

"My righteousness 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.

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## SIGMAN TO MANAGE WAIST AND DRESS JOINT BOARD.

The newly organized Joint Board in the Waist and Dress Industry, after casting about for a leader and manager, was finally fortunate enough to obtain the consent of First Vice President Morris Sigman to take charge of its business as General Manager.

Brother Sigman gave his consent to accept this post with great reluctance and only after the General Executive Board had time and again persistently asked him to assume these duties. Since he left the New York Cloakmakers' Joint Board, Vice President Sigman was connected with the General Office, first as Acting President in the absence of President Schlesinger, and later, as general organizer, doing field work for the International.

His coming to the Waist and Dress Joint Board doubtless means the placing of the new body on a firm and working basis. All those who are familiar with the record of Brother Sigman as organizer and manager, know of his boundless energy, resourcefulness and persistency of purpose. The situation in the waist and dress industry in New York at present is such that it will require a leader of Brother Sigman's qualifications and the workers in the industry are to be congratulated upon the acquisition they have made in his person as their leader.

## VICE - PRESIDENT GORENSTEIN COMING EAST.

Vice President Max Gorenstein, who has been acting as International organizer on the Pacific Coast for the last five months, has been requested by the General Executive Board to come East, to do field work in connection with the campaign conducted by the Out-of-Town Department of our organization.

Vice President Gorenstein's official station has been Los Angeles, where he was engaged in organization work among the waist and dressmakers, of which there are several thousand in that city. The present situation in the East and the urgent necessity of having every organizer of ability on hand to meet whatever emergency there might arise in New York and in localities within a short distance of New York, where a great many waist and dress shops are located, has prompted the Board to recall him from the Pacific Coast.

Meanwhile, and until either a new organizer or a local man is placed in charge of organizing work in Los Angeles, the management of local affairs will have to fall upon the three International locals in Los Angeles, which will continue the work started by Vice President Gorenstein.

## NEEDLE TRADES CONFERENCE SET FOR DECEMBER 6

The decision of the Chicago Convention, which charged the General Executive Board of the International with the duty of forming a Needle Trades Alliance, to consist of all the international unions in the needle trades of this country, is about to be carried out in the near future. Owing to the absence of President Schlesinger in Europe the matter of arranging a conference of these international unions was delayed until the Fall of this year.

The General Executive Board at its Baltimore meeting last week, instructed President Schlesinger to call such a conference in the immediate future. Upon his return to New York, President Schlesinger addressed a letter to all the five international unions in the garment trades, namely, the United Cloth Hat and Capmakers Union, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, the Journeymen Tailors Union of Ameri-

ca, the United Garment Workers of America, and the International Furriers Union, inviting them to send delegates to a conference to be held in New York City on December 6th, 1920.

Already answers accepting this invitation have been received at this writing from the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, the Capmakers and the Furriers. The Journeymen Tailors have signified their intention to attend the conference and a reply from them is expected soon. The United Garment Workers, however, have qualified in their reply to our invitation that it would have to be discussed and agreed upon by their General Executive Board first. As it stands today, their consent to participate in the discussion of the formation of a needle trades' alliance will have to come in the final reply to the definite proposal addressed to them by our International this week.

## BONNAZ EMBROIDERERS CELEBRATE VICTORY

On Sunday evening last, Nov. 21, the Bonnaz Embroiderers' Union, Local 66, celebrated at a somewhat belated banquet, the victory which it scored over the employers in the industry several months ago.

This banquet had a double purpose: It was arranged to celebrate the victory of the organization, and it served to celebrate the victory of the members as a reunion for all the active members of the local, a get-together at which the problems of

the industry and the approaching times of trial and stress were discussed frankly, openly-mindedly and at length.

The toastmaster of the evening was Bro. N. Reisel, and speeches were delivered by General Secretary Baroff, Vice-President F. M. Cohn, I. Feinberg, manager of the Cloakmakers' Joint Board, M. Hochman, manager of Local 25, Elias Lieberman, S. Rothenberg, President of Local 10, S. Farber, of Local 25, L. Finkelstein, of the "Justice" staff, Mary MacDonald and O. Wolinsky, manager of Local 66.

## Max Amdur Goes to Toronto

Brother Max Amdur, until recently International organizer in the dress and skirt industry in the City of St. Louis, has been asked by the General Executive Board to go to Toronto, Canada, to assume temporary charge of the local cloak situation.

Brother Amdur has for a number of years been a vice-president of the International, and was one of the founders of the Cloakmakers' organization in Philadelphia, which he had managed for over ten years. He left the organization for a short while during the last year, but rejoined the organizing staff of the International in the Summer and was sent West to endeavor to organize the thousand

of women workers in the dress and skirt industry of St. Louis.

The cloak organization at Toronto, which was left without a manager after the departure of Vice President Koldofsky to Europe, appealed to the General Executive Board for a person who could be put in charge of the local organization, and particularly one who would be able to steer its course in their present difficult negotiations with the local manufacturers' association. The Board thereupon decided to request Brother Amdur to proceed to Toronto and to place his services at the disposal of the Toronto Cloakmakers' Joint Board.

## LOCAL 25 WILL ELECT NEW EXECUTIVE BOARD.

On Tuesday, November 30, there will take place elections in the Waist and Dressmakers' Union, Local 25, for an Executive Board and a Control Committee. Special election meetings have been called in every branch of the organization throughout Greater New York, and the daily labor press will contain notices as to the places and hours of voting.

These elections are of vital importance to the great organization of the tens of thousands of waist and dressmakers in New York. Every effort should be made for a general participation in the election. It is imperatively necessary that the very best of the able, loyal and energetic men and women candidates should be returned as members of the Board. The near future will certainly need able leadership and mature judgment on the part of those who will be entrusted with the management of Local 25.

## Elias Lieberman Leaves Business Office of "Justice."

Brother Elias Lieberman, one of the best known members of our International Union, and for a time manager of Local No. 25, has resigned his position as Business Manager of the three weekly publications of our organization: "Justice," "Giustizia" and "Gerechtigkeit," to enter the practice of law in addition to labor editorial work for a New York daily.

Brother Lieberman has been with the Business Department of our publication from the first day the several weeklies conducted by our unions in New York City were merged into one official publication, "Justice," printed in three language issues. In the capacity of Business Manager, Brother Lieberman has rendered invaluable service in organizing the mailing department of these publications and in putting it on a sound business basis. Brother Lieberman has likewise contributed from time to time to the columns of "Justice."

His successor is Abraham Tuvim, a very active worker in the Socialist and labor movement in New York City, who has been connected with the advertising end of our publications for a long time. He brings to the office of "Justice" considerable executive and advertising experience.

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# TOPICS OF THE WEEK

By MAX D. DANISH

## The Meeting of the League of Nations at Geneva

THE eyes of the world have been turned this week to Geneva. The Assembly of the League of Nations opened its first session there on Monday, November 15th, with the election of Paul Heymans of Belgium as President. Forty-one nations were represented, with the United States conspicuous by its absence.

An effort to make the proceedings of the assembly public failed at the very first session. It was decided to distribute the business of the assembly among six commissions and that the sessions of these shall be private and without minutes. This decision was arrived at after a considerable fight against it by a number of delegates representing the smaller nations. Apparently they feared that their interests would be jeopardized through the old methods of secrecy and dealings behind closed doors. This decision is characteristic of the lack of confidence in public opinion which is prevalent at Geneva and which has marked the Peace Conference that created this League of Nations. The decision not to admit Germany into the League of Nations, and the rejection of proposals to amend the Peace Treaty, are but other indications of the spineless timidity of the League of Nations as it is organized to-day.

No one expected much from this League, and, of course, the workers of Europe have still less to expect from it than any other class. With the exception of the problem of curtailing armaments, not a single point on the order of the day before the assembly of the League is of paramount interest to the working classes of Europe. When we add to that the fact that the League of Nations, as constituted at present, has no teeth; that it has no armed forces at its disposal and cannot enforce its own decisions, the lack of its influence is only the more accentuated.

Meanwhile, an appeal has been made in the course of the debates on the floor of the assembly to America to enter the League. In view of the decisive answer given by the American people at the last elections with reference to its entrance into the League of Nations, this appeal is sure to fall on deaf ears.

## Another Russian-Polish War?

SHORTLY after the elimination of Wrangel as a factor in Southern Russia, the peace negotiations between Russia and Poland were resumed at Riga.

The negotiations, however, were only short-lived and came to a sudden interruption on November 20th. The head of the Bolshevik delegation informed the Polish representatives that the work of arranging for a permanent peace could not proceed until Poland loyally fulfilled her promise to withdraw troops to her boundaries. The Soviet delegation charged that the Poles were housing within their borders several anti-Soviet and plundering bands of White Russian and Ukrainians and that Poland was not playing fair with her promise to intern or disarm these forces. Back of that dissatisfac-

tion of the Russia negotiators lay also the fact that the Poles are suspected to be continually sending reinforcements to the "insurgent army" of General Zeligowski, who had occupied Vilna, in violation of the preliminary armistice signed into by Poland and Russia.

All told, it appears quite certain that unless the Poles withdraw to their borders and cease supporting the irregular forces that are fighting the Soviet Army under the protection of Poland, that another war is likely to break out between Russia and Poland. In view of the severity of winter, hostilities cannot be conducted on a large scale for several months to come. During these months, the Soviet Army and the Polish forces will very likely be strengthened for a great combat in the spring. The outlook for peace and a return to normal conditions in the East of Europe is, indeed, very threatening as it is to-day, regardless of the fact that peace and normal labor were never as imperatively required in that section of the world as it is under present wretched conditions.

## Terror on the Increase in Ireland

THE past week was an exceptionally bloody one in distracted and civil-war-ridden Ireland. An orgy of reprisals by British authorities, which culminated in the killing of fourteen British officers in their beds on Sunday, November 21st, and the wounding of scores of more officers, has swept from one end of the Green Isle to the other. A series of burning down of houses, shootings on the part of the Sinn Fein and equally cruel retaliations from the Royal Constabulary, has filled with horror every sincere friend of Irish independence.

Dublin is under martial law, and huge reinforcements of troops are under way to Ireland as a result of a veritable panic over the fear of assassination which is abroad throughout England. That the Irish are determined to win their fight through the force of arms, and that the English are just as determined to break it down by the employment of still greater force, is the most unfortunate feature of the situation. Reason and the possibility of reconciliation has apparently left the minds of the combatants. The incessant raids, murders and destruction of entire cities only adds to the flame of hatred, and unless either side succeeds in crushing the opposition within a short time, the future of Ireland is shrouded in the sterile maze of an endless civil war.

## The Executive Council in Session

THE Executive Council of the A. F. of L. has been holding sessions in Washington for the past two weeks to discuss the industrial problems which have arisen in the recent past and to plan ways and means of meeting the acute unemployment situation in several important industries.

The meetings were not open to the public and the press, but an indication of the general nature of the discussions may perhaps be found in the action taken in the

reorganization of the committee to unionize the steel workers. The *Yossabanshah* at St. Louis, president of the committee, and its secretary, John J. Fitzpatrick, chairman, and William Z. Foster, secretary, were eliminated from the committee, their places being taken by conservatives in the labor movement. Of course, these newspapers fail, either through ignorance or omission, to mention the fact that both these officials have resigned their positions a long time ago and this "elimination," if it ever took place, came long after they have themselves severed their connections with this committee.

As far as it can be learned, the Executive Council has not taken any position and definitely has no opinion with regard to the burning questions that agitate labor in the land. Herbert Hoover was called in during the early part of the meeting to address the Council upon the opportunities of labor working together with the employers for the purpose of eliminating waste and inefficiency and the creating of an atmosphere to foster greater production. It was also stated that the Council has planned a series of conferences with other industrial experts, looking to a gradual establishment of co-operation. It is stated that the Council has adopted a resolution calling upon the Government to eliminate insofar as possible immigration into the country, which, according to the opinion of the Council, is threatening labor standards and is increasing unemployment in the country.

In the absence of the minutes of the proceedings of the Council, it is, of course, difficult to either verify or negate these rumors. It is regrettable indeed that even the labor press is compelled to remain in ignorance regarding the deliberations of the most important labor executive body in America with reference to questions that agitate the mind of every worker in the country to-day. One thing, however, is certain: that the minds of the members of the Executive Council, apparently stricken with fear over the possibility of industrial unrest and the menace of aggravated unemployment, have turned their faces even further to the right, towards conservatism. It is quite ominous that these rumors emanating from Washington do not credit the meeting of the Executive Council with one single positive act and indicate a lack of constructive thought and action rather than a constructive and aggressive program.

## The Lift-the-Blockade Conference

ON Sunday, November 21st, there took place in New York City a remarkable conference of labor bodies representing over 600,000 organized workers in the Greater City, which adopted a program calling for the removal of restrictions on trade with Soviet Russia and the opening of commercial relations with that country. Among the organizations present were the majority of the locals of our International Union of New York City and over 275 other bodies represented by over 600 delegates. The meeting was presided over by Edward J. Hannah, President of the Central Federated Union, and on the platform there sat a number of prominent labor leaders, including Timothy Healy, President of the International Stationary Firemen and Engineers, Sidney Hill-

man, President of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, and many other heads of international unions.

In a resolution adopted unanimously, amidst salvoes of applause, the delegates pledged themselves to use every legitimate influence to bring about the resumption of trade with Russia, and more specifically, to organize on a nationwide scale, particularly among labor unions, a propaganda to that effect.

Delegates from the different unions pledged a fund of over \$2,500 to support the entire blockade movement. An executive committee of 25 members, with Brother Hannah as chairman, was appointed by the conference to formulate plans for future activities. This conference was, undoubtedly, the first co-ordinated and well-carried out step by the organized labor movement of Greater New York, to give voice to its indignation over the policy of strangling Russia through hunger and cold so steadily pursued by the Washington Administration.

One of the points accentuated by every speaker at this conference was that the shutting off of commercial relations with Russia was bound eventually to deliver Russia's entire foreign trade and commerce into the hands of England, Germany and other European countries, and that the industrial slump in America could be greatly relieved through the influx of orders for machinery, implements and other commodities from Russia. The demand for the lifting of the blockade is thus, beside its humanitarian aspects, of immediate importance to the great masses of workers in America who are either already unemployed or whose jobs are threatened with the prospect of the shutting down of industrial plants in the immediate future.

## The Fiume Tangle Near Settlement

THE bitter controversy over Fiume and adjacent territory, which for a time bade well to become the cause of a new war and which has attracted the attention of the world through the spectacular acts of D'Annunzio, has come to a settlement through negotiations during last week. Full details are not yet available, but a compromise seems fair and creditable to both Italy and Jugoslavia. It appears that Fiume is to be an independent city, not under the League of Nations, which means ultimate union with Italy. The settlement of the boundary question back of Fiume favors Jugoslavia, but Italy gets enough for security.

It is clear enough that the Italian Government, after the trying time it had to keep itself in the saddle during the great strike of the steel workers two months ago, has learned the lesson that the Italian workers are not inclined to play any more the imperialistic game. An attempt to involve the country into another war for annexation purposes would mean to stake the Italian monarchy and very likely the Italian capitalist institutions. So, in spite of an inflated public press and every agency showing its work, the Government of Italy has deemed it wise to accept a compromise and to settle once and for all the Adriatic question. This is a clear indication of the rise of working-class power in Italy, and it is a cheerful augury of its becoming a factor for peace and progress in Southern Europe.

# With the General Executive Board in Baltimore

Eight sessions, each consisting of not less than four hours each, were held by the General Executive Board of our International at Baltimore from Tuesday, November 16, to Saturday, November 20. At these sessions the entire scope of the activity of our International was gone over in detail and not a single problem concerning it was left without answer.

A detailed account of this meeting would occupy more than one full number of "Justice." The reports alone would occupy an immense amount of space. There was a report by President Schlesinger upon his trip to Europe; a report by Secretary Baroff on all events that have taken place since the last meeting of the Board; a report by Vice-President Halpern on the work of the out-of-town department; a report by Vice-President Perlestein on the situation in Cleveland; a report by Vice-President Schoolman on Chicago; a report by Vice-President Lefkowitz on the amalgamation of Locals 3 and 80; and reports of organizations from various districts, such as from Vice-President Seidman on Baltimore, Snyder on Boston, Samuels on the situation in the raincoat industry, and many others. Add to it a mass of decisions on the problems covered in all these reports, decisions preceded by voluminous discussion, demands from various local organizations and action upon these demands, and the reader can easily perceive what a detailed report of this meeting might amount to.

We shall, therefore, only attempt to give the reader a brief and concise record of the decisions arrived at by this meeting without much comment and detail. Before we, however, undertake this, we would like to convey our impression with regard to the general attitude of the General Executive Board towards the problems which agitate our industry at the present moment.

In brief, the attitude adopted by the Board is such that meets in full the expectations of all those who had vested their entire confidence in the men who have been chosen to administer the economic needs of 150,000 men and women in the ladies' garment industry. The remarkable thing about this meeting was as I have already pointed out above, was the lack of acrimonious debating and a spirit of unusual calm in the deliberations. Had our employers only been present at these meetings they would have been justified in concluding that this calm bore no good omen for their recent-day aggressiveness. They would have guessed that the men against whom they are planning to declare war are fully armed with implements of struggle and for the winning of more victories.

This latter point, the complete victory of our workers in case of a conflict, seemed not to have aroused the least doubt in the minds of all. This firm belief was, however, supplemented with the following idea: The International seeks no fight and will endeavor to avoid it; should it, however, be compelled to take it up, i.e., should the employers in our industries make an attempt to rob the workers of what the latter had gained through years of incessant fight, the International will rise like one person in the defense of these hard-earned acquisitions and

## A Brief Review. BY S. YANOFSKY.

will not lay down arms until victory is theirs.

The stand of our International was made clear by President Schlesinger, not only at the public meeting arranged by the Baltimore Cloakmakers' Union and the banquet given subsequently in honor of the General Board, but at each and every executive session of the meeting of the Board and this note sounded uniformly throughout every one of the reports rendered by all the Vice-Presidents and in all their speeches. There was not a trace of hysteria or panic in all these deliberations. Moreover, none of the reports even attempted to gloss over shortcomings or defects, and the general impression received is such that although our big membership is conscious of the difficulties that it might be called upon to face in the future, it is firm and courageous and stands unflinchingly upon its positions and gives not the slightest thought to retreat or submission.

Take, for instance, the situation in Baltimore in the cloak industry. It is for the present far from satisfactory. A large portion of the workers is without employment. Nevertheless, the speeches of President Schlesinger, Secretary Baroff, Vice-President Lefkowitz and of the writer of these lines, have found a hearty response among them, and the passages in their speeches which pointed out that the International will not retreat a step from its position and that it is prepared to fight to the last for all its gains and achievements, have won the strongest approval in the audience. It was this unflinching attitude that marked every one of the eight sessions of the meeting and made it possible for the Board to conduct its business in perfect calm of mind as if the trade union sky was perfectly clear and undisturbed.

Take, for instance, the question of a home owned by the International to house its own office. One would be led to believe that in such earnest times as these the Board would be inclined to postpone this matter for another hour. Nevertheless, the General Executive Board decided favorably upon this matter without any debate whatever. We are certain that this decision will be carried out within a short space of time. A committee was elected to carry out this plan in a prompt and speedy manner. The program of establishing union-owned shops and factories took up just as little the discussion and steps were taken to materialize this plan without any delay.

It was also decided to call together, as soon as possible, a conference of representatives of the various international unions in the needle trades to discuss the formation of a Needle Trades' Federation.

These decisions will make clear to our membership the firmness, surety of position and the conviction of its strength that guided our Board with reference to the present situation in our industry. It stands to reason that had our leaders thought that the union which they represent are weak and panic-stricken, their own position would reflect such an unfavorable

state of mind. This is, indeed, a most cheerful phenomenon under present conditions when many other industries in the land have become infected with a feeling of hysteria which suits well the purposes of the employers and the capitalist press that is doing everything in its power to increase this panicky feeling.

In the course of the various debates there was also noticeable a tone of certain satisfaction with the probability of a conflict in our industry. The thought was freely expressed that the old sentiments of affection and loyalty to the organization which had lain dormant in the minds and hearts of our workers during the many years of peace, will come into play again and become even stronger and more steadfast. The hair-puffed and seekers after new-fangled reforms within our ranks will have forgotten their theoretical dispositions in face of the common enemy and will put their shoulders to the wheel in defense of our mutual interests.

The General Executive Board listened with a particular sense of gratification to the report of Secretary Baroff about the new turn in the affairs of Local No. 25 and the formation of a Joint Board in the Waist and Dress Industry. The coming division of Local No. 25 into two or more locals and the work which had accompanied this clearing of the atmosphere in the waistmakers' organization under the temporary management of Vice-President Seidman, was one of the most pleasing reports rendered at the meeting. The most cheerful feature in connection with this event was the fact that at the request of the committee of Local No. 25, consisting of Brothers Hochman, Horowitz and Antonii, and of the entire General Executive Board, Morris Sigman, 1st Vice-President of the International and former energetic and

successful manager of the Cloakmakers' Joint Board, has consented to accept the managerial post of the new Joint Board in the Waist and Dress Industry, a fact which in itself of achievement for the new organization.

And in speaking of the Joint Board in the Waist and Dress Industry, we wish to report here that the pressers' branch in Local No. 25 appeared before the General Executive Board with a request that they be given an independent local for the pressers in the industry. The committee presented its argument, and made a favorable impression upon the Board. Nevertheless, it was decided to refer the entire matter to a committee for additional investigation and to hear again a committee from Local No. 35 regarding their jurisdictional rights over the pressers in New York City. It was also decided that this committee present a final report to the next meeting of the General Executive Board.

Beside the two above mentioned committees from Local No. 25, there were present at the meeting of the General Executive Board the following other committees: A committee from the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union of Baltimore, which presented a double request to the Board,—aid from the International in the present situation in Baltimore, and a request not to have their representative of the International changed so frequently as in the past; a committee from Philadelphia, in the person of Brother Karp, the manager of the Philadelphia Joint Board, who reported in detail about the situation in Philadelphia, and Brother H. Greenberg, the manager of Local No. 50, who reported on the situation in the Children's Dress Industry of New York.

We shall treat with more detail the situations in the above named cities and the decisions arrived at with reference to them in our next article.

## EDUCATIONAL NOTES OF LOCAL 25

The Educational Department of Local 25 cannot find employment for its members, but it is making plans for them in other ways. These plans will be announced within a week or so. Meanwhile, small reading groups, discussion groups and groups to make trips to places of interest are being conducted by Miss Gluck.

On Monday of this week a number of members met at 16 West 51st Street to read and discuss articles on current events. On Tuesday, members visited the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

**Swimming Group**—Registration for this group, which meets on Monday nights at 5:30 at the swimming pool, 23d Street and Avenue A, is soon to be closed as the group is quite large. Miss Florence Zuckerman is in charge of the swimming class.

**Hike**—Local 25 members are invited to join in the hike conducted by the United Labor Education Committee this Sunday, thru Staten Island. Meeting place and time: 9:20 at South Ferry. For further information, telephone Miss Gluck, Watkins 7950, or the United Labor Education Committee, Stuyvesant 2937.

## FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE ITALIAN DRESS AND WAIST- MAKERS' UNION, LOCAL 39

In less than one year the Italian Dress and Waistmakers' Union has established itself on a firm basis. It will celebrate its first anniversary with an entertainment and dance at Webster Hall, 119 E. 11th St., Sunday, December 5th, 1920, at 7 P. M.

We invite all members of this local and all Italian-speaking workers of other locals, and we also extend an invitation to all the members of the International Unions.

The Labor Film Service, Inc., will show three films: A Comedy, An Educational Film and a Labor Review.

The orchestra will also render two selections: From "Rigoletto" and "Lucia." Solo (soprano): Actria from Grand Opera. Lecture by Frank Bellanca, Editor of "Il Lavoro."

**Dancing**—As you all know, the music, the pictures and the dance, speak an international language that all know and understand, and we expect every one to call for tickets, which are on sale at the office of the Union, 8 West 21st Street.

ENTERTAINMENT COM.

# JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly.

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## EDITORIALS

### THE MEANING OF THE OPEN SHOP CAMPAIGN

If anything was needed to remove every doubt that the movement for the "open shop" is a life and death challenge to the living standards of the workers, the fact that 540 employers' organizations, in addition to 1000 Chambers of Commerce in most industrial centers of the United States have arrayed their forces behind it, supplies the evidence.

The cry for an "open shop" sounds indeed quite alluring. Why should not our shops in America be open to all who wish to work? Why should there be only certain privileged workers who can make a living, while others are left to starve? Is not justice the principle of freedom so dear to all American hearts? Just recently another argument was adduced to the stock of the opponents of the union shop: They point to the disgusting scandal in the building trades, to the corruption of Brindell which has been holding sway there for a long time, and draw the moral therefrom that under the operation of the "open shop" such a state of affairs could not have prevailed in the building trades. Only under the rule of the "damned and un-American" principles of the closed shop, they maintain, could such a corruptionist like Brindell become the autocrat of the workers' organizations in the building industry. It would not be amiss, therefore, to put the proper light at this moment upon the liberty-loving motivations of the "open shop" campaigners.

To begin with, it is not too obvious that the closed shop, as it has existed heretofore in many industries, is out of taste with our capitalists of industry. This fact, in itself, speaks loudly on behalf of the American trade union movement, and attests to the great amount of good achieved by it on the industrial field for the workers of the country. It is only too obvious that this clamor for the "open shop," though enwrapped in the cloak of Americanism and liberty, owes its origin solely to the fact that the closed shop has made a considerable incursion into the profits of the employers. It is the best testimony that the American trade union movement struck at the weakest and sorest spot of capital in America. In having succeeded in introducing the union shop in many industries, it has limited and ramified to a great extent not the freedom of the workers to work, but the license of the employers to enslave their workers.

In the closed shop the employer ceases to be the autocrat, both with regard to his manner of treating his employees and in paying for their work. It gives the workers certain inalienable rights and takes away from the employer powers of unlimited control. It adds to the freedom of the worker and gives him more leisure and a greater amount of self-respect and power. In a closed shop, when the will of the workers' union comes in conflict with the will of the employer, the latter is infrequently obliged to submit to the former. Small wonder therefore that the employer raises the cry that his liberty is being violated.

There could hardly be any objection raised to these contentions by the employers were they to come out with frank and open declarations to that effect. An employer in America has as much right to fight for his "liberty" as the Russian Tsar had fought for his for generations. Our employers, however, are not quite as open-minded as was the Russian Tsar. Our employers fight for their penny interests while proclaiming from the houseposts that they are fighting for the "freedom" of the non-union workers and for the "freedom" of the workers in general.

This is downright and unmitigated sham and swindle. The freedom of labor is hated like poison by the American employer. It is a thorn in his side, and his ideal is the complete enslavement of labor through the medium of the "open shop." In the parasite use of an "open shop," people work for complete dependence of the employer's caprice. In an "open shop" workers have no one to stand up and fight for them. They are unorganized and are like clay in the hands of the potter. In the "open shop" the only will is the will of the boss, and the worker is a mere inarticulate tool. This is the real truth behind the strong movement to break down the union shop and the howl for the introduction of the "American" principle of the "open shop" which is being raised at present by every fleecer and exploiter of labor in America.

The phenomenon of Brindell in the building trades is a mere timely excuse for them. On the other hand, had this Brindellism been the product of the closed shop only, no campaign against the union shop would have been launched by the employers. Brindellism has been of greater profit to the unconscionable groups of various building contractors and employers than to the workers. For each penny it had thrown as a sap to the workers, they were enriched by hundreds of thousands of dollars through the aid of Brindell. What probably aggravates the employers most is the fact that Brindell is only a lonely and sorry exception and that in most industries where the union shop exists there is not even a trace of Brindellism; that in the overwhelming majority of union shops business is conducted on an honest basis and the interests of the workers are not trifled with or sold for a mess of pottage.

It is clear that this concentrated campaign against the "open shop" on the part of the fleecers of labor has no other meaning but the de-

struction of the trade union movement of America, and it is just as important that the workers become fully familiar with this aspect of the situation. There cannot exist a labor union in conjunction with the "open shop." The "open shop" means the smashing of the labor organizations. Once given the license to employ whomever he might wish, the employer will surely look for "free" labor, such who are ready and willing to become his slaves, rather than for the union worker who enters the shop with the conviction that he has certain rights in the shop, in exchange for the obligations and duties that he undertakes.

It is clear enough that had the workers in America been fully organized, this clamor for the "open shop" would not have had the least meaning or importance. A shop filled with union people is a union shop, no matter under what name it goes. Unfortunately, there are still more unorganized workers in America than such as belong to unions. It is not important to enter here into a discussion as to who is responsible for this lack of true solidarity and intelligence among the workers of America. It is, nevertheless, a fact that behind organized labor in America there stands a great army of unorganized workers who see in this struggle waged by the employer against labor unions, a chance of profit to themselves. This unorganized army is the strongest weapon in the hands of the employers. This army is their greatest support in times of strikes, as it supplies the greatest quota of strike breakers. Just at present when they have launched their fight against trade unionism, they obviously have in mind this unfortunate human material as a means of combating their workers with an organized army of black-legs. They count upon the spread of unemployment to augment the ranks of this organized human mass.

In a way this may account for the laying off of thousands of thousands of workers in the shops. The more there are hungry and unemployed workers in the land, the easier is the task of breaking down the hated trade unions who have become so "arrogant" in the past few years that they have begun even thinking of acquiring a voice in industrial management of industrial democracy. This is the sum and substance of the howl for the "open shop." The capitalists of America are getting ready to give battle royal to organized labor, to stage an industrial battle as has never been witnessed in this country. Trade unionism is becoming too strong and too virile for our organized employers. The conservative ideas and methods of trade unionism are losing their ground, and more radical and rational strategies are taking their place. To let it proceed in that direction, would be dangerous. Now, if ever, is the time to kill the labor movement, before it becomes too strong and unconquerable. This is the secret, hidden thought in the minds of American capital, and it behooves the workers to girt their loins, to take heed of the coming storm and to prepare themselves adequately.

We believe that it is near-sighted policy for the labor movement to bury its head in the sand until the storm passes over. Capitalism cannot be thus fooled. It may pretend that it is only fearful of the radicalism of the labor movement and that it is out to destroy it. The truth is, however, that the labor movement in general, no matter how conservative, is cordially hated by the American employers and they are determined to break it down. It is, however, unwise tactics, no matter how well intentioned on the part of the leaders of the A. F. of L., to dress themselves into sheepish garb and to act as meekly as lambs so that capital may see how nice, good and conservative they are, ready to combat every sign of Bolshevism and radicalism within the labor movement. These are silly, senseless and dangerous tactics. It weakens the labor movement and only paves the way for victory to capital.

Now, more than ever, trade unionism in America must stand firmly for all it has achieved and all it demands. No compromise in principles with the enemy. Against the so-called principle of the "open shop" a mighty struggle must be waged by the workers of America as this closed shop proposal under present conditions means sapping of the very staff of life of the labor movement. Now, more than ever, the labor movement must stand adamant for retaining everything that has been won by them. The least concession means treason to the best interests of labor. On the other hand, a firm stand means the enlistment on behalf of the cause of labor of all that is healthy, strong and capable of fighting within the ranks of labor in America.

It is not true that the labor movement is weak and must therefore surrender. It is strong, powerful and can achieve everything if it arms itself with unlimited courage and determination.

### ABOUT THE MEETING OF THE BOARD

Those who have expected that the General Executive Board of the International, at its sessions at Baltimore would issue a manifesto full of lightning and thunder against the arrogance of our employers, may feel a bit disappointed after having read the report of this meeting in this issue of "Justice." That would indicate, however, that they have not taken the true measure of our International and its leaders.

Our organization believes little in "strong words" and threatening phrases. It believes more in acts, in preparedness and in not being caught napping at the post. The deliberations of the Board were conducted in this calm and determined manner—in a manner of men who are fully conscious of their strength and their will.

Of course, our leaders are not deluding themselves at this present time. They know well that in times of prolonged unemployment the union is bound to suffer somewhat. In such times it can be expected that some whose affiliation with the organization is but of recent date, become lukewarm and indifferent. One thing, however, is beyond dispute. The trunk of the great tree of our International is thoroughly wholesome, deeply rooted and widely out-branched, and no storm can ever root it out. The latest attempt of the employers to measure strength with it would call forth the full power of resistance with us, as amply proven in the course of the past decade. Many of the bigger employers in our industries understand this situation very well. They are cautious in their movements as they are quite conversant with the calibre of their adversary. They know that the union is watchful and constantly on its guard. There are, however, in our smaller industries a lot of petty, picaresque employers who, blinded by narrow local vision, believe

# Five Weeks in Soviet Russia

BY BENJAMIN SCHLESINGER.

## II.

It took me almost five days to make the trip from Kovno to Moscow. We left Kovno on Friday evening, September 24, and reached the Alexandrovsk Depot at Moscow on Tuesday afternoon, September 28. There were four of us in the party.

The entire way from the Russian border to Moscow we traveled in a sleeper. The car bore traces of a luxuriously appointed one—at one time. It had a number of individual compartments, each equipped with electric light, comfortable rushing rooms and stands, and plush covered seats. Now only faint traces of its former beauty could be observed; the lights were demolished; the compartment doors opened and closed with difficulty; the plush seats were torn, the broken springs were protruding in an ugly and uncomfortable manner; the toilets were abominable, and, as it seemed, beyond repair. The straw mattresses and pillows were so hard that no matter how tired one felt it was almost impossible to rest one's head upon them in the hope of obtaining some sleep.

Nevertheless, when I reached the end of my journey I felt so fresh, prompted by the buoyant spirit of expectations, as if I had only made the trip from New York to Philadelphia. As soon as I got the eye of a porter—who condescended to carry my bag to the drozhka for a thousand roubles, and an invroschik to take me over to the former "Hotel Metropole"—for the paltry sum of six thousand roubles, I made my way to the Commissariat of Foreign Affairs located at that hotel. Santeri Nuorteva, late of New York, who is in charge of one of the most important divisions in the Soviet Foreign Office, gave me a certification, countersigned by Chicherine, extending to me the freedom of the city of Moscow, and then I decided to seek out the house of some former American that I have known.

Nuorteva told me that I would get my meals at the Hotel Savoy and that upon my return I shall find a room reserved for me at that hostelry for the period of my entire stay in Moscow. It was 4 o'clock in the afternoon when Nuorteva handed me my "passport," but as the time in Soviet Russia has been pushed back fully four hours to save daylight, it was actually 12 o'clock, and I had had practically the entire half-day to look up my acquaintances. "It is 4 o'clock now," Nuorteva remarked to me before I left him, "If you are hungry, I

would suggest you come up with me to my hotel and we shall have lunch together. Otherwise, I am afraid, you will go hungry until 9 o'clock in the evening, supper time." I thanked him for his kindness, but refused his invitation. "If I should go hungry," I thought, "I would look into some restaurant for a light repast."

I did not suspect at that moment that for a "greenhorn" like myself it is not such an easy task to find an eating place in Moscow. A few days later, I learned of some places where one is likely to obtain an egg for a thousand roubles, a herring for five hundred roubles, a pound of black bread for four hundred roubles, a glass of tea with two pieces of sugar for two hundred roubles, an apple for one hundred and fifty roubles, ten cigarettes for three hundred and fifty roubles, and a box of matches for two hundred and fifty roubles. I was wondering at first as to whether in view of this giddy cost of things there were any purchasers for these articles in the city of Moscow. But I learned later that that there were a lot of people in that city who occupied themselves with speculation and were making big sums of money—of course, until the heavy hand of the "Tcherevichaika" would fall upon them.

The first person that I was eager to locate was Dr. Max Goldfarb. I had learned several weeks before I left New York that he was known in Moscow under the name of Petrovsky, and that he was the chief of all military officers' schools in Soviet Russia. But neither Nuorteva nor any of his assistants knew Petrovsky's address or telephone, and they advised me to get in touch first with Boris Reinstein and obtain through him the addresses of the former Americans who lived at present in Moscow. Reinstein, who formerly lived at Buffalo, N. Y., is well known in Moscow and occupies an important post in the Commissariat of Labor. I obtained his address and went to see him.

Boris Reinstein received me very cordially and told me many experiences that he had gone through in the almost four years that he had spent in Russia. He was laid up with typhus several months ago and was still weak. "He is, nevertheless, happy that he is in Soviet Russia, and he speaks with great enthusiasm

about all that the Bolsheviki have accomplished in the past three years."

"We go hungry and we freeze," he told me, "but our souls are warm and contented."

"But, pray," I asked him, "how long do you think you will be able to go on physically like that?"

"We have no such words like 'How long' in our vocabulary," he replied.

"But this is merely a phrase," I attempted to debate with him, "human beings that are hungry, cold and worn out bodily cannot work and produce."

"You are right," he told me, "and that is why we are constantly appealing to the workers of the whole world that they aid in the lifting of the blockade against us, and that their governments do not incite any more wars upon us. After we have got through the blockade and the constant warring, we shall have enough bread and coal. Then we will produce sufficiently and work in peace."

"The fate of Soviet Russia, then, depends on the action of the governments of other countries; what will happen, for instance, if the blockade is not lifted and the wars do not cease?" I inquired further.

"We shall continue to do then what we are doing now: We will starve, freeze and fight, and go hungry." The working classes of Russia will not give up the fight until capitalism and militarism have disappeared from the face of the globe."

"But that might last God knows how long," I retorted.

"Our children will continue the fight with even greater ardor than ourselves. If this task proves beyond our own strength, our children will consummate it. You ought to visit our children's schools and their homes and observe for yourself how we educate the young. That is going to be a generation of fighters!" he exclaimed with enthusiasm.

Reinstein gave me Dr. Goldfarb's address and telephone and also promised to get me in touch as soon as possible with Lenine and Tomsky, the President of the "All-Russian Trade Union Federation of Soviets. I immediately attempted to get in touch with Goldfarb-Petrovsky, and succeeded shortly. I must say that the telephones in Moscow work almost as good as in New York. After fifteen minutes of holding the receiver I heard Goldfarb's cheerful "Hello!"

"You must come to see me today," he told me in English.

"All right," I said, "I am coming presently," I said with satisfaction.

"Oh, no, not at once," the voice came back. "I am awfully busy just at present. Suppose we make it to-night at twelve?"

I thought at first that he was joking or that I did not hear him right, and I inquired again about the hour.

"At midnight sharp," he replied, "at my residence, No. 6 Bolshaya Sadovaya."

"Can one go out visiting at such a late hour in Moscow?" I asked in wonderment.

"In Russia it is not at all a late hour," he attempted to reassure me, "our time has been moved back fully four hours."

"But you rise four hours earlier in the morning, don't you?" I insisted.

"Don't ask so many questions," he replied, "I am too busy to answer them at present. Good-by and remember—twelve o'clock to-night!"

After I had spent a few days in Moscow I learned that the midnight hour was quite an ordinary hour for visiting in that city. My appointment with Lenine was also for twelve o'clock at night. Nuorteva made me meet him once at one o'clock at night. One need not fear to go alone in the streets of Moscow at a late hour, and the stories that are being circulated on the continent and in America that one is not safe with his life if he ventures out at Moscow at night—particularly if he wears good clothes—are pure fiction. I am inclined to believe that it is much safer to walk the streets of Moscow at night than the streets, for instance, of Chicago. I frequently walked during my two weeks' stay as late as three o'clock in the morning, all alone, wearing a good overcoat and with a gold watch chain on my body and with no one ever around or even stopped me. Neither did I hear of anything like that happening to anybody else.

When I made the appointment with Goldfarb-Petrovsky the hour was half past five. The day was still bright and the weather very inviting. So I went out to make my first acquaintance with the city.

Moscow is an unusually beautiful city. Her main streets are paved with asphalt and rows of trees adorn the sidewalks. Wherever one casts an eye he meets imposing cloisters of remarkable architecture and splendid squares and parks. These streets have not been fixed in six years now, and the buildings have not been renovated or painted. The exterior plastering on some of these has fallen off and some look quite dilapidated. Nevertheless, the city still looks remarkably beautiful, particularly toward evening, when the sun sets upon the enormous gilded cupolas and the church steeples are bathed in the rays of the parting daylight.

Of all the "forty-times-forty" churches in Moscow not one, to my knowledge, has been desecrated. Yet all of them stand there as if in exile, as if in mourning over their lost paradise, though intact and unharmed. In the early days of the Bolshevik Revolution the churches indeed passed through days of danger. There was heard in the streets of Moscow the clamor: "Down with the churches!" by the enraged mass of revolutionists only damaged the cupolas of one church. The leaders of the revolution issued at once strict orders not to damage the churches and their command was scrupulously obeyed.

So the churches stand in Moscow as before and their bells ring out as before in the days that preceded the revolution. At the entrances of the cloisters, masses of old and young, men and women, stand daily on their knees

themselves to be the beggar on the horse of the hour and are treating their workers in a despicable manner. They have made a reckoning, however, without their host.

The International is probably too preoccupied to pay attention to these pygmies for a while. It will square its accounts with these little parasites at the first opportunity.

It is truly laughable when we hear that a few petty employers in this or another city have recently sent ultimatums to the workers that they abrogate all existing agreements and want new ones instead. These deluded little fellows were only too happy that the International had dealt with them in the past, but now they, too, have become arrogant and maintain that the local unions in their cities are not responsible enough to contract agreements with.

For these men have a mixed feeling of pity and scorn. They want special made-to-order new agreements these poor fellows, as if they had work, or orders for work, in their shops! When the proper moment will come, your workers will make clear to you what the true meaning of an agreement is and will make you repent for the make-believe notions of anger with which you have attempted to daunt them.

crossing themselves and praying. The streets of Moscow are quiet these days; there are few street cars and still fewer automobiles; the newboys disappeared from the streets, too. And the steady chiming of the innumerable church bells imparts peculiar sadness and yearning that weigh heavily upon one's heart.

The streets in Moscow are kept much cleaner than the streets of Philadelphia, Chicago or Boston. They seem to be constantly swept and cleaned. As one must do some work in Moscow in order to be entitled to a ration of food, and there are thousands upon thousands here who know no trades and who are physically too weak for other work (as is the case with many middle-aged women), these are being given brooms and are sent out to clean the streets. Some of these are being cleaned several times a day.

As I walked out into the Tverskoy Boulevard, I forgot completely, for a few minutes, that I was in Moscow, the capital of the Bolsheviks. This street is remarkably beautiful and kept immaculately clean. The wide sidewalks were crowded with people, and great signs with gilded letters adorn every building. From the first glance I thought this street appeared very much like the Leipzigerstrasse in Berlin. After I had taken a second look at these buildings and observed that most of them were empty and their main entrances boarded up, and that most of the men and women walking along the Boulevard were carrying food bags with them—either going to or coming from the bread lines—and that every face was clouded with grave mien, without smile or laughter, I perceived a feeling of waking up from a heavy nightmare.

#### ITEMS FROM NEWARK

The members of Local No. 115, the Waits and Whitegoods Workers of Newark, are looking forward with pleasure to a splendid time at the ball add reception which will take place February 4th, 1921, at Eagle's Hall, 30 South Park Street, Newark.

The hall is popular in Newark and has a fine dance floor. As many guests from New York and neighboring cities are expected, the Arrangement Committee has engaged a place convenient to the Hudson Tubes. Eagle Hall is only a couple of blocks away from there and can easily be found by even those who are unfamiliar with Newark. The members of the Newark local extend a most cordial invitation to the members of other locals of the International to join them in making this affair a splendid success. It is expected that it will not only be a source of entertainment and pleasure for the members of the Newark local, but it will attract a number of women workers in Newark who have been heretofore lukewarm to the organization.

Officers of the International in New York City, business agents and officers of local unions have already signified their intention of being present. Local No. 21, the Clockmakers' Union of Newark, is co-operating to help their sister Local No. 115 to make this affair a huge success.

Fannie Schwartz is the chair-lady of the ball committee; N-lie Ballat—the recording secretary, Mildred Massini the treasurer, and Elizabeth Aldrich, the union organizer, is the manager.

## Educational Comment and Notes

The program of the Workers' University has begun in earnest. The principal courses of our educational curriculum started last week, with a lecture by Ordway Tead, of the Bureau of Industrial Research, on "Psychology and the Trade Union Organization," followed by a lecture by Heber Blankenhorn, also of the Bureau of Industrial Research, on the "Situation in the Steel Industry." Both lecturers drew good audiences of students, who displayed remarkable interest in Mr. Tead's analysis of the psychological element in the labor movement, and in Mr. Blankenhorn's recital of his experiences in connection with the great strike of the steel workers last winter.

It is this kind of information brought straight to our members by men who possess first-hand knowledge in these vital matters, that is highly instructive and of great use in the work of labor education which we have launched.

The courses at the Workers' University arranged for next week promise to be of no less interest and importance. To begin with, Mr. Clement Wood one of the best known of the younger American poets, will begin a course of lessons on "Modern Literature" on Saturday, Nov. 27, at 1:30 P. M. Mr. Wood will take up the most representative works of fiction and poetry by modern Spanish, English, French, Russian, Scandinavian and American writers. These will be discussed as pictures of contemporaneous life and as attempts at imaginative social reconstruction. Mr. Wood will likewise read and discuss, in the course of his lectures, the best of modern American and English poems and will attempt to show how these have been affected by social and economic institutions.

At 2:30 Saturday, Dr. Alexander Fichandler will conduct a class in "Psychology and the Scientific Attitude." This is the first of a series of lessons in which Dr. Fichandler will attempt to present an evaluation of the scientist with regard to social progress.

The difference between the kind of judgment and decision which is made by most people who have not had training in scientific thinking and those who have had an academic and scientific background, will be presented to the students. The instructor will show that all social and technical progress has been the result of scientific thinking on the part of leaders of thought and that such scientific thinking is not the exclusive property of some few favorable individuals, but can become the characteristic and heritage of all.

Mr. Fichandler will continue the second part of this talk on Sunday, Nov. 28 at 10 A. M.

At 11:30 A. M. of the same day, Dr. F. C. Melvin will begin a class in sociology. At the same hour Dr. Gustave F. Schulz will organize the first class in Public Speaking in one of the classrooms of the Workers' University. There will be an elementary and advanced class in Public Speaking to meet the needs of the students who have enrolled for this course.

The following courses have been scheduled for the various Unity Centers throughout the city for next week:

P. S. 63, Fourth Street near First Avenue—A lecture on literature by Miss Ellen A. Kennan on Thursday, Dec. 2, at 8:45. Miss Kennan will present to the students the interpretation of modern life by such great dramatists as Shaw, Galsworthy, Dreiser, Twain, and others. Their works will be read and discussed in the course of the lectures.

P. S. 171, 103rd Street near Fifth Avenue—Mr. A. Glantz, the well-known Yiddish writer, will begin a class in literature, choosing the "Modern Yiddish Writers" as his topic. This course will deal with the most important modern Yiddish writers and their interpretation of the aims and ideals of the Jewish people.

P. S. 43, 135th Street and Brown Place, Bronx—Mr. Leib Lehrer will begin a class in psychology. Mr. Lehrer will give this course in Yiddish, beginning Friday evening, Dec. 3rd, at 8 o'clock. He will cover the analysis of such topics as emotions, ideas, etc., and the students will be called upon to illustrate the subject from experiences in their daily lives.

P. S. 40, 230 East 20th Street, Manhattan—Miss Ellen A. Kennan will deliver a lecture on Shaw's "Heartbreak House," the celebrated English dramatist's latest play, on Friday evening, Nov. 26, at 8:45.

P. S. 54, Freeman St. and Intervale Ave., Bronx—Dr. Margaret Daniels will begin a class in practical psychology on Friday evening, Nov. 26, at 8 o'clock. A brief analysis of the way in which human beings feel, think, reason and act, will be supplemented by the actual experiences of the students.

P. S. 84, Stone and Glenmore Avenues, Brooklyn—On Thursday, Dec. 2, Dr. Mark Liebert of the Bureau of Industrial Hygiene of the Board of Health, will begin a series of talks on Health. Personal Hygiene will serve as a topic for this lecture, and a large class is expected to attend.

In addition to this, the faculty of the Workers' University has decided to arrange for a course containing some of the most important lectures to be delivered by the University at the Brownsville Unity Center. The reason for this supplementary course is found in the fact that the students from the Brownsville section find it extremely difficult to reach the Washington Irving High School on time, owing to the distance from that section of Brooklyn to the school.

The first of this series of classes will begin this Friday evening, Nov. 26, when Mr. Spencer Miller, Jr., of the Staff of the Workers' University, will give his first talk on the "History of Civilization" at the Brownsville Unity Center at 8 o'clock.

The students of the Unity Centers are requested to pay particular attention to these courses and are advised to consult the supervisors in the Unity Centers with reference to their assignments, places, eligibility to the various courses, etc. It will save them much time and will enable them to find their proper places at the classes.

On Saturday, Nov. 27, at 1 o'clock, the first class for the business agents and officials of the In-

ternational in the Greater City will be organized at one of the classes of the Washington Irving High School. It is imperative that all business agents who have registered for the class be there on time.

At the same hour there will take place a meeting of all the students who are attending Dr. Beard's course at the New School for Social Research on "The Role of the State in Modern Civilization" to discuss among themselves the subject matter of this course and to exchange opinions and views with regard to the impressions produced upon them by the eminent lecturer.

#### OUT OF TOWN NOTES

Philadelphia—On Friday, Nov. 26, Dr. Algernon Crapey will speak at 715 N. Broad St., on the "Rise of the Working Class."

On Dec. 3, Dr. Ch. Zhitlovsky will speak on "Die Lehre von der Welt Kreig." Dr. Zhitlovsky's lectures have always been a great attraction to our members in Philadelphia, and the course of lectures arranged by Local 15 will no doubt attract a great crowd of students and auditors.

CLEVELAND—The Cleveland Public Library has made arrangements with our educational office in that city to establish a traveling branch of the library at the local headquarters, coupled with the promise that any book which may be requested by the students will be purchased for our use.

Several instructors of sociology at Oberlin College have consented to give courses under the auspices of the Cleveland Educational Office next term without remuneration.

The Cleveland workers are at present organizing an orchestra for their own entertainment. A children's class in gymnasium is also being formed to meet on Saturday mornings.

An industrial class organized for members who are out of work has been formed for the purpose of visiting large industrial plants. The information gathered in this way will serve as the basis for discussion in the classes on Economics.

The first visit of this group was given last week to the White Motor Co., one of the largest industries in Cleveland.

Thanksgiving afternoon, the Students' Union, Local 23, held their first concert at 173 East Broadway. A splendid program was arranged. One of the soloists was Miss Rea Suskind, well known mezzo-soprano, who rendered the following selections:

Broken Heart (in Russian).

A. Rubinstein  
Hark, Hark the Lark. Schubert  
Rachem ..... Manna Zuea  
Sea Song ..... Schneyer  
Eli Eli...

WANTED—500 members of Local 25 for a chorus under the leadership of I. Piroshnikoff.

A last year's enthusiastic chorus of Local 25 members is now being formed for participation in the Unity Bazaar to be held at the Star Casino, Washington's Birthday Eve and Washington's Birthday. Mr. I. Piroshnikoff, who is very well known to our membership, will lead and train this chorus. Don't assume that you cannot sing. Individually, you may not be able to sing, but in a chorus of 500, under Piroshnikoff's leadership, you will be an artist. Come together with your fellow-members, sing and keep up Unity Spirit!

## THE WEEK'S NEWS IN CUTTERS UNION LOCAL 10

## Organizing in Small Towns

By ISRAEL LEWIN.

By Arthur E. Samuels, Organizer.

Nominations for all general offices in our union will be held on Monday, November 29th, 1920, at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place. Elections for the above and all branch offices will be held on Saturday, December 18th, 1920. The Executive Board has procured Webster Hall, 199 East 11th St., for the purpose. Polls will open at 12:30 P. M. and close at 6 P. M., as per our constitution. The counting will be done immediately after the polls close.

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

The following communication was received from Brother Daniel Nisnowitz, Manager of the Independent & Reefer Department of the Joint Board:

New York, Nov. 15, 1920.

Mr. Lewin, Local No. 10, Manager, Local No. 10, 7 W. 21st St., New York City, Dear Sir and Brother:

As to the information you asked regarding the shop of A. Klotz, 159 W. 25th St., I wish to inform you that a settlement has been reached, as follows:

About nine weeks ago, we reached an agreement with this firm, which guaranteed all the people employed in the above mentioned firm, nine months' work, naturally this agreement included the cutters.

Last week, the firm did not have any work and stopped off all of their people, therefore, breaking their agreement. The people did not work the entire week but finally we came to a re-settlement which was as follows:

The people received pay for the week they stopped and for the following seven weeks, the firm has to pay each and every one of its employees, cutters included, twenty-seven (27) hours' pay each week, even if there is no work. After this seven weeks' time, the time contract is to continue as agreed before with full week's pay.

As to the question of the cutters coming into work on Monday morning and getting pay for the full week, according to the rules of your respective local, I wish to state that this is an exceptional case which will not involve your local rules, as the firm guarantees twenty-seven hours' pay even if the cutters do not work at all, or come in to work on Friday and get pay for the same twenty-seven hours.

Hoping that this settlement will meet with your approval, I remain

Fraternally yours,

(Signed) DANIEL NISNOWITZ, Mgr. Ind. & Reefer Dept.

In connection with this case, Cutter Jacob Posner, No. 983, and Louis Bellin, No. 7593 appeared. Brother Posner states that he is dissatisfied with the arrangement of the Joint Board. Brother Bellin, on the other hand, states that he would like to be included in the agreement, as made for the rest of the workers in the shop. The Executive Board, after discussing this case thoroughly from all angles, decided to approve of the action of the Joint Board. Brother Posner was informed that if he is not satisfied with this settlement, he has a perfect right to insist on the firm giving him a full week's work, but that that would exclude him from the general arrangement made with that concern for a

guarantee of work for the workers in the shop.

Harry Ribnick, No. 2659, appeared on summons. Brother Ribnick is employed as foreman cutter for the firm of I. Pollock, 35 West 33rd Street, and is charged with cutting stock while the cutters are dividing work among themselves. Brother Ribnick at first denied the charge, but when confronted by the cutters of the shop, he stated that he did work. Brother Ribnick was instructed by the Executive Board in the future to refrain from cutting any garments outside of samples and the grading of patterns, during the period that the cutters are dividing work. Brother Ribnick promised to live up to these instructions.

David Cohen, No. 1221 appeared on summons. Brother Cohen was charged on November 9th with disobeying the order of Business Agent Scharp not to return to the shop of Aaron Goldstein & Co., 112 West 27th Street, to work, until such time as the rest of the cutters in that shop would have had their share of work. Brother Cohen at that time claimed that he misunderstood the instructions of the office. He was found guilty and Secretary was instructed to call him before the Executive Board to be reprimanded. The Executive Board censured him and warned him that for a repetition of such an offense in the future he will be punished severely by the Union.

## EDUCATIONAL NOTES — LOCAL 25

Lectures on Literature and Music: The special attention of Local 25 members is called to the lecture which will be given on November 26th—Friday at 8 p. m.—on Shaw's play, "Heartbreak House," at Waitmakers' Unity Centre, 314 East 20th Street. Miss Ellen Kennan, who is well known to most of our members, will discuss the social significance of the play.

Every Friday night thereafter, for three weeks, Mr. Herman Epstein will talk on "The Appreciation of Music." This class is expected to have a large attendance and members should make sure to come early.

Discussion of Labor Problems: Beginning Tuesday, November 23rd, Mr. Solon DeLeon will lead a group discussion at Waitmakers' Centre on Labor Problems. Mr. DeLeon has just returned from a trip to Europe and is in very close touch with recent developments in the labor movement abroad. Members are urged to register now for the course.

Swimming and Recreation: The swimming group which began a week ago has now grown so large that the number to be admitted will have to be limited. There is still room for a few additional members. This class meets Monday at 5:30.

On Thursday nights, the gymnasium group at Waitmakers' Unity Centre meets. Registration for this class is still open.

Reading Room at Headquarters: The reading room at 16 West 21st Street has been begun in a rather modest way. Members and friends have contributed magazines and a few books and all members of Local 25 are invited to drop into Room A.

Quite a number of raincoat makers will, doubtless, wonder why they have not heard from me in such a long while in the columns of "Justice." The truth of the matter is that outside of making organizing efforts there is nothing definite that can be reported at this time. The raincoat makers are, I am assured, nevertheless, that the work undertaken by the International, to organize their trade, is not being neglected in the slightest degree. I will try here to give our members an idea of some of the difficulties and obstacles an organizer has to surmount in the pursuance of his activities.

Most of the places in which raincoats are being manufactured (outside of the large manufacturing centers such as New York, Boston, Chicago, etc.), are small towns far away from the metropolitan centers. The populations in these rural districts are made up largely of farmers, village stockkeepers and small business people. The manufacturer who moves his plant into one of these towns receives every encouragement from the business folk in the place. The local banks extend him more credit than is customary to beginners. They help him to obtain the location, and he gets every possible assistance from the population of the town. Soon after his plant is established full page advertisements appear in the local papers (usually weekly), "Female Help Wanted," promising them steady work and good pay. Similar posters appear on the bulletin boards in the village post office.

The local press begins to boost the newly-arrived manufacturer as a man intensely interested in the industrial development of the town, asserting all the while that he is bringing prosperity to the inhabitants of the town and that his object is to give employment to local women only. He pretty soon becomes a member of the most influential local club. In many cases he makes donations to local churches, and in general becomes quite active in the welfare work in the town.

The workers whom he obtains are principally women, and they are the daughters and wives of farmers and other local people, largely such who have hitherto been compelled either to travel to the nearest large city for employment, or go without any jobs at all, and to be supported by their families. And now that they have a shop right in their own town, no matter how little they get, it is to them like found money. It is a boon, a blessing for the townfolk, and the manufacturer is hailed as a godsend to the village.

The manufacturer, whose sole motive in coming to this town with his factory is to escape union control and to be free to exploit the workers of the town to his heart's content, seizes upon every opportunity to poison the minds of his workers and of the inhabitants of the town in general, against organizers and unionism. And when an organizer does venture to come into the town, the sheriff, who already had an earful of what bad men organizers are, is immediately yegged on him. The sheriff, feeling in duty-bound to protect the interests of the town, approaches the stranger and de-

mands of him what his business in the place is. After receiving the information that the stranger is here to help the workers in the local factories to organize and thereby to improve their conditions, as millions of workers have done in other parts of the country, he tells the organizer that if he does not leave the town by the very next train, he will be made the guest of the town-jail for some time to come, and that the community can well take care of its own welfare without the assistance of any outsider.

But the sheriffs and their kind are not the worst obstacles an organizer has to overcome. If only there were more work in the industry, if the people were employed, the organizer could find a way how to meet the objections of the sheriff and the other local difficulties. But when the workers are out of work, the strongest, the most convincing arguments in favor of unionism will not appeal to them.

I mention the above facts so as to enable our members to realize that it takes a long time and a great deal of perseverance and tireless endeavor to effect an organization of any size anywhere.

But notwithstanding the difficulties described above, the frequent visits of an organizer to a town where factories are located have their favorable effect. The manufacturer, seeing the organizer in town, often begins to feel very uncomfortable. He begins to fear that the organizer's visits might infect his workers with the germ of unionism. And instead of a reduction in pay, which he had probably contemplated, the workers, in many cases, receive an increase, unsolicited, and a servile and obliging attitude takes the place of the very arrogant and independent attitude he had assumed towards his workers before the organizer put in an appearance.

The visits of the organizer also have its effects on the workers. While they do not as yet realize that the improvements of their conditions are due indirectly to the visits of the organizer, they nevertheless begin to think. They pay a little more heed to the question of unionism than before, and as long as they continue to think, there is every hope that as soon as the industry picks up a bit there will be a possibility of getting them to join our ranks.

For the past few weeks the International has entrusted me with organizing work among the waist and white goods workers of Baltimore. As soon as Brother Seidman, the permanent Baltimore organizer, will be through with his job in New York, in the new Joint Board in the Waist and Dress Industry, I will, very likely, be allowed to go back to my territory and continue with the work already started.

BUY

WHITE LILY TEA  
COLUMBIA TEA  
ZWETOCHNI CHAI

EXCLUSIVELY



## LECTURES ON HYGIENE AND SANITATION.

Dr. I. A. Galdston, Educational Supervisor for the Joint Board of Sanitary Control, will deliver the second of a series of lectures on Personal Hygiene and Sanitation on Saturday, November 13th, at 1:15 P. M. in P. S. 40, 320 East 20th Street.

In his first lecture, which was given last Saturday, Dr. Galdston covered the elementary part of the subject of Biology, showing the development of the lower, and simpler forms of life as compared to that of the human life. The aim of the lectures is to finally make clear to the members of the class the structure of the human body, and how the different parts function. In order to be a good machinist, Dr. Galdston, believes, the machinist must first understand how the machine is built, and what part the different structures play in the whole works. It is the same way with health: Before the body can be effectively taken care of, guarded against disease, each person must first

have at least an elementary knowledge of the structure of the body, and how the different parts of it function.

These lectures are planned especially for members of the Sanitation Committees in the Cloak and Suit, and Dress and Waist Industries, but other members in the Ladies' Garment Industry are also welcome. The regular course which will train the Sanitation Committees to function as sanitary guards in their respective shops, will begin in the early part of December when the new home of the Joint Board of Sanitary Control, the Union Health Center, at 131 East 17th Street, will be completed.



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ANITA LOEW,  
dramatic soprano.

BERNARDO OLSHANSKY,  
the celebrated Russian baritone.

LEON RAINS,  
famous basso of the Dresden  
National Opera (his New York  
debut), and

CORNELIUS VAN VLEET,  
the Amsterdam cello virtuoso.

At the piano: Conrad N. Bos

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Max Cohen,  
105 Madison Ave.  
Julian Waist Co.,  
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Dreswell Dress Co.,  
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## CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10, ATTENTION.

Elections for all offices will take place Saturday, December  
18th, 1920, at Webster Hall, 119 East 11th Street. Polls open at  
12:30 and close 6 P. M.

### NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETINGS

GENERAL: Nomination Night, Monday, Nov. 29th

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.

MISCELLANEOUS: Monday, December 20th

Meetings begin at 7:30 P. M.

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