being gone over with the members, and as soon as conditions will warrant the manufacturers will be made to realize that an agreement is not a scrap of paper.

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

Sam Silverstein, No. 3081, appeared on summons, charged by Business Agent Lipschitz with receiving single time for overtime at the house of Cohen & Bieder, 55 East 9th Street, and with failing to secure a working card. He is also charged with working on Sunday for the above house and that during that period he worked for another house by the name of Shapiro & Silverman, 138 West 17th Street. Mr. Silverstein admits to the charge of having received single time for overtime, claiming that not wishing to lose his job which he had just obtained, he was forced to agree to work for single time. He further stated that he worked on a Sunday in order to try out the job at Cohen & Bieder's, not wanting to do it during the week, as he would then lose his old position at Shapiro & Silverman. However, during the cross-examination, he admitted that prior to that Sunday he worked overtime at the house of Cohen & Bieder, while regularly employed at Shapiro & Silverman. Upon motion a fine was imposed.

Jacob Jacobs, No. 3510, appeared on summons, charged by Business Agent Lipschitz with teaching a non-union boy the cutting trade at the house of Bernstein & Co., 34 East 12th Street. He is also charged with giving false testimony in the presence of Brother Lipschitz and a clerk from the American Association's office when asked whether it was true that a non-union boy was working there. Brother Jacobs admits these charges and states that the boy worked with him at the table for a full year. On motion a fine of \$50 was imposed upon him.

Jacob Golub, No. 1776, appeared

on summons, charged by Business Agent Lipschitz with failing to receive the increase of \$5 per week at the house of Coral & Corland, 44 East Broadway, on January 5th, as per the decision of the Governor's Commission. Brother Golub admits the charge and states that owing to the fact that he suffers from asthma he could not obtain another position, and sometimes had to come in late and the firm did not deduct from his salary. Taking into consideration the state of Brother Golub's health, the Executive Board decided to fine him only \$5.

Leslie Lieff, on application, appeared on summons, charged by Business Agent Settle with working on Saturday afternoon, September 18th, at the Corona Dress Co., 31 East 32nd Street. Brother Settle found him in the shop at 2:25 P. M. Mr. Lieff states that he came to the shop at about 2:15

P. M. to get his pay and that while waiting for it he was found by Brother Settle. He could not explain, however, why he had his sleeves rolled up and his apron on at that hour. On motion his initiation fee was increased \$15.

Louis Breiterman, No. 5770 appeared on summons, charged by the Association of Dress Manufacturers, Inc., with informing a jobber by the name of Silver that the firm of Brenner & Wiedelman, 130 West 28th Street, is charging him for more material for certain dresses than is actually required. Breiterman was censured by the Executive Board for his action which is not becoming a gentleman, and the case was dismissed. The Secretary was instructed to communicate with the manager of the labor department of the above association, informing him of the result of the above charges.

## ALEXANDER FICHANDLER, NEW HEAD OF EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

(Continued from Page 1)

Speech: Free Press; Free Assembly; Vigorous Enforcement of the Seamen's Act; Prohibit Child Labor under Sixteen; Reduction of the High Cost of Living; Restriction of Immigration; Enforcement of Eight Hour Law in Government Positions; Federal Compensation Law; Exclusion of Convict Labor from Interstate Commerce; Repeal of the Labor Provisions of the Cummins-Each- Law; Courts May Not Declare Laws Unconstitutional That Are Passed by Congress, and Non-intervention in Mexico.

Mr. B. H. Munster will offer a course on the "Labor Movement and Economic Problems." These lectures will discuss some of the important economic and social problems which face the worker as producer and consumer. Such problems are the Railroads; Big Business; Banking; Control of Credit; Production and Distribution of Coal and other natural resources; Food; the Ownership of Land, etc. The discussion will show how these problems affect wages, working conditions, employment, profits and prices, and will emphasize the extent to which the Labor movement has influenced, and will continue to influence, the solution of these problems.

Every Unity Center in the Greater City has already perfected its organization. Mr. Isidore Glatzer, who had so splendidly conducted his course last year at the Bronx Unity Center, has been re-engaged, after considerable effort, for the same center. Mr. Davidoff is again with the Waist-makers' Center; and Mr. L. Marks, one of the ablest teachers in the New York educational system, has been obtained for the high school class at the Downtown Center, at P. S. No. 63. Edmund O'Donnell, a well-known instructor at the Brooklyn Manual Training High School, has been engaged for the Brownsville Unity Center. The Harlem Center will avail itself of the splendid services of Mr. Drachman, so ably demonstrated during the preceding term.

With a sense of particular gratification the Educational Department is able now to inform the readers of "Justice" that Professor Charles A. Beard, the distinguished educator, has consented to act in an advisory capacity on our teachers' faculty, and arrangements have also been made for a select group of our students to

attend a course on "The Role of the State in Modern Civilization," to be given by Dr. Beard every Wednesday, at the New School of Social Research. The students desiring to enter this class will have to be interviewed first with regard to their preparatory fitness, by our Director, Dr. Fichandler. The outline of this course promises such a comprehensive analysis and treatment of this subject that it can hardly fail to attract our more advanced students. It is as follows: "Theories and facts concerning the origin of the state. The savage, patriarchal, and agricultural stages of social development. The role of military conquest in the establishment of states. The evolution of absolute monarchies. The opening of the modern age of commerce and industry. The rise of the middle class. Constitutional monarchies and democracies. Origin of political parties. Their role in the state. The rise of the industrial workers. The modern ideas of the state (1) the state as a policeman; (2) the state as a benevolent agency; (3) the state as conceived by syndicalists and guild socialists; (4) state socialism; (5) the anarchist theories; (6) the state of balanced forces."

Meanwhile, in every Unity Center committees of students, under the name of Students' Councils, are already being formed. As these committees is to bring forward men and women students who desire to contribute to the development of our educational activities. In this manner they can gain an opportunity to develop initiative and to utilize it, and every intelligent member is requested to join these committees and become an active member.

The long awaited general conference of all the educational committees of the locals will take place on Saturday, October 2nd, at 2 p. m. at the Peoples' House, 7 E. 15th Street. Educational Director Fichandler and Dr. H. W. L. Dana will discuss at length the labor educational problem abroad and our own plans for the next term. The meeting is expected to be replete with interest, and every member of the committees is awaited to be on hand at the proper time.

And now that the educational machinery is in full working order, it is up to the great membership of our Union, who have so eagerly demanded "more than bread alone" from our International, and who have now obtained it in the form of splendid

ly equipped educational facilities, to avail themselves of every one of these courses and buckle down to work and study. If the exigencies of the busy season interfere somewhat with the regularity of every-night study, arrangements can be made for part attendance. The principal thing is that our organization of education which has been perfected at such elaborate efforts must be used by our members to their fullest advantage in accordance with the intent and the spirit it had been conceived.

The Philadelphia Waistmakers' Union, Local No. 15, is about to begin its educational term during next month. Systematic courses of lectures have been prepared which will be offered to the membership with the advent of cooler weather.

The educational season will be opened with a great concert at the Philadelphia Academy of Music on October 26th, and Mlle. Anna Pavlova and her ballet, assisted by the Russian Orchestra.

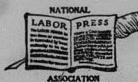
#### SPANISH PRINTERS GAIN

The annual report of the Spanish Typographical Union in Madrid, Spain, shows a membership of 7,000. The union is strongest in this city and weakest in Barcelona, which is noted for the anarchistic tendencies of the workers.

#### BOSTON LADIES TAILORS' IN GENERAL STRIKE

(Continued from Page 1)

dent Sigman was instructed by the General Executive Board to further the realization of this plan during his present stay in Boston. There is a growing conviction among our members in Boston that a central organization will create a more solid foundation for the development and well-being of our locals, and it is to be hoped that this plan will shortly materialize.



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#### LADIES TAILORS, SAMPLE MAKERS AND ALTERATION WORKERS, LOCAL 3

### A GENERAL MEMBER MEETING

will be held on

Tuesday Evening, October 5th, 1920  
at Laurel Garden, 75 East 116th Street

The report of the Executive Board and other matters of importance will be discussed.

Every ladies' tailor, sample-maker and piece-tailor must not fail to come.

EXECUTIVE BOARD, LOCAL 3.

H. HILFMAN, Secretary.

#### 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.

DR. BARNET L.  
BECKER  
OPTOMETRIST  
and OPTICIAN

\* 215 E. BROADWAY  
\* 190 LENOX AVE.  
\* Open Sunday until 6 P. M.

\* 1709 PITKIN AVE. BROOKLYN  
854 PORCELT AVE. BROOKLYN  
Eyes examined by the best specialists

#### DESIGNERS OF LADIES' GARMENTS ARE IN GREAT DEMAND!

A GOOD PROFESSION FOR MEN AND WOMEN!

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Become a Successful Designer

Take a Practical Course of Instruction in the Mitchell Schools



In designing Women's, Misses' and Children's Wearing Apparel! A Course of Instruction in the Mitchell Schools Means an Immediate Position and Bigger Pay. The Mitchell Schools of Designing, Pattern-making, Grading, Draping and Fitting have been established for over 50 years and have achieved NEW IDEAS, NEW SYSTEMS, BEST METHODS, BEST RESULTS. Individual instruction. Day and evening classes. Reasonable terms. Write, phone or call for free booklet, demonstration and full information.

Evening Classes: Monday, Wednesday & Friday

### MITCHELL DESIGNING SCHOOL

912-920 BROADWAY (Cor. 21st), NEW YORK

Phone, Stuyvesant 5383

Brooklyn Branch: 453 Washington Street, Dexter Building.

#### CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10, ATTENTION.

#### NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETINGS

Owing to holiday there will be no branch meeting on Oct. 4.

CLOAK AND SUIT:	Monday, October 11th.
WAIST AND DRESS:	Monday, October 18th.
GENERAL:	Monday, October 25th.

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.

## 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.

#### LEADING COLLEGE OF DESIGNING AND PATTERN MAKING

Practical Designer Building  
PROP. I. ROSENFELD, Director.

222 East 14th Street, New York.  
Bet. 2nd and 3rd Aves.  
Tel. Stuyvesant 5317.

#### Attention of Dress and Waist Cutters!

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

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