

"My righteous-
ness I hold
fast, and will
not let it go."
—Job. 27:6

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. 47.

New York, Friday, November 19, 1920.

Price: 2 Cents

GREAT GATHERING WELCOMES HOME PRESIDENT SCHLESINGER

The mass meeting and concert at the Lexington Theatre last Sunday evening, November 14th, was one of the most successful gatherings held under the auspices of our International Union. The several thousand who were fortunate enough to gain admission into the theatre to greet home President Schlesinger upon his return from Europe, converted the evening into a veritable demonstration for the Russian people who have cast off their age-old chains of oppression and who are now working out their salvation in accordance with their own will and determination.

President Schlesinger brought from Russia the message of a rising workers' republic which, no matter how hard driven it is at the present hour, and no matter how great its defects and shortcomings may be, is bound to save the revolution in Russia and make safe forever the rule of the people in that land. This message was received with unbounded enthusiasm and cries of approval from the huge audience.

Secretary Baroff, the chairman of the evening, opened the meeting with a brief speech in which he gave an account of the mission which took President Schlesinger to Europe and which brought him into Soviet Russia. A musical program consisting of such well-known artists as the celebrated concertina player Piroshnikov, Miss Anita Loew, the dramatic soprano, and Carlo Enciso, the well-known Mexican lyric tenor; was rendered and received with stormy approval by the audience. After the concert, Abraham Cahane, editor of the "Forward", delivered a speech in which he paid tribute to President Schlesinger as a leader of men and a keen observer of affairs. He drew attention to the fact that Schlesinger's travel impressions are eagerly being read by hundreds of thousands of people in the "Forward" and "Justice". Dr. Judah L. Magnes followed Editor Cahane. Dr. Magnes is one of the best known orators in New York. Since the world war and the Russian Revolution, he became a warm friend of the working masses who fight everywhere for right and freedom. He greeted President

Schlesinger upon his safe arrival and made simultaneously a strong appeal to the workers in America to aid in the great relief work for the unfortunate sufferers on the other side.

Editor Yanofsky followed Dr. Magnes with a warm and hearty speech, in which he expressed the hope that now, with the leader of the International back at his post, the work of strengthening the organization and safeguarding the interests of our workers will be renewed with even greater vigor and strength. The final speech of the evening was delivered, of course, by President Schlesinger. He was introduced in the midst of a storm of applause which lasted for several minutes. In a short and intensely interesting speech, he drew the attention of the audience, in a masterly manner, to the outstanding conditions in Europe and Russia, describing in particular the heart-rending conditions of the tens of thousands of pogrom sufferers beyond the boundaries of Soviet Russia. He also described the great want in Soviet Russia caused by the Allied blockade, and his story of the great sufferings and struggle waged by the workers of Russia at present left an indelible impression upon the hearts and minds of all those present.

G. E. B. AT WORK IN BALTIMORE

On Tuesday morning, November 17th, the second quarterly meeting of the General Executive Board of our International opened its sessions at the Southern Hotel, Baltimore, Md. The General Executive Board is confronted with the task of solving some of the most knotty and difficult problems our International has ever faced in the course of its existence.

A concerted attack by the manufacturers' associations in our industries, from one end of the country to the other, is being directed at the International with the obvious purpose of undoing all the gains and improvements which have been made by the workers' organization in our industry during the past decade.

All the vice presidents of the or-

ganization, with the exception of Brother Koldofsky of Toronto, who is at present in Europe on a mission for the People's Relief Committee, are at the meeting. The meeting is presided over by President Schlesinger. At the time of going to press, we have not received any detailed account of what has transpired during the first few days of the meeting, which were devoted largely to the reading of reports from Secretary Baroff and all the International organizers. We expect to be able to present in the next number of "Justice" a complete report of all the important business transacted at that meeting and the decisions adopted with reference to these.

"I deeply regret my inability to be present at the meeting arranged in honor of Comrade Schlesinger, and beg to assure you that I am heart and soul with you in welcoming him on his return from Europe."

I am glad Benjamin Schlesinger went to Europe, for there are few leaders in the labor movement of America better qualified for the important task of strengthening the ties of brotherhood between the class conscious workers on both sides of the Atlantic. I am glad he has come back to us, for in the critical times that are facing us the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and the whole progressive labor movement of the United States will need his clear vision, indomitable energy, boundless devotion and all the high qualities of character and mind which have endeared him to all of us."

Telegrams of greeting were received from the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' in Philadelphia, the Executive Board of the Philadelphia Waistmakers' Union, Local No. 35, and from the Naturalized Aid League of New York.

The opening of our Workers' University on Saturday evening, November 13th, was an unusual success. The large auditorium of the Washington Irving High School was packed with an attentive and enthusiastic audience and the atmosphere of the hall was permeated with a holiday spirit.

Miss Fannia M. Cohn who presided over the meeting, opened the evening with an impressive speech

CONTENTS	
News of the Day	1
Topics of the Week	2
Our Membership: A Summary ..	3
Editorial	4
An Interview with Schlesinger ..	5
Outlets' Page	6
Educational Comment	7
Ladies' Wear Designs	7

BOSTON CLOAK ASS'N BREAKS WITH UNION

The Boston Cloak Manufacturers' Association has forwarded a letter to the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union in Boston, declaring that the agreement entered between the Union and the Association, which was to run until January 19th, 1921, was abrogated by them.

This small group of Boston employers organized in the Association, eighteen in number, has apparently become envious of the laurels of the big manufacturers' association in New York. The cause for the breach is ostensibly presented by the Boston Association to be the unwillingness of the local cloak union to live up to the agreement with the Association. The true situation is that the friction which has arisen recently between the Union and the Association was caused largely through the fact that the members of the Boston employers' organization have been sending out work to contractors, notwithstanding the fact that their own men and women were going around idle. Another cause for friction was the fact that regardless of the guaranty of 42 weeks of steady work, the employers have not kept their word and have employed their people much shorter periods. It must also be kept in mind that because of this guaranty the workers in Boston have been receiving comparatively smaller wages than the workers in other towns.

At the proper time, the Union will take steps to settle this controversy with the employers in a manner satisfactory to the workers, unless the members of the Association will come to their senses and will follow out the obligations assumed by them under the contract with the Union.

OPENING OF WORKERS' UNIVERSITY AN INSPIRING SUCCESS

The opening of our Workers' University on Saturday evening, November 13th, was an unusual success. The large auditorium of the Washington Irving High School was packed with an attentive and enthusiastic audience and the atmosphere of the hall was permeated with a holiday spirit.

Miss Fannia M. Cohn who presided over the meeting, opened the evening with an impressive speech

which was warmly greeted. A concert followed, in which Alexander Block, the well-known violinist, Julia Hill, a soprano, and August Werner, a baritone, participated. The artists were given a hearty reception and had to render a number of encores to satisfy the effusively appreciative audience. After the concert and the speeches, part of the audience went down to the gymnasium of the school to windup the evening in social dancing and singing.

TO ALL CLOAK, SKIRT AND REEFER MAKERS:

Thursday next, November 25th, is Thanksgiving Day, a legal holiday in the cloak and suit industry. No member of the Cloak, Skirt and Reefer Makers Locals is permitted to work on that day and is entitled to pay for same. Let no member of our organization be found working on that day in any of the shops in New York City. Committees will be on watch throughout the cloak district and anyone found at work will be severely punished.

JOINT BOARD OF THE CLOAKMAKERS UNION.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK

By MAX D. DANISH

A Busy Week for Graft Hunters

LAST week the air was filled with charges of graft flying in all directions. In addition to the investigation of wholesale graft and extortion in New York building operations made before the Lockwood Joint Legislative Committee, there have now been added charges of graft in the conduct of the U. S. Shipping Board, and of extortion in the dealings of coal operators. The Lockwood Committee has continued its hearings and added to its revelations during the last week to such an extent that considerable additions in its staff of lawyers have been found necessary. On Friday Mayor Hylan testified before the Committee and was compelled to admit that he had been "fooled" by limestone contractors in the matter of buildings.

The inquiry into the affairs of the U. S. Shipping Board was commenced in New York on Tuesday by the Congressional Committee on Shipping Operations. The playing of politics, collusive bids and other dishonest practices on the part of contractors, the bribing of employees, grafting by ships' officers in the purchase of supplies, the cooperation of government officials, in addition to mere negligence, are among the charges set forth in the report to the Committee.

Meanwhile, the metropolitan press all over the country is trying to convert the building trades' investigation of New York into a case against organized labor in general, though it is apparent to all impartial observers that the workers in the building trade unions were exploited and maltreated by a clique of dishonest officials no less than the building operators themselves and the general public. In fact, the American Federation of Labor has had no influence whatever over the building trades unions mentioned in the investigation in New York City. In a statement issued from the headquarters of the Federation in Washington, it is openly charged that associations of contractors and builders have determined to abandon their closed shop policy and that the agitation in the press is thinly veiled propaganda for the open shop movement.

The investigation of the building trades has led to a rather unexpected and novel theory, promulgated by the New York Evening World, that the Wall Street explosion of several months ago was the immediate outcome of a feud existing between the House Workers' Union led by William Zaranko, and a rival organization built up by Brindell to smash the legitimate union of the house wreckers. This adroit discovery, which created a sensation for a couple of days, has, however, died out very soon, not having received any substantial support in fact and theory.

The Industrial Situation

THE trend towards laying off workers and reducing wages, which started several months ago in a great many industries in the country, continues unabated.

It was recently reported from Detroit that approximately 75,000 skilled mechanics in that city

are idle, having been laid off in a number of automobile and truck shops. Reports from Michigan indicate that the copper mines have laid off from 15 per cent to 20 per cent of their workers and have announced a 12 per cent reduction in wages. As a matter of fact, these reductions and layoffs are not causing great suffering in the industrial market, and it seems that this action was discounted in advance. The repair shops of many New England railroads have laid off approximately 10 per cent of their working force during last week, and similar curtailment of employment is reported from a number of tire and rubber companies throughout Ohio and Illinois. Simultaneously, the newspapers are filled with announcements of the cutting of prices by wholesalers and jobbers in many lines. These reductions have been particularly noticeable in the underwear, hosiery and knit wool factories.

Nevertheless, the buying public need not expect any appreciable decrease in prices for quite some time to come. The excuse given by retailers all over the country is that they are still stocked up with goods bought at high prices and that they are making an effort to unload these goods on the public at present at only slight, though widely heralded reductions. In other words, only goods ordered for delivery not later than April 15th will carry with it a guarantee of reduced prices, and that winter goods will still be sold upon the basis of the prices contracted for during last summer.

It is of interest to note that the cotton mills in the Northern States have curtailed production to a greater extent than those of the South. This discrepancy may find an explanation in the fact that the cotton mills down South are running on a thorough non-union basis and the running expenses in these factories are much lower than in the Northern mills. The textile industry has been, so far, the hardest hit in the country insofar as unemployment is concerned. There are approximately a million textile workers in America, and of these 600,000 are idle at present. The textile workers belong to one of the poorest organized trades in the country, and poorest paid. There are about 75,000 unemployed textile workers in the New York district alone.

These facts are sufficient to give a brief picture of the unsettled industrial situation in the country. In this struggle, between labor determined not to have its standard of living and wages reduced, and the manufacturers and retailers unwilling to part with the huge profits to which they have become accustomed during the years of the war, the workers are being ground upon the wheel of unemployment. It is hard to predict what the immediate future holds in store. It is all too apparent that the big employing and financial interests have made up their mind to strike at organized labor with all their power. A publicity campaign on a wide scale has already been launched from one end of the country to the other to open shop. It will be of immense interest to watch how this immensely important problem will be treated at the meeting of the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. which

is in session at present in Washington to meet this challenge and to work out a positive program for organized labor in the coming crisis.

The Situation in the Men's Clothing Industry

THE conferences between the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and the Manufacturers' Association have at present come to a standstill. The outlook for a peaceful solution of the problems in the men's clothing industry is far from promising, and the attitude of the manufacturers denotes a determination to provoke a nation-wide fight for the return of conditions that have prevailed in the industry many years ago.

The proposal of the union, that a joint committee, composed of representatives of the employers and the workers, investigate the present market conditions in the industry, has been rejected by the employers' association. The employers maintain that they would rather make the investigation themselves and obtain results without the cooperation of a union. The clothing employers of New York obviously have good reasons to be afraid of a joint commission. They are not desirous that the world should know the truth regarding the cost of the production of a garment or of a yard of wool. Such knowledge may take the wind out of the sails of their complaint that the workers are not producing enough and that their profits are but moderate.

The situation is thus deadlocked, and important events are likely to occur every day. During the past week, two very significant events have taken place. One of the biggest firms in the clothing industry, Adelsberg & Wolf of New York, who have had their factories closed for quite some time, have made a direct proposal to their workers, all members of the Amalgamated, that they were ready to open their factories and to begin work, provided the men would consent to return to the piece work system. After a short consultation, the employees voted unanimously to reply in the negative, and this news has created a storm of enthusiasm throughout the trade in New York. This action of the firm is understood to have been recognized in both camps as a signal for the beginning of the big fight.

On the other hand, the firm of Henry Sonnenborn & Co. of Baltimore, a clothing firm employing over 3,000 tailors, which kept its factories closed for the last two months, has reopened its shops in the course of last week, reemploying all its workers under former conditions. This action, of course, has made a dent in the expectations of the New York clothing employers, that the big clothing manufacturers throughout the country would aid them in their attempt to restore old-time conditions in the New York shops. Whether this will serve as a lesson to the ambitious employers of New York is yet to be seen, but it is quite indicative of a spirit of independence on the part of the employers outside of New York not to follow the example of the New York manufacturers and perhaps to endeavor to increase their business at the expense of the New York market.

Capmakers Reject Piece Work

A conference held between the representatives of the Manufacturers' Association in the cap trade of New York City and the Capmakers' Union has terminated in the complete rejection by the union of the proposal of the manufacturers to introduce the piece work system in the cap-making industry.

The union proposed in return to select a joint committee of the employers and the workers to investigate the undesirable conditions in the industry which were the topic of the employers' complaint and to devise means how these conditions, if such are found, are to be eliminated. The manufacturers declined to accept this proposal until they have consulted their membership.

Meanwhile, the movement among the capmakers for the establishing of cooperative shops and stores and workers taking concrete form. The movement, which was started in Chicago and spread rapidly to Boston, New York and other cities, received the approbation of the New York Joint Council now and is gradually becoming materialized. The New York membership in particular is strongly interested in the realization of this plan and they are ready to support it financially on a broad scale.

People's Relief Convention

THE convention of the People's Relief Committee of America, an organization to which most of the locals of our International belong, has taken place in Philadelphia on November 13th and 14th.

This convention drew the attention of the members of our organization largely because it devoted itself principally to the question as to whether the People's Relief Committee, the organization in charge of collecting funds among the Jewish working masses for war sufferers abroad, should detach itself from the central organization of relief, the Joint Distribution Committee, or should remain attached to it. The convention decided, after a discussion that lasted for two days, that the Relief Committee remain attached to the Joint Distribution Committee as heretofore, but that a considerable part of the funds collected by the Committee go to the various labor organizations in Poland and Eastern Europe, and that these funds be distributed under the direct supervision of the People's Relief Committee. This proposal offered a compromise ground for both factions at the convention and served to unite them.

It was brought out during the report of the Secretary that in spite of the unfavorable industrial situation during the past half year, the income of the organization was even larger during this year than in the preceding year. It amounted to \$1,693,632, and the average operating expenses were not more than 4 per cent of the income.

The International locals were represented at that convention through Secretary Baroff, Vice-Presidents Wander, Halpern and Heller, and Brothers Feinberg, Langer, Kaplowitz and many others.

Our Membership; A Summary

By ALEXANDER-TRACHTENBERG
Director, Record and Research Department, I. L. O. W. U.

Since the organization of the Record Department of the International, it was thought advisable to take a census of the dues-paying membership of the Union every six months. This is done in order to obtain an idea of the fluctuation of the membership in the various locals as well as to find out the standing of the members with regard to their payment of dues. There are constitutional provisions regarding the payment of dues which must be lived up to by every member of the Union. A member cannot continue to be considered in good standing unless he pays his dues regularly, and he is not in arrears a longer period than the Constitution provides. The General Office of the International as well as the Joint Boards are interested in knowing at stated periods of time the actual good standing membership of the locals. When organizations are to be assessed to cover expenditures incurred say, by a Joint Board, or to raise certain funds, the assessment is based upon the good standing membership as ascertained by the census taken previous to the date when the assessment is to be levied. In addition, the officers of the Union are anxious to watch the growth of the organization, as well as the fluctuation of the good standing membership. Thus if an examination of the records of a local shows that its members are in arrears for a longer period than allowed in the Constitution, those members will be suspended for non-payment of dues, and the local may lose its position as an organization in good standing in the Union. The members themselves are interested to know the standing of their local with regard to payments of dues, and the periodic census gives an opportunity to the General Office of the local, and the membership to know the actual standing of the membership of the entire International.

In the last census which was due to be taken at the expiration of six months since the previous census, it was felt that the prevailing abnormal conditions in the industry had impaired the standing of some of the subdivisions of the International, and that an examination of the records of the locals would show that the membership is not as large as it was before. Some felt that the lack of employment which came with the slack period would find large numbers of our members lacing in payment of dues, assessments and contributions, to their respective locals. Only a close scrutiny of the individual records of all the members could disclose the prevailing conditions.

What the Census Has Disclosed

The census was begun after all locals filed reports containing records of payments of dues and assessments by their members, up to the including June 30th, 1920. Since the practice of considering as dues-paying members those who were in arrears not more than 52 weeks was still in use, the records of the members were examined from July 1, 1919, to July 1, 1920. After the records of each local were examined, and the standing of their members with regard to

the payment of dues during the four three-month periods of the year, was ascertained, the results were tabulated: first, for each local separately, and secondly, for the entire Union. When the total membership of the International was finally obtained, it was found that not only had the Union maintained its fighting strength, but, as compared with the census of the year before, it had greatly increased its numbers. The results of the census proved that notwithstanding the decrease of employment in the women's garment industry, and resultant loss in the earnings, the members met their obligations and paid their dues to the Union.

In the preceding five issue of "Justice" we gave brief summaries of the census results for various locals throughout the country. The standing of the locals with regard to payments by their members was analyzed and the growth of the organization during the year was shown by the increases in membership, some locals, however, showing a decrease. Altogether, 96 locals of the International distributed in thirteen States and twenty-nine cities both in this country and in Canada, were considered in the census.

Since the census of June 30, 1920, was taken, charters were granted to a local of Waterproof Garment Workers in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; a local of Children's Dress Workers in Carbondale, Pa.; a local of Foremen in Chicago, Ill.; a local of Dress and Waist-makers in Mt. Vernon, N. Y.; a local of Waterproof Garment Workers in Philadelphia, Pa.; and a local of Miscellaneous Garment Workers in Hackensack, N. J.

Summary of Census

Tabulating the results for the entire country, we find that the International had on June 30, 1920, 132,756 dues-paying members, of which number 4,871 paid dues in advance, i. e., after June 30, 1920. 58,996 owed dues between one and thirteen weeks; 41,691 owed dues between 13 and 26 weeks; 14,733 owed dues between 26 and 39 weeks; and 12,465 owed dues between 39 and 52 weeks. Accordingly, the total number of good standing members based upon the 26-week period, was 105,537, or 79 per cent, and the number of members in good standing based upon the 13-week period was 63,846 or 48 per cent. The number of members admitted during the months of April, May and June, 1920, was 2,549. The number of members suspended for non-payment of dues, i. e., of those who made no payments during the 52 weeks prior to the census, was 8,660, or 8 per cent. The number of those who were released for various reasons (by transfer, expulsion and withdrawal, etc.) was 11,306, or 11 per cent. The total number of released members for the year was 19,966, or 19 per cent.

Comparing the present membership with that of June 1, 1919, on which date the International was credited with 104,293 members, we have an increase of 28,463, or 27 per cent. The record of the International showing such a large increase in its membership during

the last year should be an inspiration to all the members of the Union.

Sex, Age and Nationality

The present census was entirely an examination of the records of the members with regard to their payment of dues. The previous census also examined the character of the members with regard to sex, age and nationality distribution. Basing our calculations on the percentages then found, we have out of the total membership of 132,756, 67,706 or 51 per cent women, and 65,050 or 49 per cent men. Slightly more than half of the membership of the International is, therefore, made up of women. They are particularly predominating in the Dress and Waist, Corset, White Goods, Children's Dresses, and similar branches of our industry. Classifying the membership of the International with regard to their ages, we find that 13,276, or 10 per cent, are below 21 years of age; 50,447, or 38 per cent are below

31 years of age; 39,867, or 30 per cent are below 41 years of age; 19,913, or 15 per cent, are below 51 years of age; and 9,293, or 7 per cent, are below 61 years of age. About half of the members are, therefore, below 31 years of age.

The distribution of our members according to nationality is as follows: 98,239, or 74 per cent, are Jewish workers; 22,569 or 17 per cent are Italians; and the remaining 11,948, or 9 per cent, are distributed among the American, French, Polish and other nationalities. Nearly three-quarters of the membership of the International is, therefore, made up of Jewish workers.

The Membership Divided by Crafts

In the preceding articles the membership figures were presented by cities. It enabled us to have an idea of the geographic distribution of our members. Totals were computed by cities, states, and districts. It was thought advisable to group the locals by crafts and branches of the industry. The following table gives the distribution of the members of the International by crafts:

Distribution of Members of Locals Affiliated with the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, by Crafts, Census Year Ending June 30th, 1920.

Craft	Number	Percentage
Bushlers and Beggars	725	.5
Buttonhole Makers	695	.5
Children's Dress Workers	4262	3.2
Corset Workers	2615	2.0
Cutters	6576	5.0
Designers	415	.3
Dress and Waist Makers	38629	29.1
Embroidery Workers	2550	1.9
Finishers	10291	7.8
Garment Workers (Miscellaneous)	238	.2
Kimona and Wrapper Workers	1336	1.0
Operators (Cloak)	14109	10.6
Operators and Finishers	19373	14.6
Petticoat Workers	648	.5
Pressers	8078	6.1
Raincoat Makers	2928	2.2
Reefer Makers	3192	2.4
Shipping Clerks and Salespeople	498	.4
Skirt Makers	6262	4.7
Ladies Tailors	4950	3.7
White Goods Workers	4386	3.3
TOTAL	132,756	100.0

Summarizing the above total, we have 73,832, or 55.6 per cent, of the members belonging to 54 locals who were engaged in the manufacture of cloaks, suits and skirts; 38,962, or 29.3 per cent, belonging to 10 locals, who were working on dresses and waists; 11,269, or 8.5 per cent, of the members belonging to 9 miscellaneous garment workers' locals; 2,928, or 2.2 per cent, belonging to 8 locals were working on rubber goods; 2,615, or 2 per cent, belonging to 4 locals, were engaged in the manufacture of corsets; 2,550, or 1.9 per cent, belonging to two locals, were working on embroideries; and 609, or .5 per cent, of the members belonging to 9 locals, were working as ladies' tailors.

Accordingly, more than half of the membership of the International are working on cloaks, suits and skirts, and more than a quarter of the members are employed in the manufacture of dresses and waists. Thus we have altogether 85 per cent of our members engaged in the Cloak, Suit and Skirt, and Dress and Waist branches of the women's garment industry. The remaining 15 per cent are working in the miscellaneous subdivisions of the industry, such as rubber goods, corsets, custom tailoring, white goods, children's dresses, wrap-ups and kimono, petticoats and embroideries.

JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly.

Published every Friday by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
Office, 21 Union Square, New York, N. Y., Tel. STUYVESANT 1125.
R. SCHLESINGER, President E. LIEBERMAN, Business Mgr.
A. BAROFF, Sec'y-Treas. E. TANENBERG, Editor.

MAX D. DANIEL, Managing Editor

Subscription price paid in advance, \$1.00 per year.

Vol. II, No. 47.

Friday, November 19, 1920.

Entered as Second Class matter April 18, 1920, at the Postoffice at New York, N. Y., under the act of August 24, 1912.

Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103 Act of October 3, 1917, authorized on January 25, 1919.

EDITORIALS

A COLORLESS RESOLUTION

At the last meeting of the Central Trades & Labor Assembly of Greater New York, the following resolution was adopted:

"WHEREAS it is becoming clear that Big Business in our country is concentrating all its forces in an attempt to bring back pre-war labor conditions, that is, to decrease earnings and to increase working hours and to reintroduce piece work in industry,

"BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Central Trades and Labor Assembly calls again upon organized labor to combat any such attempt through the raising of a huge defense fund, and

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, at present in session at Washington, be called upon to raise a national reserve fund through assessments, appeals for voluntary contributions and through any other method that they might advance."

We are, of course, in agreement with the first part of the resolution. As a matter of fact, Big Business is not making any secret of its intentions to make war upon organized labor. It declares quite openly that the workers, if they want to have work, must consent to work longer hours and for less wages and must give up the idea of a closed shop, union efficiency and similar "follies."

While the war was on Big Business was compelled to hide its claws under its fur. The swollen profits of war-time were in the way. The war is over now, and the financial and industrial interests of the country are apparently bent on regaining their former autocratic power in industry. A beginning has already been made. In a number of industries the workers were compelled to accept a considerable cut in wages under the threat of being locked out from the shops. In other factories, hundreds were laid off, and those who remained at work at smaller wages are compelled to double their output.

Big Business is hard at its "reconstruction" work, and the press of the country is conducting an intense propaganda in its aid. The press keeps on admonishing the workers that their stubborn determination to retain former wages and shorter hours is narrow and egotistic and that the life of the country demands that they give up whatever advantages they have gained in the past few years; that they produce more and get less. If the workers will only be less "arrogant" they will be employed a full week, instead of two or three days, though, of course, they will get no more for the full week than what they used to get for two or three days. But isn't half a loaf better than no bread at all!

Well, in reply to this declaration of war, our Central Trades and Labor Assembly of New York has decided to adopt retaliatory measures, in the form of a proposal to raise a huge fund through assessments and voluntary contributions and all such other efforts that the Executive Council of the Federation might be able to put forth. Of course, we are for the raising of a large fund. But it seems to us, nevertheless, that this proposal is not of major importance. It is clear that insofar as money is concerned, the workers of this country with all the funds that they might ever raise, can never measure up to the resources of Big Business. For each cent that the workers might raise, Big Business has at its disposal thousands of dollars. It cannot, therefore, be expected that organized labor can ever defeat the selfish interests of finance and industry through the raising of a fund, no matter how large. Of much more importance is the consideration of the kind and nature of the fight that the workers will put up in the defense of their interests. If it is planned to conduct the fight according to old fashion,—each trade for itself, with all the others remaining outside,—no funds, no matter how colossal, will help. Big Business is bound to come out victorious of such a fight and organized labor will be defeated and destroyed piece-meal. A policy of that sort may lead even to the temporary destruction of the entire labor movement.

It is equally clear that if such individual conflicts will not be smothered through the brutality of the police and the military, they will be broken down by injunctions, through the confiscation of union funds, through the prohibition of meetings, and even through interference by the courts with the issuance of hand-bills to strikers, as happened only recently in Boston. Let us not fool ourselves: each labor conflict that will be conducted in the future along old lines is doomed to inevitable defeat.

It is our opinion, therefore, that the Central Trades and Labor Assembly would have spent its time to greater advantage had it not thought so much of a big fund as about the methods of the struggle that is to be waged, methods that would insure its success to a greater or lesser degree. If the Central Body of organized labor in New York could only see that, under present conditions former methods of

conflict have lost their efficacy, it would begin immediately to seek other ways and means of conflict.

There is little doubt, for instance, that if organized labor were conscious enough of their true interests to declare for a general struggle throughout the land, that such a struggle would not last more than twenty-four hours before Big Business would have to recognize that its yearnings for the good old days, or for the destruction of the labor movement, can never be realized. Such a struggle, if it were only possible, would not require even great funds, and against such a fight no judges and no soldiers would avail. The victory of organized labor would then be complete.

But we must not delude ourselves. The time is not yet ripe for such a general move. The education received by the workers in America in the past has not prepared them for such a campaign. It is a sad fact to register, but it would have been still sadder were we to blind ourselves to this fact and to engage in plans that could not materialize.

If, however, we cannot afford to plan a general labor struggle throughout the land, is not a general strike in one great industry possible, or even in several industries at once in one of the big industrial centers? We see no reason, for instance, why the workers of the entire needle industry, building industry, or perhaps of both as New York, or Chicago. Of course, even such a fight cannot be undertaken on the mere strength of an adopted resolution. Such a fight must be preceded by intense preparation, and a wide-spread and tireless propaganda for a long time must be conducted for it. This propaganda must have as its ultimate aim the carrying out of a definite plan that at a given signal all factories in a given industry become vacant and stay idle until the workers return as victors. Only such a fight is thinkable under present circumstances.

From the resolution adopted at the meeting of the Central Trades and Labor Assembly, however, it does not appear that the representatives of organized labor in Greater New York and vicinity have such a plan in their minds. Their resolution creates a pale and colorless impression. One cannot help inferring from reading this resolution that although the working masses have realized that they are confronted with times of trial and stress, there are very few among them who have a definite plan how to meet the attacks of the enemy.

OUR GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD AT WORK

We shall be able to give a report concerning the discussions and decisions of our General Executive Board at Baltimore only in the next number of "Justice". We shall, meanwhile, point out the most important questions on the order of the day before the Board, so that our readers may have an idea of the significance of the present meeting, and its great consequences for the future activities of our International Union.

First, in our opinion, comes the imperative necessity of the allying together of the entire needle industry into one great federated body. If this plan was a noble and a beautiful aspiration sometime ago, it has become a great necessity now. At this moment, when we are face to face with very earnest problems, the workers in the entire needle industry must be firmly united. The fight of one organization must be made the fight of all. Only in such a manner can we put up a solid front to the enemy, who is becoming daily more arrogant towards the organized men and women in our industries.

We believe, therefore, that the President of our International will, upon the instruction of the entire General Executive Board, call immediately a conference of all the representatives of the unions in the needle industry, and the long dreamt-of federation will become a reality.

Secondly, this meeting of the Board will, in all probability, take the first necessary steps to carry out the resolution of the last convention, to open union-owned shops and stores. We have discussed this plan in detail before the convention, and it is hardly necessary to reiterate our arguments. Suffice it to say, our entire membership is sincerely enthusiastic for this undertaking, and rightly so. This plan really means a new page in the history of our International, and of the labor movement in general. It is quite possible that owing to the peculiar conditions of the hour, it may not be expedient to begin the realization of this plan at once. It is certain, nevertheless, that a beginning will be made, and that when the opportune time comes all preparations will have been done.

The General Executive Board will, no doubt, adopt decisions regarding everything that transpires in the various trades under our jurisdiction. We are certain that no matter what happens, our International will not be caught napping and will be prepared for all emergencies.

All this makes this meeting of the General Executive Board of extreme interest and importance for our general membership throughout the land, and we are convinced that the Board will do everything in its power not to disappoint our members in their expectations.

A WARM RECEPTION FOR PRESIDENT SCHLESINGER

The big meeting last Sunday night, at the spacious Lexington Theatre received only scanty advance advertising. There were no great singers or artists to attract the crowds, and even the speakers at that meeting were all familiar to our readers. Nevertheless, the big theatre was crowded to the doors, hundreds were turned away, and the huge audience listened with deep attention and earnestness to all the speakers, particularly to the speech of President Schlesinger. Details of this great meeting will be found on another page of "Justice". We only wish to state here that this meeting was a strong demonstration of true esteem and loyalty of our New York membership to the President of our International, Benjamin Schlesinger.

An Interview On Russia With Pres. Schlesinger

By S. YANOFSKY

Since President Schlesinger came back from Europe, I had the opportunity of talking with him several times on Russia. I listened with profound interest to all he had to say concerning that land which is still concealed from us by a screen of propaganda and mystery. I endeavored to get from him in one attempt his attitude towards Russia and Bolshevism, but confess that I was not quite successful. The following conversation, it appears to me will give our readers a conception about President Schlesinger's state of mind and spiritual attitude towards Russia:

"Did your short stay in Russia convert you to Bolshevism?" I asked him as soon as I had released him from my embrace upon his arrival.

"No," was his short and firm reply.

"Then you remain an opponent of Bolshevism as of old?"

"Nothing of that sort," he replied. "I am deeply convinced that it is criminal to oppose Bolshevism at present in Russia. I am just as fully convinced that Bolshevism in Russia is the only alternative under present circumstances. To be sure, Bolshevism is the only hope of orderly life in Russia today. Take away Bolshevism and chaotic anarchy in the worst sense of the word will come into play. There is no other party that is capable of taking over the reins of government. If Bolshevism is overthrown today, the greatest massacre of Jews will occur in Russia. Again, Bolshevism is the ideal of millions of human beings. So why should a thinking and feeling person fight them? Just contrary, no matter what our personal convictions, we must help them with every means."

"Then I am at liberty to conclude that you are very much in sympathy with Bolshevism?"

"Yes, with all my heart; but remember, only for Russia. If you had seen with your own eyes what the Bolshevik regime had accomplished under the most difficult of conditions for all those who belonged in old Russia to the lowest strata of society; for those who could call nothing their own; for the submerged classes, as we call them in English; had you seen how these forever-humiliated and suppressed have become regenerated, how these people, as workmen, (the highest aristocracy of present-day Russia) are now earning their bread in an honorable way—no matter how small the ration is that is allotted to them; if you had seen all that, you would have understood and felt with me that the true Socialist can be an opponent of Bolshevism. Mind you, I say again, of Bolshevism in Russia. You would have understood likewise why Bolshevism has created all over Russia such a following of millions of men and women who are ready to lay down their lives for it at any moment."

"Bolshevism in Russia is more than an idea. It has become a religion," Schlesinger continued.

"Men are speaking of Karl Marx with enthusiasm in Russia, though they have never seen a line of his in all their lives. They know only that the 'Dictatorship of the Proletariat' this communistic abhorrence is his creation, and that is sufficient to gain for him their worship. Bolshevism in Russia is so

wide-spread that no matter whom you talk to, you hear the same mode of argument, the same words, and you feel that these words are uttered with a fervid conviction and flaming enthusiasm."

"Does that mean that arguing with people in Russia today is quite superfluous?"

"Even more than superfluous. It is frequently dangerous. In Russia today anyone who is even suspected of not being an orthodox Bolshevik is regarded as a counter-revolutionist, as an enemy, as a person who should be removed as quickly as possible for the good of the cause. It requires courage in Moscow for one to declare himself as a non-conformist with communistic dogma or the Third Internationale. Still, more courage is required for one to defend any other Socialist party to say nothing of defending the America trade union movement. That really means to put one's life in danger, and it is not because they are such bad people. Oh, no; they are all great fighters; each of them is ready to sacrifice his life for what they think is right. And just because of that, you cannot be angry with them. You must forgive them all in the knowledge that their rigor is only the result of their strong, unconquerable faith. They are convinced that we, the trade unionists in America, are the strongest obstacle to the revolution, that with out methods of negotiating with employers and arriving at compromises with them, we are prolonging the last days of capitalism."

"Am I to understand, then, that in Russia they are all convinced that capitalism all over the world is in its dying throes?"

"Of course. This is accepted in Russia as a matter that requires no discussion whatever. And that is precisely why they believe that we, and only we, the trade unionists and other Socialists who, in their opinion, are not Socialists at all, are the greatest obstacle for the Social Revolution all over the world."

"It is remarkable, and yet we were under the impression that they in Russia are well informed concerning all that transpires abroad, beyond the borders of Russia?"

"No, they are not at all informed. In my conversation with Tomsky, the leader of the Russian trade union movement, I attempted to make clear to him the true situation in our country. But I do not believe that my words made the proper impression on him. For instance, they are under the impression that the I. W. W. in America are an enormous power; that they count their membership in the tens of thousands. When I informed him that the I. W. W. have barely a few thousand of dues-paying members and that not a single important industry in the land is affected by that organization, Tomsky was greatly surprised. He was even more surprised when I told him that it is not Gompers who is blocking the revolution in America, but that with the exit of Gompers there will hardly be any change in the general situation here, because Gompers reflects the general ten-

dencies of the American workers and that he is, perhaps, a great deal more progressive than the average level of the working class of America."

"Did your statements, do you believe, succeed in clearing up their misunderstandings?"

"God knows; I doubt that very much. The belief that the entire world is on the threshold of a revolution is so deeply rooted in their minds and hearts that I doubt if any talk is likely to make any impression on them. Tomsky wanted to have another session with me, but I had enough of the first. To tell you the truth, I was not any too anxious to kill off their ardour and faith. Their faith is the only force that makes them so strong and energetic and which enables them to overcome all their physical and mental tribulations. Why should one rob them of this? Perhaps this faith will help them in their heroic struggle and they will finally succeed in putting the life of Russia upon new foundations."

"Yes, this is logical, when one believes that their program is possible of achievement. But is it possible?"

"Why are you so sure of the opposite? Who can be sure? It is possible that you are right, but it is just as likely that they will succeed. One thing is certain: the greatest experiment ever attempted in this world is being made in Russia today. It is three years already since a country, owned by workers, is existing in this world. Understand me, a country where there is no exploitation, where capitalism was wiped out, where the workmen are the lords of the land. No matter what the outcome of this experiment is, the fact in itself is of immense historic importance."

"Well, we shall discuss this point at some other time," I said. "Let us hear from you what made the strongest impression on you during your stay in Moscow?"

"My strongest impression! Yes, I shall tell you. I was at the opera. A big performance was on. The theatre was crowded from pit to roof. I was sitting in the former Tsar's box—in Nicholas' chair—and as I sat in the theatre and observed the thousands of working men and women before whom the best actors played and recalled that only a short time ago this theatre was monopolized by men and women who never led a minute's work in their lives, living off other toil—it was then that I realized the meaning of the Russian Revolution with all its five senses. Every doubt vanished like thin smoke. My heart throbbed with joy, and together with this feeling of great joy, a thought was hammering away in my mind: If it was possible for workmen to take their proper place in society, at work and at play, in Russia, why should not this be possible all over the world?"

"Yes, I understand you. But life in Russia is so horrible today. It is short of everything that is needed for existence and comfort and surrounded by an atmosphere of persecution and suppression of everything that is opposed to the ruling regime."

"I have already explained to you that for workers who have

had no more than a dry piece of bread under the former regime, the present economic situation is not at all bad. They never had enough to eat in those days; they have no less at present. They feel, nevertheless, that they are not in an exceptional class at present. They know that they are equal to everyone. They know that there is no one in Russia today who lives in luxury. And do not forget that they are inspired by hope, whereas their former lives were permeated with total darkness, without a thought of a better future."

"And what about the general oppressive atmosphere," I asked again. "How does it feel to be afraid to say a word?"

"It is not good. It is very bad. I don't want for a moment to gloss over this situation, but what would you have? It is a revolution. Russia finds itself in the midst of a struggle against a world of enemies. Can there be freedom of speech under such circumstances! Here in America we have had a small war with an enemy across the ocean, thousands of miles away from us. You know, nevertheless, how brutally every vestige of liberty, of freedom of speech, of freedom of assembly and of freedom of the press was suppressed here during the war. And there were many quite liberal persons even here who found justification for it. Could not you find justification for Russia for these things in her present very difficult condition? Or do you mean that they are really such despots? Do you mean that it is so much to the liking of Lenin to be guarded over day and night by soldiers with naked swords? Do you mean that it is because of sheer cursed despotism that one is not permitted to come to a meeting or into a hotel unless one has a special permit? But such is the situation: Moscow and Petrograd are full of spies, Bolshevik and otherwise. It is a strangling atmosphere, particularly for one who comes from a more or less free country. It is still harder for one who does not swear by the 'Dictatorship of the Proletariat' and all other communistic dogmas. Such a person is suspected everywhere and he feels like imprisoned. It is hard to breathe in such an atmosphere. I experienced it myself and you can hardly imagine what a deep breath of relief I drew when I left Russia. Nevertheless, all through my stay in that country, I always kept in mind the fact that Russia is passing through the greatest revolution that such a tremendous land has ever passed, and in spite of the suffocated air that prevailed around me, I tried to make peace with myself."

"Tell me, you have pictured Sovietism as a religion. Did you mean by that that the entire population of Russia is swayed by this faith, or only a part of it?"

"I cannot speak of the entire population. After all, I was only in Moscow and Petrograd. And, as you know, these two cities are by far not all of Russia. I cannot speak of what is transpiring all over Russia. In Moscow and Petrograd all churches are open and are crowded with the faithful. You see even people on the street crowding themselves, and it is hard to believe that Bolshevism is the

religion of these people. When I speak of Bolshevism as a religion, I mean only those who are directly interested in the establishment of a new social order in Russia and of a considerable portion of the more or less class-conscious proletariat. To the Bolshevism is truly a religion, and you can hardly imagine the enormous impressing of an idea makes upon one who comes in contact with it every day and every hour.

"I will cite an example: The Russian Embassy in Kovno gave me as an escort on my trip to Moscow, a communist worker. I do not know how I could have reached Moscow without him, as I could not understand a word of Russian. We became quite friendly during our trip, which lasted almost five days. I put to him the following question one day: 'You know me. You are quite friendly towards me. Tell me how would you have acted if you were to have received instructions to shoot me? Would you have done it?' He immediately answered 'Of course, even though I would have, in all probability, shot myself right after that.' This is the general feeling of all those who think themselves responsible for the new life that is sprouting out in Russia."

"Did you find there any members of our International?"

"Yes, a few cloakmakers and quite some waistmakers. When I told them that we have some revolutionists in the waistmakers' union in New York who want nothing but 'soviets' in the union, they roared with laughter. They thought that I was joking them. 'What good are soviets,' they asked me, 'if they have the shop owner still in the factories?' 'The soviet in Russia,' they argued with me, 'is the owner of the factory.' There is no one else beside it. But what sense is there in having a soviet as long as the capitalist is in full control of what he calls his property. What is necessary is a daily struggle for a better existence, and for this there are the unions. Indeed, some of the old and active members of the 'Waistmakers' Union of New York, who met in Russia, could not understand the logic of our 'soviet' promoters in New York. To be sure, I could not myself answer their questions properly," Schlesinger declared with a smile.

"And now, a few more questions. In our talk you have frequently mentioned Lithuania, where the Jews live in amiable relations with the rest of the population and where everything is to be had in plenty. Lithuania and Soviet Russia are at peace. How is it, then, that Lithuania cannot supply, to a certain extent, this want, particularly in bread, which is so badly lacking in Moscow and Petrograd?"

"To this I can reply as follows: First, Lithuania has only enough for herself, and I am not so sure that she could spare any supplies for Russia. Secondly, it appears to me that Russia has nothing to give in exchange to Lithuania for the latter's products."

"If this be the case, if Russia has nothing to give in exchange for products from abroad, what good will there be to Russia when the blockade is finally lifted?"

"If Russia has nothing to give at present in exchange for products from abroad, she will surely have enough to give in the future. In addition to that, it is calculated to give to foreign capitalists a

THE WEEK'S NEWS IN CUTTERS UNION LOCAL 10

By ISRAEL LEWIN.

Election of officers in our Union will take place on Saturday, December 18th, 1920. The polls will open at 12 noon and close at 5 P. M. According to our constitution, the elections in our Union are to be held on the last Saturday of December of each year, and the polls are to open at 12:30 P. M. and close at 5 P. M. But owing to the fact that the last Saturday of December of this year is Christmas, the Executive Board decided to hold our annual elections on the 18th of December, and since Arlington Hall has been rented for that evening, it could not be had for later than 5 P. M. Those members who are expected in order to give a chance to all to come down in big numbers to vote, the polls will open a half hour earlier, i. e., at 12 noon.

At the last meeting of the Miscellaneous Branch, held on Monday, Nov. 15th, 1920, the following candidates were nominated in the respective offices of this division:

For Manager: Joseph Weinstein.

For Business Agent: Jacob Epstein.

For Executive Board: Joshua Goldberg, Morris Alovis, Meyer Zackheim.

For two members of the Election Board, the following brothers were elected, having received the highest number of votes at the meeting: Ike Metzkir, Isadore Cohen.

With the selection of Bro. M. Mackoff, who was connected with the Complaint Department of Local No. 25, Waist and Dressmakers' Union, for a number of years, as Secretary-Treasurer, the Joint Board in the Dress and Waist Industry has become an established fact. At present, details relating to the organization of the Joint Board with respect to departments necessary for a control of the Dress and Waist trade, are being worked out. And within a very short time, probably two or three weeks, the central body will begin to operate.

The establishment of a central organization in the Dress and Waist Industry at this time comes at a most opportune moment. There is no doubt but that some of the manufacturers are planning some sort of campaign for the coming year. Hence, the fact that the employers will have to deal with a centralized organization should be a great help to the workers. Such decentralizing industry as the manufacturing of dresses and waists, can best be con-

trolled by a centralized labor body.

The method of organization carried on by the various locals was, to say the least, chaotic. The control of one shop very often necessitated the appearance in the shop of three delegates from different locals, and the workers in each of the crafts were dominated quite naturally by narrow craft interests. That such individual interests hampered the control by the union of the trade is quite apparent. The establishment of the Joint Board will do away with all these defects. The membership will, in the future, be dominated by a feeling of co-operation; they will feel, as a result of the close alliance of the various crafts, that the interests of one member concerns all.

The membership in the Dress and Waist Branch of the Cutters' Union is advised that complaints should as usual be filed at the office of the Cutters' Union. Any member wishing advice concerning calls of his shop is advised to call at the office of Local No. 10. And as soon as the Joint Board is ready to assume the work of the various local unions, the members will be notified and will be advised as to what is expected of them.

A detailed report of the Constitution and methods of organization of the Joint Board will be rendered at the next Dress and Waist meeting, which will be held on Monday, December 18th. From the foregoing, the members will readily see the importance of this meeting. They will be afforded an opportunity to acquaint themselves with their status in the new organization. One thing may be said here definitely, and that is that the interests of the cutters as well as the workers in all other crafts, will be very well taken care of.

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

Sam Saltzman, No. 5841, appeared on summons, charged by Business Agent Settle with accepting a lay-off on a Wednesday night in the house of Davis and Katz, 145 West 20th Street, without reporting same to the office. Brother Saltzman admits that he was laid off on Wednesday night but states that he intended to quit the place anyhow and since he found another job the following morning, he did not think it necessary for him to come and complain. Brother Saltzman was instructed that in the future he is to notify the office if laid off in the middle of the week, and case was dismissed.

Phil Semmel, No. 5903A, appeared on summons, charged by Business Agent Wilder with being a partner of the concern of the Melbaum Dress Co., 20 East 17th Street, Business Agent Wilder states that in investigating the shop, he discovered that Brother Semmel signs checks, and in fact, signed the very check that was given to Local No. 25 as security for the observance of the agreement. Brother Semmel admits that he signs checks but claims that his sister who invested money in the business has given him power of attorney to sign the checks, but that he is in no way connected with the concern. On motion Bro-

ther Semmel was instructed to either resign from the union or quit the job by Saturday, November 6th, or else he will stand expelled.

Sam Leiner, No. 2458, member of Local No. 20, Raincoat Makers' Union, appeared, requesting permission to work for the Goodmade Waist Co., 2133 — 3rd Avenue, Bronx. Mr. Leiner presented a letter from Mr. Friedman, Manager of Local No. 20, asking that something be done for Mr. Leiner as almost all like cements in their union were out of work all last year owing to the fact that war work has ceased. Business Agent Stoller, who visited the shop, states that the shop receives cut work from different firms and that only occasionally does the shop receive a ready-made mark from one of the jobbers for whom they work, and that Brother Leiner works there only as a shipping clerk and errand boy and only occasionally does he cut. On motion this case must all the cements in their fleet.

Abe Nenner, No. 3642, appeared. Brother Nenner, who is a cloak cutter, was summoned before the Executive Board on Thursday, October 14th, requesting permission to work for the house of the Apex Dress Co., 17-6th Avenue, which request was then denied. He now requests the Executive Board to reconsider its previous decision and permit him to continue working in the same shop, as he is not in good health and it is impossible for him to find a job. On motion case was reconsidered and working privileges were granted Brother Nenner for the Apex Dress Co.

Sam Mirsky, No. 4127 and Morris Marione, No. 3081, appeared, protesting against the action of the office in deciding that they were not entitled to an equal share of work with the other three men employed at the house of Rosenfeld Brothers & Rosenthal, 22 West 21st Street. The above brothers state that when it got slow at the end of last season they decided, as in former years, to look for other jobs and intended to go back as soon as it got busy. They were out of the shop for a couple of months and worked in different places. They now are out of work again and discovered that the house of Rosenfeld Brothers & Rosenthal is employing three of its former cutters. They therefore demanded that the Executive Board see to it that they got an equal share of work, which Business Agent Golub of the Joint Board attended to. However, when everything was settled, every man in the shop complained to Brother Lewin, and Brother Lewin overruled the decision of the Joint Board's business agent. Brother Lewin states that those men who are at present working in the shop have been there for the last five weeks and the other men did not complain and that in former years when the slack season began, the men would go to other jobs and then were entitled to go back to the same shop as soon as it got busy, but that they were not entitled to an equal share of work, especially in view of the old decision by the body that those men who work in other houses in the slack season are not entitled to an equal share of work at their first job. On motion the decision of the manager was over-ruled and the Executive Board decided that Brothers Mirsky and Marione are entitled to an equal share of work.

Educational Comment and Notes

The first session of the Workers' University of the International is to be held on Saturday afternoon, November 20th, at Washington Irving High School. At 1 o'clock Dr. Alexander Fichandler, Educational Director, will address all those who have registered for the various courses of the University, giving a detailed description of all the course and advising whenever necessary the proper selection of courses for those who have registered. It is therefore absolutely necessary that all registrants and prospective students appear at that hour at the high school to receive instructions from Director Fichandler.

The Regular sessions will commence at 2 o'clock. Ordway Tead, author of "Human Instincts in Industry" and other books on labor problems and management, will conduct the first class in "Psychology in Industry." This course will treat of the application of psychological principles to the organization of trade unions. It will lay particular stress upon the importance of the human element in the labor movement. This is the first of a series of lessons by members of the Bureau of Industrial Research.

The second session of the Workers' University will take place on Sunday morning, November 21st, at 10 o'clock. Mr. Heber Blankenhorn of the Bureau of Industrial Research will conduct a class in which the present situation in the steel industry will be discussed. Mr. Blankenhorn was one of the investigators of the steel strike for the Inter-Church World Movement, the results of which were published recently in book form. His personal study of the steel situation makes Mr. Blankenhorn's class very desirable as giving first-hand and authoritative information on this subject.

Miss Ellen Kennan will give a lecture at the Waistmakers' Unity Center, P. S. 40, on Friday evening, November 20th, on Bernard Shaw's "Heartbreak House", now being produced at the Garrick Theatre by the Theatre Guild. Miss Kennan will discuss this drama, comparing pre-war Europe with conditions in post-war Europe and America.

The following National Symphony Orchestra Concerts at Carnegie Hall will be open to members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union: Tuesday evening, November 23—Soloist—Efrim Zimbalist; Tuesday evening, December 7—Soloist—Albert Spalding; Friday evening, December 17 and Saturday afternoon, December 18, Soloists—Samaroff and Gebhard; Saturday afternoon, December 23 and Sunday evening, December 26—Soloist—Benno Moiseiwitsch.

Season cards for these concerts can be obtained at the Local Unions, Unity Centers, or at the office of the Educational Department. Upon presentation of the season cards at the office of Joseph Mann, 32 Union Square, Union members will be entitled to two tickets at a reduction of 40 per cent for the National Symphony Orchestra Concerts.

Physical training examination of members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union will take place this week in the following Unity Centers:

P. S. 63, Fourth Street near First Avenue, Tuesday evening, November 16.

P. S. 54, Freeman Street and Intervale Avenue, Bronx, Thursday evening, November 18.

P. S. 42, Washington Avenue, Claremont Parkway, Bronx, Wednesday, November 17.

P. S. 40, 320 East 20th Street, Thursday evening, November 18 at 6:30.

Physicians from the Bureau of Industrial Hygiene of the Board of Health will be on hand to advise all Union members as to what kind of physical training to take.

Advanced classes in English are now being organized in the following Unity Centers:

P. S. 42, Washington Avenue and Claremont Parkway, Bronx. Miss Frances Wolfson, Local Supervisor.

P. S. 43, 135th Street and Brown Placid Street, Miss Blanche Lynch, Local Supervisor.

P. S. 84, Stone and Glenmore Streets, Brooklyn. Miss Loretta Ritter, Local Supervisor.

All Union members who wish to take Advanced and High School English should register for these classes at once. Highly trained teachers have been assigned by the Board of Education to take charge with the Local Supervisor.

On Saturday afternoon, at 1 o'clock, members of the Cloak Finishers' Union, Local 9, will attend the sixth lecture on "Contemporary Labor Problems" at the offices of their Local, 228 Second Avenue. Max Levin is conducting this course of lectures and will take up on Saturday the Labor Movement in America from its beginning through the period of the Knights of Labor. A large attendance is expected.

Courses to Be Given in the Unity Centers During Next Week

I. Labor and Unionism
1. The Labor Movement Today, Max Levin. Lower Bronx Unity Center, P. S. 43—Tuesdays. East Side Unity Center, P. S. 63—Mondays.

2. Current American Labor Problems, Miss Theresia Wolfson. Bronx Unity Center, P. S. 54—Tuesdays.

3. American and European Unionism, Dr. Margaret Daniels. Second Bronx Unity Center, P. S. 42—Tuesdays.

4. Current Economics and Labor Problems (in Yiddish), Mr. H. Rogoff. Brownsville Unity Center, P. S. 84—Fridays.

II. Applied Economics

1. Application of Economic Theory to the Problem of Present Production and Distribution of Wealth, Mr. Solon DeLeon. Brownsville Unity Center, P. S. 84—Tuesdays. Waistmakers' Unity Center, P. S. 40—Mondays.

2. Modern Economic Institutions, Mr. A. L. Wilbert. A study of the modern bank, insurance company, market, railroad, etc. Harlem Unity Center, P. S. 171—Tuesdays.

BUY
WHITE LILY TEA
COLUMBIA TEA
ZWETOCHNI CHAI

EXCLUSIVELY

LADIES' WEAR DESIGNERS JOINING LOCAL 45

By HARRY SCHUSTER

When the Cloakmakers' Union won the General Strike in 1910, the designers in the cloak, suit and dress industry of New York never dreamt of the possibility of organizing their craft into a union that would eventually become a part of the International. In those days unions were being organized only for the season. The end of the season brought, as a rule, the end of the union. The foremen and the designers in the cloak shops were always regarded as the friends of the bosses, a privileged class by themselves, and quite frequently these favorites would intrigue against the workers and obtain at their expense, from time to time, paltry increases in wages.

Times do change; and together with them have changed the designers in the women's wear industry. The unions in this industry have become organized and strengthened since 1910 and material changes have come into the working conditions of every craft engaged in that industry. These frequent changes, particularly the fact that a great number of individual manufacturers have become jobbers, a fact which has compelled their designers to seek other places of employment, has given the designers a great deal of food for thought. It can be safely asserted that a quiet revolution has taken place in the minds of the designers of the industry, who are giving up all their best minds, soul and inspiration to the creation of new styles, their economic interests were neglected and their standing as artists greatly lowered.

In the year 1919, a group of designers appealed to the International for a charter, and in consequence, Local No. 45 was formed under the name of the United Designers of Women's Wear of New York.

This local has up to this date organized 550 men and women of the designing craft, among whom are found some of the best artists in this line. They have become part of the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union, and are working hand in hand with that organization. The Executive Board of the Designers' Union is composed of three standing committees, to wit, the Organization Committee which is charged with the duty of seeing to it that every designer in the industry becomes a member of the union; the Educational Committee, to arrange lectures and style exhibitions twice a month; and thirdly, a Committee of Arts and Fashions which is to see that the models for the exhibitions are genuine and are created by the members themselves.

The first exhibition of models took place on Saturday, November 7th, at the Grand Opera House, 309 West 23rd Street. It was really a new feature in the work of our organization. Members of the local, representatives of the public—buyers, salesmen, manufacturers and retailers, were present. Before the exhibition was opened Frank Tannenbaum, sent by the Educational Committee of the International, delivered a lecture on Art and Designing, which was received very warmly by the audience.

After the lecture, two models promenade before the audience to exhibit the new styles which were not shown in any place before, and every style was greeted with a storm of applause, which

proved that these were truly new artistic creations by members of Local No. 45. The members of this organization have cause to be proud of the success of the first exhibition, and equally proud of the fact that they belong together with all the workers in the industry to the International. It is the duty of every member of the local to prove to the world that the Designers' Union is the only organization of its kind which is arranging exhibitions where the artistic taste of the designers is given a chance of development. It is our ambition that New York become the center of creation of garment styles, and we are happy to belong to such a parent body as our International where those opportunities for development are made possible.

All designers in the industry who have not yet joined Local No. 45 are called upon to enter the ranks of this organization and to make it the strongest organized body of women's wear designers in the country, and a source of protection and pride to all the fashion artists in the trade.

A GALA "KUENSTLER-FEST" FOR THE DESTITUTE ARTISTS OF CENTRAL EUROPE

On Saturday evening, November 27th, there will be given at Carnegie Hall, for the war-stricken and starving proletarian intellectuals, the artists and writers of Germany and Austria, an extraordinary benefit, a gala "Kuenstler-Fest" which promises to be a musical sensation of this season.

The management has consented to reduce the \$1.25 and \$1.00 seats for all members of our International to 75 cents and 50 cents. The list of artists and the unusually attractive program is so extraordinary that the large Carnegie Hall will, without doubt, be sold out for this occasion the moment the festival is announced in the public press.

There are musical stars of international reputation on the program, headed by the incomparable violinist, Pjastro Borissoff. That great baritone, also a Russian, Bernardo Olshansky, as well as the famous basso of the Dresden National Opera, Leon Rains, and our own beloved Anita Low and Carlo Enciso, the glorious Mexican tenor, will sing, and the celebrated Amsterdam cello virtuoso, Cornelius Van Vliet, will play. Last, but not least, the particular star of the dramatic stage, the Roumanian tragedienne, Mme. Agathe Barsescu will participate with a thrilling scene from the drama "Therseldia" by Grillparzer.

We advise all our members who wish to attend this extraordinary artistic treat not to delay and to secure their reserved seats at 75 and 50 cents from our Educational Department at 31 Union Square.

Besides receiving much more than their money is worth, our members will have the great satisfaction to have contributed towards the relief of their war-stricken and starving brothers and sisters of the intellectual proletariat of two countries closely allied with them in spirit and heart.

AGAINST FURTHER INTERVENTION IN RUSSIA

In response to a call sent out by the American Humanitarian Labor Alliance, a group of representatives of New York labor bodies, labor unions throughout the city are electing delegates for a conference to plan action to prevent further intervention by the United States in Russian affairs. The conference will meet on Sunday afternoon at 1 o'clock, November 21st, at Headgear Workers' (Blethoven) Hall, 210 East Fifth Street.

Labor leaders believe that the course of action that will be adopted at this conference will follow the lines laid down by the British Labor Party in their recent protest to further blockade or warfare on Russia.

Justification of war against Russia by the Allies and the United States has created a situation that menaces world peace, the Labor Alliance declares, and adds that competent investigation of Russia's conditions by the British Trade Union Congress and Labor Party show that an illegal blockade of Russia is being maintained and is causing not only endless suffering to the people of Russia but is mitigating against the return of both Europe and America to settled conditions.

Although the United States officially lifted the blockade in July, trade is impossible because of official prohibitions and restrictions. The United States government has refused to reestablish mail and cable communication and American merchants have found it impossible to sell goods to Soviet Russia because of British control of the financial institutions.

The American Humanitarian Labor Alliance's program, which it will ask Labor to endorse, demands:

That all war against Russia be stayed.

That the last vestige of the blockade and intervention against Russia be removed.

That all barriers interfering with communication, postal, telegraph, wireless be immediately removed.

That free and unrestricted trade relations be immediately reestablished with Soviet Russia so that all obstacles towards peace shall be removed.

Action by the American Humanitarian Labor Alliance follows action already taken by sixteen Central Labor Bodies of other American cities.

The Provisional Executive Committee of the Alliance contains the names of the following labor men:

Abraham Baroff, International Ladies' Garment Workers; Valentine Baueh, International Association of Machinists; J. M. Budish, Cloth Hat and Cap Makers; Sidney Hillman, Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America; Max Kaufman, International Fur Workers; Isadore Laderman, Fancy Leather Goods Workers; Captain William A. Maher, Masters, Mates and Pilots; Dudley Field Malone, Farmer-Labor Party; Percy J. Pryor, Eastern and Gulf Sailors Association; John Riley, International Longshoremen's Association; Philip Zauser, Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers, District Council No. 9; C. H. Lawson, Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers; Abraham Lefkowitz, Teachers Union; Rudolph Modest, Cigar-makers No. 90; J. Precht, Brewers; Thomas Rock, Pavers Union No. 4; Thomas Ryan, Warehouse Employees; Valentine T. Rybicki, Municipal Lodge of Machinists.

GRAND GALA "KUNSTLER" FESTIVAL

SATURDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 27th

at 8:15
at CARNEGIE HALL
given for the benefit of the

war stricken starving intellectual proletariat, the artists and writers of Germany and Austria

The participating artists are:

PIASTRO BORISOFF,
the world famous incomparable
violinist and artistic emissary of
Soviet Russia.
AGATHE BARBESCU,
the Roumanian tragedienne.
CARLO ENCISO,
the Mexican young tenor.
ANITA LOEW,
dramatic soprano.

BERNARD OLIMANSKY,
the celebrated Russian baritone.
LEON RAINS,
famous basso of the Dresden
National Opera (his New York
debut).
CORNELIUS VAN VLIET,
the Amsterdam cello virtuoso.

At the piano: Conrad V. Bos

TICKETS

to be had from our Educational Department, 31 Union Square
also 16 West 21st Street.

At Half Price

for our members only and their friends.

The \$1.25 and \$1.00 tickets

75 Cents and 50 Cents

if ordered at once.

DR. BARNET L. BECKER

OPTOMETRIST AND OPTICIAN

*215 E. Broadway *100 Lenox Ave.

*1709 Pitkin Ave., Brooklyn

895 Prospect Ave., Bronx

* Open Sunday until 2 P. M. Eyes examined by the best specialists

DESIGNING Pattern Making and GRADING

Taught Strictly
Individually

DURING DAY AND EVENING HOURS

Our method is specially designed for the wholesale line of women's, misses', juniors', children's and infants' garments.

SEE US BEFORE MAKING A MISTAKE

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 6817.

Attention of Dress and Waist Cutters!

THE FOLLOWING SHIRT HAVE
BEEN OBTAINED OF STILES AND
NEWBORN ARE WANTED AMONG
SEWING EMPLOYMENT THEREIN:

Jane Wolf & Co.,
105 Madison Ave.
Son & Ash,
105 Madison Ave.
Solomon & Metzler,
33 East 33rd St.
Clairmont Waist Co.,
15 West 34th St.
Mack Kanner & Milius,
136 Madison Ave.
M. Stern,
33 East 33rd St.
Max Cohen,
105 Madison Ave.
Julian Waist Co.,
15 East 32nd St.
Dreswell Dress Co.,
14 East 32nd St.
Regina Kobler,
352 Fourth Ave.
Deuts & Ortenberg,
2-10 V/est 33rd St.
J. & M. Cohen,
6-10 E. 32nd Street.

DESIGNERS OF LADIES' GARMENTS ARE IN GREAT DEMAND!

A GOOD PROFESSION FOR MEN AND WOMEN!

Easy to Learn, Pays Big Money
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 8283

Boston Branch: 453 Washington Street, Dexter Building.

CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10, ATTENTION.

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETINGS

GENERAL: Nomination Night, Monday, Nov. 22th

CLOAK AND SUIT: Monday, December 6th.

WAIST AND DRESS: Monday, December 13th

Special order of business: Adoption of constitution of the Joint Board in the Waist & Dress Industry.

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.