

"My righteousness I hold fast, and will not let it go."

—Job. 27:6

# JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

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

Vol. III. No. 6

New York, Friday, February 4, 1921

Price, 2 Cents

## ALL IS READY FOR WAIST AND DRESS GENERAL STRIKE

At a given signal all the dress and waist makers of New York will walk out in a general strike in the course of the next few days. Everything required to make the strike a speedy success is complete and ready. All the important committees, in whose hands the leadership of the strike is vested, have been elected and the halls where the strikers are to meet have been arranged. The general sentiment as the part of the leaders, as well as the membership, is quite enthusiastic. It is only but natural, since the majority of the workers know that the waist is only a question of a few days for them and that they will soon return into real union shops to work under humane union conditions.

The workers who have heretofore been employed in non-union shops will greet this new era with joy and exultation. They have for months been straining at the

leash in the expectation of the call of the Union. The offices of the Joint Board have been crowded for the past few weeks with hundreds of people who have been eagerly asking each other: "When will the strike be called?"

It is hardly necessary to appeal to the dress and waist makers not to remain in the shops after the call of the union had reached them. The waist and dress makers of New York have tasted struggles before. The many previous campaigns of these workers under the banner of their Union comprise some of the most interesting chapters in the history of the labor movement. In fact, the New York waist makers are the pioneers in the movement for better working conditions in the needle trades, which saw its beginning about 15 years ago.

At a certain hour, upon a certain day next week, the signal to strike

will be given, and not a man or woman working in a dress or waist shop in the city will be left on the premises. It is high time that the waist and dress industry be as completely organized as the cloak industry, and work under similar conditions. We do not believe that there is even one worker in the entire dress and waist industry who would remain at work after the call to strike had been issued. We are confident that if there were any differences of opinion among them before, these will have disappeared when the hour of struggle arrives. The waist and dress makers will present one solid phalanx to their employers.

United and with ranks closed, in the best of order and cohesion, let the workers leave their shops when the chairman and the chairladies give the final order and march to victory into the halls assigned to them.

### Cincinnati Cloak Strike in Full Swing

This cloak firm of Bishop, Stern & Stein, of Cincinnati, is well on its way to learn the cruel error it had made in calculating that it could easily starve the several hundred families of its workers into submission.

The strike against this firm, conducted by the local joint board, and the International, is being maintained with all possible energy, and is receiving the full support of the General Office. Vice-President Lefkowitz, is in charge of the strike.

In order to prevent the firm's work from being made in New York, Brother Guterman of the Cincinnati Joint Board arrived at New York, where he is being aided in his action by the New York Joint Board.

### M. & M. Workers Strike in Scranton

Brother A. B. Samuels, General Organizer of the International, who left a few days ago for Scranton, Pa., to take care of the tense situation in the big M. & M. Cloak Company of that city, informs the General Office that he was compelled to call the workers of that shop into a strike after it became evident that the firm is determined to have the workers return to work under the place work system.

A meeting of the workers was held on Monday, January 31st, and the employees of the shop decided without a dissenting voice to strike. The shop is being picketed and care is being taken by the International that no work is done either on the premises or in any other place for the struck firm.

### Newark Waist Makers' Dance This Friday

On Friday evening, February 4th, the Newark Waist and Dress Makers' Union, Local No. 11, will give its first annual ball at Eagle's Hall, 59 East Park Street, Newark.

Newark unions have bought tickets extensively and a large attendance is expected. Officers of the State Federation of Labor have signified their intention of attending. The Essex Trades Council has been invited to attend in a body.

Officers of the International and many guests from New York will attend.

The chairman of the ball committee is Miss Fannie Schwartz, the capable and popular President of the local. Mildred Mammi is the treasurer, and the secretary is Nellie Ballat.

## BOSTON CLOAKMAKERS IN GENERAL STRIKE

As we go to press, we received the following telegram from Boston: "A general strike of all the workers in the cloak and suit industry of Boston has been declared by the Joint Board, to take effect on Wednesday, Feb. 2nd, at 10 a. m."

"This involves almost 2,000 men and women in this city. The decision to strike was reached after two days of deliberation of the joint executive committees of the locals, together with President Schlesinger of the International."

"The strike became inevitable as a result of the abrogation of the agreement by the Boston Ladies' Garment

Manufacturers' Association during November last, and also as a result of the lockout that the association has declared against the union workers when its members sent out individual letters to their employers, saying that they will not deal with the Union any longer."

"President Schlesinger promised the backing of the entire membership of the International to the Boston cloakmakers. The attempt of the cloak manufacturers of Boston to break the Union and to introduce non-union conditions shall fail."

"ABRAHAM SNYDER,  
"Manager, Joint Board."

### International Takes Title to New Home

The International Office has finally taken title, during last week, to the house at 2 West 16th Street, which will soon be converted into a home for the General Office.

The official name for the house has not been decided upon as yet. Suggestions have been made by some that it be called "The International General Office Building." "The Home Office of the International" still others suggest "The Ladies' Garment Workers' Center." The name, however, is a minor matter after all. The principal thing is that now, after the ownership of the house is assured, the work of remodeling will begin and the General Office of the International will soon be housed in a comfortable and imposing building.

From time to time there will appear in "Justice" reports about the progress of the rebuilding of our home, as we are fully aware of the great interest and pride our membership take in the recognition of the fact that the International has finally acquired a home of its own.

### Aid for Clothing Strikers Being Organized

On Friday, February 4th, at 2 o'clock, there will take place at the General Office the first meeting of the managers of the various locals in the cloak industry in New York City, called together by General Secretary Baroff, to work out final plans for the carrying out of the two-hour aid to the Amalgamated strikers in this city. We shall probably be in a position to report in next "Justice" what the managers of the locals have decided to do in this matter. The essential factor in this plan, of course, speed and taking in view the fact that the strikers have already entered upon the tenth week of the struggle, the sooner this aid is forthcoming, the better it will be.

We hope that our unions and joint boards in the various cities outside of New York will follow suit. The decision of the General Executive Board must be carried out without delay and quick assistance must be given to the valiant Amalgamated strikers.

## 17 MORE DAYS LEFT FOR UNITY BAZAAR

At New Star Casino on Washington's Birthday

The Unity Bazaar, which is to be given February 21st and 22nd, at Star Casino, is well on its way to success. The various locals of the International in New York City have shown remarkable co-operation in donating many valuable articles for the Bazaar.

Local No. 17, the Beefer Makers' Union, for instance, has donated 100 coat-spring showing; Local No. 63 has pledged a fine display of dainty women's whitegoods; Local No. 66 will not only fill a booth with its embroidered articles, but will have a machine on the floor, demonstrating the method of embroidering. The Cloakmakers are bringing in suit after suit, and coat after coat; and the raincoat makers are just as fast in the run for a front place. Local No. 23 is donating a booth full of men's shirts. Friendly organizations outside the International are helping also. Literally, The Newark Waist Union is equipping a booth with neckwear, and the Fancy Leather Goods' Union will supply a booth with leather goods. The Women's Trade Union League will take charge of another booth. The children of the Furrer School are making booklets, paintings and other articles of art, to furnish a booth.

Meanwhile, the Unity Chorus is enthusiastically singing its way along under the leadership of Mr. Piroshnikoff. The biggest job ahead, however, is the sale of tickets. The ticket committee has placed tickets on sale at all offices of the International, at the Band School, the Call office, the Forward and the Zell.

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# TOPICS OF THE WEEK

By MAX D. DANISH

## THE 8-CENT FARE PROPAGANDA

THE combined traction interests of New York City are obviously determined to "put over" an 8-cent fare in New York City in the course of the next few months, whether New York City wants it or not.

There is a good deal of reason for their haste. The five "fat" years that have just elapsed, years that were marked by immense stock jobbing and watering of securities on the part of the managers of the New York City railway systems, have seen the rise of communism in almost every necessity of life. In spite of an intense propaganda, these traction interests have, nevertheless, not been successful, during all these years, in proving to the millions of subway, elevated and surface car riders that they were not making a "fair return" upon their investment, whereby, by the way, is not their investment at all.

The approach of lean times has, however, made these traction magnates apprehensive lest their dream of increasing the fares in New York City from five to eight cents might fail entirely. Their strategy is to be toppling down on all sides, and in view of such a downward tendency, it would soon seem quite out of place to talk out loud in favor of an increase in fares.

That explains the intensiveness of the propaganda conducted during the past few weeks. That explains why having failed to gain their object in New York City, they have turned to Albany to help them commensurate this nefarious grab. They have found an ardent supporter in Governor Miller, in his recent message on the traction situation in New York City, advocates the elimination of local influence from running the street railway system of the city, and proposes the vesting of power in a unified state traction commission. A plan like that, if carried out, would give the power to fix fares in New York City to a group of the Governor's appointees, made up largely, if not all, from up-state politicians. One can readily imagine how much regard such a commission would have for the sentiment of the residents of New York City with regard to an eight-cent, or even a ten-cent fare.

Organized labor throughout the State, including the State Federation of Labor and the New York City Central Trade and Labor Council, have, meanwhile, made their attitude toward this attempt to have a body of outside politicians run the New York City railway situation in New York City, unmistakably clear. Mass meetings will be called in the near future in every city of the State, to protest against this act of usurpation. It is, nevertheless, very doubtful as to whether these meetings will help to any extent, as it seems almost positive that the Republican majority, comprising representatives from the rural sections of the State, and backed by the Governor, is determined to railroad this legislation through and to empower this commission to do whatever it pleases with regard to New York City railway fares.

## LABOR WELFARE LAWS DOOMED

It is clear already that any attempt to pass legislation favorable to labor, or bearing in any way or form upon women or child labor in the State of New York, is doomed to failure in advance.

Usually politicians endeavor to cover up their plans or opinions in

this matter. It is deemed politically in "bad taste" to come out against a measure that smacks of progressivism or has the color of being favorably toward labor legislation. This bill introduced time and again in the New York Legislature, have, therefore, as a rule met their death in the commodious desks of the various sub-committees.

In these days of open-faced reaction and outpouring animosity towards labor, the ruling politicians of the State apparently do not think it necessary any longer to disguise their true attitude towards labor legislation. A sample of this almost arrogant view with regard to "welfare bills" and so-called social legislation was given during last week by Governor Miller, at the meeting of the New York State League of Women Voters at Albany. The speech was so startlingly reactionary from beginning to end, that it even shocked the entire audience of middle and upper-class persons who were called out to be accused of too much friendship towards labor. He attacked the attempts of the various progressive bodies in the State to enact the night statute for women and children, saying that he personally knew that such a statute would do great wrong and great injury to many women whose health did not need to be protected. He deprecated the fact that "this night statute has made it impossible for women to work on the subway and elevated in New York City," and condemned the health insurance movement as one that puts a "premium upon sickness."

This was, in a way, the program speech by the leader of the ruling party in the State of New York for outlining his party's attitude on questions of labor and social legislation for the next few years. Its principles, of course, in the frankness and the blunt manner in which it was made. Labor knows that it has nothing to expect from Albany except hostility and oppression. On the one hand, the Legislature, and the other hand, the courts, have clearly sound "the teach organized labor a lesson." What is left for Labor to do now is to draw its ranks together, take stock of its resources, and determine not to yield a foot of space against the encroachments of the vested and predatory interests of the State.

## GERMANY'S INDEMNITY

THE biggest piece of news from Europe this week is, of course, the settlement of the German reparation problem.

Of course, it is still hard to consider as perfectly reliable the cable stories that come from London and Paris with regard to this subject. So much that proved to be fiction has come out from these centers during the past few years, that one cannot help to want to be "shown" first, before accepting any report whatever as substantially true.

Nevertheless, it appears that the workers of Germany, and for that matter of all Europe, have now a chance to estimate with more or less definiteness as to how many years, or generations, they will have to, according to the reparation program, "buckle" in. It is certainly a very pay indemnities for the brutal crimes of militarism. We need not speak here of the amount, it is so huge, so staggering, that it really defies ordinary imagination. It is quite indicative, nevertheless, of the blind policy of the French bourgeoisie, that in exacting this huge sum, it expressly maintains the viewpoint that Germany must not be given a chance to rise again as a great industrial and

commercial power. How this contradiction of Germany being compelled to pay a great indemnity with the products which its workers will have to manufacture, and at the same time struggling by every means possible German industry can be explained, we must leave to those who indulge in the habit of solving the unsolvable.

The truth of the situation, from the point of view of labor, the only point that must exercise gravest, is that no such a thing as this colossal indemnity will ever be carried out. The labor movement of Germany, and of Europe in general, with its irresistible swing towards the Left, will never consent to have the working classes of Europe become mortgaged chattels of the great financial interests of Europe forever.

## AMALGAMATED STRIKERS AT MADISON SQUARE GARDEN

THE outstanding event in the strike of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers in New York City during the past week was the great meeting at Madison Square Garden, on Thursday, January 21st. Seventeen thousand strikers crowded into the great arena, to listen to the speeches of their leaders and supporters, and have by the enthusiasm, accorded to these speeches given evidence of the indomitable spirit which permeates their ranks.

Besides the officers of the union, the meeting was addressed by Frank P. Walsh, former chairman of the War Labor Board, who went into a thorough discussion of the attempt of the employers, through their contract, to "dismiss" the Amalgamated. This desperate attempt by the employers, as analyzed by Walsh, received its proper answer from the strikers at that meeting.

"Framboles are usually made and used," said Secretary Schenck of the Amalgamated, in his address to the strikers. "But no self-respecting unionist would change one punctuation mark under the compulsion of employers. The Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America have pulled 200,000 human beings out of the slums of the sweatshop and raised them to the level of twentieth century conditions. If this is not Americanism then there is no Americanism."

Clearly, the employers in the clothing industry are playing their last trump. The workers have gained this test of strength in a spirit of determination and they will not go back to the shops unless their organization is given a share in the control of working conditions in the clothing factories of New York City.

## SHIP WORKERS VOTE ON WAGE CUT

WHETHER the 75,000 skilled workers in American shipyards will accept a reduction of from 10 to 20 per cent. in wages, will depend on the results of the referendum vote proposed to the rank and file by the action of the labor organizations in the shipbuilding industry.

This demand by the big shipbuilding corporations is, of course, camouflaged as "an initial move to cut production costs in order that American yards might compete with foreign builders." The workers of the shipbuilding workers have not failed to put the proper light on this demand by offering a counter-proposal to the effect that the workers would be more likely to discuss a wage cut if assured that the employers would accept smaller profits.

Concretely speaking, the proposal of the shipbuilders was that the 10 per cent. bonus, added by an arbitration board in 1917 and made an

integral part of the regular wage schedules in 1919, be eliminated. This bonus brought the base pay of the skilled mechanics to 80 cents an hour, not a very high wage considering the skill and experience required in the work of that specialized industry.

## THE CLOTHING RELIEF DRIVE

THE Clothing Relief Drive for the quarter of a million destitute Jewish families of Eastern Europe, begins this week in the cities of New York, Baltimore and Buffalo, and will continue until two million dollars worth of new and second-hand clothes will have been collected.

This campaign is expected to surpass in results previous drives of the relief organizations which have successfully exerted its efforts in Chicago, Detroit, Philadelphia, Boston, and many other cities. The drive will take about a month's time divided as follows: two weeks for the collection of clothing, one week to obtain foodstuffs and medicines, and one week for the receipt of books. The foodstuffs are especially intended for 300,000 school children, left orphan as a result of four years of war and years of persecution and exile.

On February 6th, volunteer workers will begin collecting bundles of clothes driving trucks to homes which have notified the relief headquarters in the vacant sections of the Greater City that they have space to make. At the conclusion of the drive, the warehouses and prepared for immediate use will be ascertained at principal diast shipment to Europe. A similar program will be carried out in Baltimore and Buffalo. The campaign will be conducted under the auspices of the National Jewish Relief Committee with whom our International is affiliated and of which President Schlesinger is one of the vice-presidents.

## \$2,000 in Prizes at "Forward Ball"

The annual Forward Ball, which is an epic to the workers of New York City, will be held this year on February 19th, at the 71st Regiment Armory, at 34th Street, and Park Avenue.

Over \$2,000 will be given away in prizes, as well as pianos, Victrolas and many other useful and attractive articles.

Arrangements are being made for a crowd of 20,000, and committees are actively preparing for the commencement of this huge number of workers.

The organizations housed in the 10-story Forward Building are participating in the arrangements for the event, calling upon their affiliated bodies to lay everything else aside and rally for the Forward celebration.

The Workmen's Circle, which has over 80,000 members, is reported to be particularly active in preparing for the ball. The founders of the Workmen's Circle are those who founded the Jewish Daily Forward, and both institutions have grown together, branching out each year into new fields.

The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, which has found in the Forward its greatest bulwark in every difficulty, the Jewish Daily Forward, is likewise striving to give the Forward Ball this year the support it has given the affair in former years.

Every organization of labor in the needle trades is co-operating with the Jewish Daily Forward, the Jewish Daily Forward, and the Workmen's Circle to fill the huge armory to its capacity when the doors open on February 19.

# LABOR AND THE "PUBLIC"

By ABRAHAM TUVIM

One of the new angles of the struggle between the ruling class of America and the workers is the "Public." It has been put into great many uses, in each instance serving as a means of beating back various groups of workers in their demands to get a fairer division of the things they produce, or a shorter work day. Every attempt on the part of the workers to increase their wages has been met with the argument that an increase in wages would mean bigger profits for the "Public." Every attempt to shorten the work day or improve the standards of life generally is being met today with the argument that the "Public" must pay for every bit the workers receive, in addition to their current wages and conditions of employment.

Slowly, a new fetish has been built. The "Public" to-day is the strongest bulwark of privilege. Tens of thousands of newspaper columns are devoted to the "rights" and "privileges" of the "Public," while thousands of editorials have been written denouncing every attempt of the workers toward progress as an attack on the "Public." The chief theme of these editorials, as well as that of sermons and Chambers of Commerce dinner speeches, has been "No group of workers has the right to set itself against another group. No worker has the right to demand an increase in wages which may react unfavorably on another worker."

"Workers must learn to be unselfish, more considerate to their fellowmen, less grasping for more wages and shorter hours. What they really need is more production, even if that means longer hours in order to alleviate the suffering of the "Public."

The war years, with their unprecedented profits, gave birth to the theory of the "Public." Thousands of new millionaires were created, billions of dollars piled into the coffers of the rich—from the toll of the laboring masses—dividends from the endless sacrifices of the war. A tendency arose, on the part of labor, to get for itself some of the unearned increment of their masters. Discontent was rife, and the Chambers of Commerce of America, feeling the pulse of American labor, began their propaganda, with an aim to safeguard the profits of the capitalists. This was a very simple process, considering the influence of capitalism, in that it owns, controls, regulates and directs every channel of public opinion, every power which moulds the public mind. It became a simple matter for them to divide the workers of America, playing one group against the other, solely through the means of the "Public."

There was a time when the capitalists of America and their henchmen of learning were able to divide the workers along the lines of race, color and creed. The industrial development of America, however, forced the workers to adopt better methods of organization and greater solidarity, thereby slowly wearing down the evil effects of the propaganda along race, color and creed lines. A new method of division had to be found: otherwise there was the danger of a solidification of the forces of labor. Labor had to be divided into that part which was the "Public" and that part which is not the "Public."

Labor is the "Public" when it is not attempting to improve its conditions of life. The moment a group of workers strike for more wages, it ceases to be the "Public" and all other groups of workers become the "Public" in the eyes of the capitalist press. The workers who are not involved in a particular strike are interested against those who are striking, blaming them for the increases in the cost of living, transportation, food and rent. It comes to pass, however, that these very workers who condemn the group which is attempting to get a little more of life, themselves become strikers. They then cease to be the "Public" and all other workers are the "Public." The steel mill workers are part of the "Public" so the railroad men are striking and the railroad men are the "Public" when the steel workers turn their tools.

This new method of the capitalist press and institutions has done more toward alienating the sympathy of the people than any other method used heretofore to defeat the aims of Labor.

A close analysis of this "Public" shows conclusively that its vast majority are workers. The census of 1910 gives the total number of men and women and children employed in gainful occupation at 38,000,000. Of these, less than 2,000,000 were employed in occupations which, while gainful, were not occupations tending toward real social service. Among these are small merchants, restaurant keepers, store keepers, brokers, money lenders, capitalists, etc. Of the remaining 36,000,000, a little less than 5,000,000 were farmers who owned their own farms and over 6,000,000 farm workers. Among the farmers who apparently owned their own farms, at least 40 per cent. either worked them alone, without employing hired help, or were ten-

ants in a certain sense, in that their farms were mortgaged to a point where at best they could obtain from their till only a bare existence.

And so one finds that of those employed in gainful occupation in America in the year 1910, there were over 30,000,000 immediately and directly with what may be termed the working class. And at least 40,000,000 others who were dependent upon those who toiled.

The scheme to divide the workers on the question of the "Public" can only be counteracted by a realization on the part of labor that IT is the "Public," and that the interests of one element of this labor "Public" are identical with the aims and interests of every element.

Labor is the "Public." It is the vast majority of the "Public." Its individual interests are fundamentally the same, regardless of trade, race or geographical location. It is to the interest of each separate group to aid in the betterment of the standard of life of every group. A lowering of the standard of life of one group reacts on every other group, in that it weakens labor as a distinct entity.

This can perhaps best be seen in the needle trade. The present status of the workers in the men's clothing industry is a precarious one. All the forces of wealth, and practically every element which moulds public opinion, are conducting an organized and consistent fight, with the aim of destroying the efficiency of the unions in the men's clothing industry. Assuming that they succeed in their destructive efforts, not only will they have destroyed the ability of labor in that industry to maintain a living standard, but they will have weakened the power of resistance of every other group in the needle trades. They will have strengthened the manufacturers in the entire needle industry. They will give new hope and renew the courage of the employers in the ladies garment industry in particular, in their efforts to destroy the labor organizations in their trade.

It can readily be seen that the interests of these two groups of workers, while in different industries, are yet fundamentally alike. What is true of these two is true of all groups. Since we accept the fact that labor is a "Class," then we must accept the fact that what is detrimental to one group of the class is harmful to the others. Labor must not be

distracted by the cry of the "Public." It is but one of the many efforts of the employing class to hide real issues and disguise fundamental differences which exist between employers and employees. Their charge that increasing of wages reacts on commodities produced in their particular industry, has been time and again proven to be without foundation.

In the past four years, the upward trend of prices has been in advance of wages. In those industries where wages went up slightly, if at all, such as steel and some of the other unorganized industries, the commodity produced by the workers rose in the same proportion as in the industries where wages were increased. The general tendency of prices is not controlled by wages, and any attempt on the part of the employers to alienate the "Public" against strikers should be met with the truth, which is, that while generally prices rise and fall with the demand and supply of the merchandise in question, the war years and monopolization have enabled the manufacturing class to increase prices practically at will. They have created artificial demands, have stored away from the "Public," and away from the market, billions of dollars worth of necessities of life in order to increase prices. During the period when sugar was selling at fabulous prices, the slaves in Cuba, the Philippines and the South were toiling in the hot sun for the same miserable pittance, working the same long hours.

Even in the highly paid industries, like the clothing industry, the cost of clothing has risen entirely out of proportion to the increase of wages granted. The American Woolen Mills and the various textile combinations have made millions of dollars in excess of their pre-war profits despite the fact that they have granted their workers slight increases.

There are many thousands of instances which prove conclusively that an increase in wages does not react in the manner that the press and our chambers of commerce wish us to believe they do. Labor must not permit the dark forces of capitalism to sever it asunder. Organized labor, the solidification of all the forces of labor, the realization that the interests of one and all are identical, and the willingness of each group to share the burden of all other groups, will eventually defeat the destructive aims of the employing class, and enable those who create the good things of life to enjoy the product of their creation.

## Labor Pleads For Russia Before Senate

Representatives of organized labor appeared before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in Washington on Wednesday, Jan. 26, last, to demand the resumption of trade between this country and Russia. The hearing, which was based on Senator Francis's resolution demanding trade but not recognition of Soviet Russia, was turned over largely to the labor delegates who appeared in the name of the American Labor Alliance For Trade Relations With Russia.

In addition to the labor representatives, two delegates from the American Women's Emergency Committee approved and told of the refusal of the State Department to allow their organization to send relief to Russia for over a year when the women and children of that country were enduring the greatest suffering. Representatives of commercial inter-

ests also spoke at the hearing and explained how England and European countries are already trading with Russia, and insisted that trade should be resumed at once so that the United States might have an opportunity of entering into this vast market.

In discussing the unemployment situation in this country, Timothy Healy, President of the International Brotherhood of Firemen and Oilers, and chairman of the American Labor Alliance, declared that labor in America is interested in dealing with Russia, first, because of the immediate necessity of finding work for Americans, and second, to relieve the needs of the Russian workers who are unable to produce without the machinery that this country could supply.

"Millions of Americans are out of work," he said. "Millions of Russians are starving and sick. Russia

will send gold and raw materials to pay for American goods that now flood our market. Why then can we not trade with Russia and relieve the peoples of both nations?"

E. C. Davison, Secretary of the International Association of Machinists, spoke for the machinists instead of William E. Johnston, their international president who was not able to arrive from Mexico in time for the hearing.

Joseph Schlossberg, secretary of the Amalgamated (Mining) Workers of America, spoke for his organization and insisted that "labor demands for Soviet Russia the same privileges we formerly granted to Czarist Russia."

Other speakers for labor were: Captain William A. Maher, of the Masters, Mates and Pilots; John J. Jennings, of the Hudson County, N. J. Central Labor Union; who declared

that 75,000 men in Newark are out of work; Samuel Beardsley, of the International Jewelry Workers; Jerome T. De Hunt, of the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks; and Alexander Trechinsky, statistician for the International Ladies' Garment Workers, who stated that over two million organized workers are back of the Labor Alliance demand for trade with Russia.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee will take the statements made at the hearing under consideration and will issue a report at a later time. If the report is favorable the question of trade with Russia will then be brought to the floor of the Senate for general discussion.

The Labor Alliance has announced that in the meantime mass meetings will be held by labor organizations throughout the country so that the demand of labor will be heard.

# JUSTICE

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## EDITORIALS

### SOLVING THE UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM

Unemployment is on the increase. Only a few weeks ago they have talked about two million idle persons in the country. Today, the newspapers place the total of unemployed near the four million mark.

We have a lurking suspicion that these figures are considerably overdrawn—intentionally and with premeditation. Employers of labor in every branch of industry have embarked on a country-wide wage-cutting campaign, and the spectre of a great army of unemployed is a valuable whip in their hands to cow the workers into accepting starvation wages. Mr. Gary, the chairman of the Steel Trust, has only recently stated that fear, uneasiness over one's job, is an excellent means for keeping a worker's productivity at a high level. His opinion is echoed by other "captains of industry," and, willy-nilly, we are inclined to the belief that the huge unemployment total is biased high and wide across the pages of the press, to a great extent, for the sinister purpose of striking fear into the hearts of the workers.

Nevertheless, the masses of unemployed are sufficiently large already to give food for very earnest, very serious thought by organized workers everywhere. Organized labor in England made a conference during last week to consider this problem—even more burning in England than in America these days. A number of labor representatives appeared a few days ago before a sub-committee of the Senate Committee of Foreign Affairs at Washington, to urge upon it to report favorably upon a resolution for the resumption of trade relations with Russia—not because of any love for the present Russian Bolshevik régime, or even because of the starving millions of Russia, but in order to get work for our own unemployed. The English workers have accepted a similar declaration for the resumption of trade with Russia so that millions of idle English men and women might obtain employment.

Russia, starving, freezing Russia, appears to be today, in the eyes of millions of unemployed in Europe and America, the only hope, the only avenue of relief. Of course, we are, heart and soul, for a general resumption of trade relations with Russia. The blockade of Russia was a brutal crime from its very inception, a crime that shrieked to heaven. Nevertheless, we fail to see, in our judgment, how trade with Russia can at the present moment relieve the heavy burden of general unemployment. Russia, we believe, will for a long time require world-wide volunteer aid before it can become a market for our surplus products. Russia must develop a new economic life before there can be any talk of trade with Russia. It is because of this that we have little faith in any official declaration of any government, either in Europe or America, solving the problem of unemployment.

Frankly speaking, we do not believe that any government, no matter how good its intentions, can solve this acute problem. All the plans suggested in the resolution of the British Labor Congress, even if adopted by the government, will never even palliate this withering social disease. The resolution declares that the government must find work for all unemployed. It is easily said, but what if work cannot be found? In that event, the resolution demands that the Government pay an unemployment benefit of 40 shillings per week to each married man, and 25 shillings to each single man, with additional payments for dependents. This is a very laudable suggestion. But how can it be carried out? The government will have to get this money to be paid out in unemployment benefits in the form of taxes from those who work. The workers will naturally have to get these huge taxes out in the form of raised wages from their employers. The employers, on the other hand, in order that their profits might not be diminished, will raise the prices of manufactured products. This on the other hand will curtail the purchasing power of the workers and will eventually lead to an increase in the number of unemployed. At the end of it all the problem of unemployment will stare into the eyes of the workers in the same cruel and heartless manner as it does today.

The proposal to resume trade with countries that are stricken with the same plague of unemployment is about as futile. The problem in these lands is not so much the shortage of products, as the lack of persons who are capable of purchasing products already manufactured. The resolution of the English Labor Congress contains one effective suggestion, however, which deserves earnest attention. It is the demand for a reduction, by legislation, of the working hours to 44 per week, and for a drastic regulation of overtime. This method can, without doubt, help materially to diminish the number of unemployed. But may we be permitted to ask: Why is the aid of the Government necessary in this instance? Why look for the tardy process of official legalization of the working hours when the workers can accomplish it with more facility through their own power and organization?

A short time ago it was reported in the press that the English

Premier, Lloyd George, had made a proposal to the English workers, to work five days in the week instead of six, so that more room be made for the unemployed. According to this report, the workers have refused this proposal on the assumption that it would eventually mean a reduction of their earnings. We are not certain as to whether this was their true motive for refusing this proposal, or whether the English workers thought that it was not their duty, as a matter of general principle, to help the English bourgeoisie to muddle through the present critical times by sacrificing a day of their wages. Whether their motives were right or wrong, they have rejected Lloyd George's proposal. Now it appears that they want the Government to introduce a legal 44-hour work-week with the same wages as they have received for 48 hours. It may not be a bad idea, but we are afraid, like all acts of Parliament, the 44-hour law, if not vigilantly observed and guarded by the workers, will remain a dead letter.

This method of fighting unemployment, by curtailing the hours of labor, is applicable not only in England, but everywhere where there are strong organizations of workers. A one-day general strike throughout the country could win for the workers not only a 44, but even a 40-hour work week, if carried out in every industry and vocation in the land. This is the only effective means against the horrors of unemployment, and sooner or later the workers will be compelled to adopt it.

### THE GENERAL STRIKE OF NEW YORK DRESSMAKERS

In the course of the coming week—the day and the hour of which cannot be given here for obvious reasons—the dress and waistmakers of New York will leave their shops and go out on strike.

What is this strike being called for? The fact of the matter is that the Joint Board in the Waist and Dress Industry had already concluded an agreement with the Dress Manufacturers' Association, Inc., which was endorsed by the majority of the workers in the trade. For the workers employed in the Association shops this strike, therefore, is only a mere formality. "Why, then, leave the shops?" ask many. The following is the answer: This strike aims at the unionization of the entire industry, and in order that the Joint Board might be able to carry out this campaign thoroughly, the entire waist and dress industry must be kept at a standstill for a brief period.

It is, we believe, superfluous to dwell at length on this point. The Joint Board would not cause the loss of a single day's work to a single worker if the vital interests of our workers did not demand it. The shops covered by the agreement will benefit through this manifestation of strength and uniformity of working standards all through the trade in the equal degree, and their loss of a few days' of work will be fully repaid.

There is not the slightest doubt that the response to the call of the Union will be unanimous. We may, in advance, congratulate the dress and waistmakers of New York with a complete victory. And in the event of a show of resistance by some of the more obstinate employers, we are equally certain that the Union will prove them in short order that the only manner in which they can produce garments for the market is by signing an agreement similar to the one already signed by the employers' association in the industry.

### With the Dress and Waist Joint Board

(Minutes—Meeting, January 28, 1921)

The report of the Board of Directors was taken up. They recommended the following:

That the Organized Department should attend to all cutter complaints in shops where Local No. 10 is controlling.

Minnie Rothman, formerly employed at the shop of Gross & Weiss, appeared before the Board stating that she was discharged without any reason. The case was referred to the Committee on Immediate Action.

A committee from Charles F. Blumens appeared before the Board stating that above said firm had off all its workers about ten weeks ago for an indefinite time. Last week, the firm called for all its workers but two. They asked the firm the reason and they answered that there was no work for them. The Board of Directors recommends to take immediate action against this firm.

A communication was received from Local No. 69 informing the Board that Local No. 89 is going to receive collections made in the branch offices directly to the Local until such a time as the Joint Board will become the agency for collections and distributions of incomes from the branch offices. A Committee of Three, consisting of Brothers Orvatsky, Riesen and Padua, were

appointed to investigate and submit recommendations to the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

A communication was received from Local No. 68, stating that in view of the fact that they are paying their own business agent, they would want the Board of Directors to exempt them from all expenses. The Board of Directors recommends that Local No. 68 should be exempted from expenses made for business agents, but that part of the general expenses should be placed on their account.

The Board of Directors then took up the agreement which was worked out for the Independent Jobbers. The Board of Directors recommends to approve the Independent Jobbers' agreement as submitted.

A communication was received from the Italian Chamber of Labor offering their services in our coming General Strike. The Board of Directors recommends that a letter of thanks be sent to the Italian Chamber of Labor and particularly to Brother Arturo Giovannitti for the brotherly feeling extended to us and that we shall avail ourselves of the services they offer to render us.

Local No. 25 and Local No. 66 notified the Joint Board of the additional members they appointed to be on the General Strike Committee. It was decided to put same on file. It will notify all additional members to come to the meeting of the General Strike Committee who will have the jurisdiction as to the fitness of the additional members.

M. K. MACKOFF, Secretary.

# AT THE SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

By S. YANOVSKY

The eleven sessions of the last meeting of the General Executive Board, which took place at Boston in the course of last week, have made an indelible impression upon me.

I have sat through many meetings of our General Executive Board in the last two years. I confess, however, that never were any of the meetings of the Board so full of interest to me and of dramatic intensity as the recent session at Boston. The entire life, chapter after chapter, of our International has unfolded itself as a panorama before my eyes as the debates were progressing, sharp and hectic debates at times, the results of which are bound to leave a lasting effect upon the work of our organization in the immediate future.

The time when our General Executive Board would meet and listen to reports by the leaders of the International upon large gains acquired for the workers, and magnificent victories scored, have for the present, it seems, come to a halt. At this meeting we were compelled to listen to different reports. There was information from one center of long prevalent unemployment; from another, of how the workers could get back to work if only they would consent to the conditions exacted by the employers; from a third, where the bosses have decided to close their factories entirely; from a fourth, regarding a confusion of minds among the workers themselves, etc., etc. On the whole, the picture was far from optimistic and cheer. On this grim earnestness reflected itself in every speech, in every gesture during the discussions by the members of the Board. One felt that while none of the members of the Board have lost either their sound judgment or the loyalty of the tens of thousands of our members, the gravity of the moment was manifest, nevertheless, in every opinion uttered and in every step decided upon. It was similarly felt that care and vigilance are of utmost importance at the present moment as the slightest misstep might lead to very serious consequences.

This explains to an extent the unusual length of the book to commemorate the thirteenth at this meeting. Thoroughness of consideration was the keynote that controlled discussion

upon every subject. Criticism was welcome, no matter how unpleasant or bitter at times, as long as it led eventually to the working out of a proper criterion in handling the problems that demanded immediate solution. The net result of the discussions upon the most important and paramount questions was that fundamentally the policy of our International was found to be sound and correct requiring no modification or change at the present time. After days of discussion we all were once again convinced that the course which the International has uniformly pursued throughout our trades in every centre and market in the country must be defended to the utmost without yielding an inch of ground.

The greatest gain that the International has made during the past few years was, of course, the change in the working system from piece to work week. And it is upon this working system that the principal struggle between the employers and workers in our industry is now being waged. Some of the employers come out in the open and say, "We do not want or we cannot keep up the system of week work. It has injured us, has hurt the industry and is ruinous to the workers." They explain the present slack conditions in industry as the result of piece work. "We are back the system of piece work," they claim, "and we cannot work as profitably. We will have our profits and the workers will have their jobs." Other employers, who know the great price which the union had paid for the introduction of week work, do not dare to come out for piece work in the open. They sugarcoat the bitter pill with the verbiage of a "standard of production," in the hope that the union will swallow this concoction, which really means nothing else but piece work. They, in deed, promise the workers a lot of "good things" under this standard of production system. They maintain that it will take away from the unscrupulous employers the weapon of charging the workers with not returning a "fair day's work for a fair wage." The worker, they say, will then be able to point out that he or she is returning in labor exactly as much as they receive in pay. This clamor of the employers,

aroused upon by the press and other agencies of capital, did not fail to make an impression upon some of our workers and even one of our leaders. The outside world has begun to talk, and with a certain degree of justification, that our opinion is divided in this matter. Needless to say that this impression has strengthened the hand of some employers in certain cities in their demand for piece work or piece work under the cloak of a standard of production. The General Executive Board has therefore felt that it cannot continue to leave this impression go around without being challenged. It felt that once for all this all-important matter must receive full and all-sided discussion; that in this matter there cannot be, and must not be, two opinions, or a half-and-half policy; that the International must declare itself either fully for piece work, or just as fully for week work.

The great debate that lasted for several days centered upon this topic. It was opened by President Schlesinger with a two-hour speech, in which the point of view of the International was made clear beyond the slightest chance of misconception. President Schlesinger attacked the attitude of Vice-President Perstein who has openly advocated the policy in favor of standards of production in the middle West, as detrimental to the best interests of the overwhelming majority of our members. Vice-President Perstein, on his part, endeavored to make clear that he was not actuated in his opinions by an unfriendly or rebellious spirit towards the organization, but that he had in mind the best interests of the members as he saw it from his point of view.

Vice-President Sigman took up the arguments of Brother Perstein and demolished them after a searching analysis. In his speech he proved the groundlessness of the charge that week work has encouraged the small manufacturer, or has been responsible for the evil of "soldiering on the job." The other members of the Board continued the discussion in practically the same tenor, with slight variations. The decision which the Board adopted practically unanimously after the debate, can be

epitomized in the following words: Not the slightest compromise on the question of week work can or will be made by our organization. The International is ready to fight to the very last atom of its energy for the great gain it has made for the workers in our industry, for the system of week-work pure and simple, without any equivocations or qualifications.

Several employers have also come out with the demand for a longer work week, for 48 hours instead of the 44 prevailing at present. These, too, want to turn back the wheel of history. The great two-day debate has given an unqualified denial to this demand as well. The International will never agree to a lengthening of the working week. On the other hand, its policy, as heretofore, is to fight for a shorter work-day at the first opportune moment, so that all those who work in our industry may have the opportunity for a greater share of leisure and a greater chance for rest and enlightenment.

As regards the clamor set up by some of the employers, that our workers shirk on the job, the Board is convinced that it is greatly exaggerated on the part of the bosses. The overwhelming majority of our workers are honest people who do their best to turn out a fair day's work. Of course, if our employers had figured that the workers can produce in 44 hours as much as they used to in 48, or in the 50 and 60 hours of years ago, if they had made a wiser estimate, they would have thought that the introduction of week work means only their benefit and implied only the elimination of the nuisance of settling prices, without any advantage to the workers, they have made another mistake. Week-work was introduced for the purpose, among many others, of lessening the grind of the worker at the machine.

The true facts are that the cry of "under-production" is a false clamor and a libel. But, if there have been cases where workers have misused this change of the working system and have not lived up to their ordinary duties, the Union is ready to co-operate with the employers in such instances. The Union is ready to see that such unscrupulous workers be brought to book, but it will never permit the employers to cast wholesale insinuations and charges against our men and women as they have recently done.

## A WEEK IN LONDON

By RICHARD ROHMAN

When I reached London on June 5 late in the afternoon of a divine day whose sun was spreading a golden glow over Westminster and the Houses of Parliament, I checked to my comrades, Ben Silverstein, who had tracked to Europe with me:

"God, what a city!" The spire of Westminster Cathedral mounted like jagged shadows into the sun-decked heavens; Parliament and other Government buildings towered over the slow-rippling blackish Thames; the city was filled with a noisy rumbling. We were standing in front of the Waterloo Station. I lowered my valise and portable typewriter to the pavement; Ben's bag slid to the ground. We exchanged looks and smiled.

"Interesting," was his only comment.

We started for our lodgings, wandering, inquiring until we reached Russell Square, opposite the British Museum. Once we stopped. A thin crowd was collected about an object sprawled upon the sidewalk. We moved closer—the object was a man, the remnants of one. A leg was gone, so was an arm. The coat-sleeve flapped like a rag in the breeze.

The owner of the sleeve had just completed a chalk sketch scrawled on the flagging with the hand that remained. The sketch represented a British "Tommy" and above his head was written:

"For King and Country."

"Lloyd George have you forgotten the returned soldier who sacrificed life and limb on England's altar?" was a query scribbled beside the illustration. "We fought the war—where are our pensions?"

The thin crowd dispersed, dropping pennies in the veteran's cap; the stalwart bobby at the crossing continued to direct traffic. In our week's stay in London this was a common sight. The day after our arrival, following an introduction to an English breakfast which later we discovered was as meagre as an English dinner (I believe even as late as June, 1920, war rations were in vogue), we set out for the office of the London "Daily Herald," the powerful labor publication, located on that narrow, cobbled, picturesque lane, Carmelite Street.

W. N. Ever, foreign editor who had visited America some time be-

fore, was the first to greet us. I believe he remembered me from The New York "Call" office where I had been introduced to him and his charming wife, Monica Ever. His greeting, despite the pressure of his work, was friendly and warm. We talked of America, the labor movement generally, the work of the International Ladies' Garment Workers and the Amalgamated. Then we met George Lansbury.

The editor of the "Herald," who had recently returned from Soviet Russia, stepped from his private office into the narrow outer one where we were crowded among desks, other visitors and hurrying office boys. He might not have greeted us, he was in such a hurry. But Ever touched his arm and he wheeled in our direction, a striking face, glowing with healthy color, holding our attention. He was with us only a minute after the warm handshake. Again, the question about America and inquiries after the movement. His face, deeply furrowed, was set as he talked. A nod and he was off, the tall of his blue coat flapping against a desk. I did not see him again.

Several days later, through the kind offices of Ever, we met the Russian Soviet delegation headed by Leonid Krasin. Parliament was

raging like a fury at the time over the question of permitting the delegation to remain in England. The bellicose Winston Churchill was still talking of "German subsidy" in connection with the Russian Government and Lloyd George, the suave diplomat, was striving very hard to counteract the effect of one of his own ministers in order to grab Russian trade without, at the same time, recognizing Soviet Russia. The delegation had removed their quarters from one of London's sumptuous hotels to a building on New Bond Street in the heart of the exclusive shopping district. Every day, Krasin and his entourage travelled to Downing Street to confer with the British Premier and each day they returned to read flaming editorials for their deportation. We caught glimpses of Krasin; he was always moving about. His lieutenant, M. Kishin, a nervous young Russian with thin hair and sharp eyes, talked to us frequently. He was quite up in American events, knew of the deportations, Department of Justice raids and the general terroristic pursuits engaged in by Attorney General Palmer.

We met some noted English labor leaders, talked of world affairs, and, then, at the end of a week journeyed to Paris.

## Educational Comment and Notes

### Opening Celebration of the Lower Bronx Unity Center a Great Success

Last Friday evening, about 800 of our members, with their wives and children, assembled in the auditorium of Public School 43, Brown Place and 135th Street, to celebrate the opening of a new Unity Center, which was organized last November, and which is fast becoming a great success. Hundreds of our members were turned away because of lack of accommodation.

For this occasion, an artistic program was arranged. Miss Estelle Schreiner, soprano, sang a number of Russian and Jewish folk-songs, and some operatic selections. Mr. Max Jacobs, violinist, played a group of interesting numbers.

The hundreds of our members were brought together not only for the sake of the concert, which, indeed, they fully enjoyed, but they were brought together by an "idea"—the idea that workers' education should be developed within the trade union movement. They took great pride in the fact that their International was activated in establishing educational activities by the conviction that the aims and aspirations of the workers can be realized only through their own efforts in economic and educational fields. While organization gives them power, education gives them the ability to use their power intelligently and effectively.

The members demonstrated great interest in the speeches made by our Educational Director, Mr. Alexander Fichtelmaier, and by Miss Fannie M. Cohn, Secretary of the Educational Committee, who outlined the aims of the Educational Department.

An interesting feature of the concert was the gymnastic drill performed by a number of men students of the Unity Center under the leadership of Miss Blanche Lynch, the supervisor of the Center. It was refreshing and encouraging to see our workers, whose time is practically all spent in shops, at machines, clock operators, finishers, pressers, and cutters, standing on the platform and participating in exercises that would do credit to a group of college students who devote most of their time to such work. These exercises brought to the attention of the audience very forcibly what a splendid thing it is for the workers to have opportunities to develop their bodies as well as their minds. The old saying that "A healthy mind dwells in a healthy body" found realization here.

Our members always display great interest in the opening of a new Unity Center, which means the addition of one more educational center where workers have an opportunity to learn the history of the labor movement, the economic conditions of our country, and to learn the language of the country of which they have become a part. This was especially demonstrated by the members of the other Unity Centers and Workers' University through the members of the Students' Councils.

For the perfect order that prevailed at this concert, recognition should be given to the members of the students' councils, who acted as ushers under the direction of Miss Lynch.

After the concert, the members enjoyed social dancing in the auditorium of the school.

Students to have new course under Mr. Savel Zimand of the Bureau of Industrial Research.

The new class organized by the Educational Department will begin its

sessions on Wednesday evening, Feb. 2nd, at the Washington Irving High School, 16th Street and Irving Place. As announced before, this class will be instructed by Mr. Savel Zimand, the well-known publicist, who is connected at present with the Bureau of Industrial Research. Mr. Zimand will take up with the class a number of practical industrial problems which are engaging the attention of the economic world to-day, and which should be well understood by workers who have such a personal interest in all present day economic changes.

The first part of the course will deal with the present methods of business organization, including a study of corporations, trusts, the financing of corporations, the control of raw materials, the organization of employers' associations, etc.

The second part will deal with the problem of railways. The class will discuss such topics as the relation between railways and industry, the passengers and the workers, and also the question of railway management. The methods of railway nationalization in the various countries of the world will be studied, and finally, a thorough examination will be made of the various methods in which the United States can acquire the railways. In this connection the class will study the Plumb Plan, and objections offered to railway nationalization.

It is hoped that all serious-minded members of the International who realize the importance of this subject will join the class.

### Class in Advanced Public Speaking at Workers' University

The purpose of this class is to help our members formulate their ideas and express them in an effective manner. The object of a speaker and writer, after all, is to transmit ideas to others, and to convince them of his argument.

In this connection, we wish to quote from "Justice," April 20, 1920, a statement by Dr. Gustav F. Schulz, who is with us since we established our University. Dr. Schulz says:

"To 'express one's self,' is to reveal one's self—to show how much one knows, how truly one feels, how clear and sound one's thoughts are. Then had this in mind when he wrote that every time we try to create, to express ourselves, we summon ourselves to a court in which we sit as the judge."

"Now I then had his eye on the poet, the dramatist, when he said this, on the orator at work in the privacy of his own study. And yet, his remark is no less true for the speaker who 'expresses himself' in public. In fact, the speaker has to face not merely himself as judge, but his whole audience, too."

"It is for these reasons that I think it fair to say that there is no better measure of the quality of the work that has been accomplished by the Workers' University than the public speaking class. As it happens, it is in this class only that our students have had almost unlimited opportunities for self-expression—for 'giving themselves away.'"

We agree full-heartedly with Dr. Schulz at present, as we did last year, and we consider the class in public speaking a clearing house for ideas.

### New Class in Social History at Workers' University

The class in History of Civilization which meets on Saturdays at 2:30,

at our Workers' University under Mr. Spencer Miller is attracting a large number of our students. Mr. Miller is now taking up with the class the social background of history. The various races of mankind will be discussed and the emphasis will be made on the point that though presenting varieties of all sorts, there is a racial unity which underlies all human activities.

The origin of life upon the earth, the evolution of animal life upon the earth, the contrast of plant, animal and human kingdoms, are among the topics discussed by Mr. Miller.

### Mr. Trachtenberg to Give Lecture at Workers' University

On Feb. 19, at 3:30 P. M., Mr. Alexander Trachtenberg, director of the Research and Record Department of our International, will give a lecture at the Workers' University, at the Washington Irving High School. This lecture will be the first of a series planned by the Educational Department, the object of which is to inform the members of the International of the way in which the affairs of their Union is being administered and managed. It is planned to have the heads of the various departments describe the purpose, aim, and organization of the various departments, and of what particular use they are to the membership.

In this first lecture, Mr. Trachtenberg will tell the members what his Department is trying to accomplish and how this is being done. He will tell a record in kept of the occupation, history, earnings and standing of each of the 150,000 members of the International. He will also describe the information which his Department is gathering on the subject of the earning power of the membership, with a view of determining the proper distribution of the profits of the entire industry. Other similar topics will be discussed, the final aim of this lecture being to show what practical benefits the members of the International will gain from the activities of the Department of Research and Record.

### New Course in the Bronx Unity Center, P. S. 54

In the Bronx Unity Center, P. S. 54, Miss Theresa Wolfson completed her series of lessons on the "Position of Women in Industry." This course proved of great interest to the students, who discovered a number of unknown facts in connection with the special problem of women in factories and elsewhere.

Last week, Miss Wolfson began with the class a new series of lessons which will deal with the economic background of the industrial development of the United States. In this course Miss Wolfson will deal precisely with the facts which have made the United States what it is. A knowledge of these facts must be of value and help to those who are interested in plans for economic change.

### SEASON CARDS FOR CONCERTS

The Educational Department wishes to remind members of the International that season cards for the National Symphony Orchestra may still be obtained at the office, 31 Union Square.

Some of the dates on which soloists will appear with the Orchestra are: Saturday eve., Feb. 12th, Gulnar Novras; Monday eve., Feb. 21st, Anton Rubinstein; Saturday eve., Feb. 26th, Leo Ornstein; Wednesday eve., March 2nd, Leopold Godowsky; Sunday eve., March 13th, Sergei Rachmaninoff.

Upon the presentation of a Union season card at the office of JOSEPH MANN, 33 Union Square, International members will be entitled to two tickets at half price.

## The Value of Stereopticon Pictures

(A. LEVINE)

Editor of "Justice":

It is very encouraging to have members of our International discuss in the shop, in the classrooms and other gathering places, industrial and political problems, as it helps clear-headed workers. With the growth of education among our members, the solidity and influence of the organization gains enormously. Great merits are due to the Educational Department of the International for its splendid activities.

Yet, to stop at that phase of development of the educational work would be very impractical.

The truth of the matter is that the minds of the vast majority of our people are in perfect tranquility. Problems outside their immediate personal needs do not concern them. A membership like that is most unhealthy for a progressive organization. We must strain ourselves to the utmost to get this element of people, make them conscious of their ignorance, and thus, set their brains at work. For the one that has once tasted from the "Tree of Knowledge" will find his way to education, whether induced to it or not. The tasks of the International must therefore be directed towards those that are not yet prepared to learn.

One without education from childhood, cannot be induced to go to school after a wearying day's work, by the ordinary method of extolling the virtues of knowledge. Most of the people seek amusement after their monotonous work. It is there where they get their recreation that they must simultaneously get their education.

That can be accomplished, to my mind, by presenting lectures illustrated by stereopticon pictures. Witnessing such lectures, I found that a type of people that would think of never coming to listen to subjects that do not stir the blood or make one weep or laugh, sit and watch the pictures and listen to the explanation of the instructor. Subjects on hygiene, physiology, geography, etc., could very effectively be taught in this way. The "movies," too, have a tremendous influence upon the minds of our people; why not direct that, although to a small extent in a wholesome way? Arrangements can be made with some moving picture houses to present now and then pictures of an educational character. As we could advertise these houses among our members, such arrangements could, to my mind, be easily obtained. People will never come to our meetings unless they are brought to us in some place that is an ordinary class room. A representative of the International may explain to the audience what is presented to them, and at the same time explain the value of learning and suggest to them the Unity Center classes. I believe very much in "educational pills." If the people are unwilling or unable to get education in a school one way or another. If they do not come to us, let us comply with their tastes and ways of choosing. We must do that if our aim to educate the great masses of people is ever to be reached.

I hope, dear editor, that you will realize the earnestness and good faith of my suggestions, and will allow some space in our journal for me.

S. WARANTZ,  
Member, Local 25.

**CHICAGO****CHICAGO****Third Annual Ball**

given by the

**Dress and Skirt Workers' Union, Local 100**

at the

**ASHLAND AUDITORIUM**

Ashland and Van Buren Streets

**SATURDAY EVEN'G, FEBRUARY 12, 1921****LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY**

Entree, 8 P. M.

Tickets, 35 cents

Tickets at the office of the union, 29 North Wells Street

**BALL COMMITTEE**

A. BETCHUK, Chairman.

**United Designers' Union. Local 45**  
**SPECIAL MEMBER MEETING****ATTENTION**

A special member meeting will be held Saturday, February 5th, 1 P. M., in Grand Opera House, 309 West 23rd Street.

Purpose to discuss question of vital importance to our local. The present crisis in our industry will be discussed by Bro. B. Schlesinger, President of the International; also Brothers Sigman of the Waist and Dress Joint Board; Feinberg and Langer of our Joint Board.

Brothers! It is absolutely necessary that our members attend.  
**EXECUTIVE BOARD.****PATRONIZE**  
**"JUSTICE"**  
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**SCALLOPED**  
**POTATOES**  
**FOR****6**  
**for**  
**25¢**5 large Potatoes  
Salt and Pepper  
1/2 cup Drippings  
1 cup "Sealot" Evap-  
orated Milk  
Flour

Slice raw potatoes in thin slices. Place layer of potatoes in baking dish greased with drippings. Sprinkle lightly with flour, pepper and salt. Add one tablespoon of melted drippings. Repeat this until all potatoes are used. Then pour over this one cup of Sealot Evaporated Milk to which has been added one cup of hot water. Bake in a covered dish about one hour, taking lid off for 15 minutes to brown.

**SHEFFIELD**  
**"Sealot"**  
**MILK**THE RICH CREAMY  
MILK IN A CAN**DRESS AND WAIST MAKERS**

are requested to attend a

**SPECIAL MEETING**

—ON—

**Tuesday, Feb. 8, 1921**

at

**BEETHOVEN HALL****210 EAST 5th STREET, at 8:00 P. M.**

Arrangements will be made for calling the General Strike.

This will be the last meeting before the call of the General Strike.

Only members showing Union Cards will be admitted.



# The Weeks' News in Cutters Union Local 10

By ISRAEL LEWIN

A call for a General Strike in the Waist and Dress Industry may be expected during next week. All preparations for this strike have been completed by the Joint Board. The different committees who will have charge of the strike machinery have been appointed. A special circular will be distributed by the union on the day of the strike and all our members working in waist and dress shops without exception are to quit work at the given hour and report to the different halls that will be indicated in the circulars.

One departure is made in this strike, in that the cutters will meet together with the rest of the workers of the shops in their respective halls, instead of meeting in a separate hall for themselves. There are various reasons for this change. One of these is that since we are affiliated with the Joint Board and our members are being attended by the business agents of the Joint Board, it would be inadvisable to segregate the cutters. Another reason is that during the General Strike of 1919, most of the cutters would come to Arlington Hall, register their names, and go home. The rest of the workers of the shops, meeting in different halls, were always apprehensive regarding the whereabouts of the cutters. They would then dispatch committees to Arlington Hall to try and locate their cutters, and not being able to find them there, a great deal of misunderstanding would be caused.

We feel that this is a great opportunity for the members of the different locals to get together, acquaint themselves, and become more unified, which is very essential to the proper conduct of a strike. We are confident that this strike will be won in short order, as the number of applications for settlement from the manufacturers in the waist and dress trade is very great. The bulk of the workers in trade, employed by the members of the Association of Dress Manufacturers, will return to work within the first few days of the strike. The greater part of the workers employed by the independent manufacturers, in whose shops union conditions and standards are maintained, will also return to work in a short while.

Business Manager Shenker has been appointed Secretary of the Settlement Committee, and he will see to it that the interests of our cutters are well taken care of when settlements are made. The Information Bureau of the General Strike Committee will be located at the headquarters of our union, 7 West 21st Street, and will be in charge of General Secretary Lewin. All those desiring information regarding their respective shops may either apply in person or else call Gramercy 5190, 5191 and 5197.

In the Cloak and Suit Division Business Manager Perlmutter in conjunction with the different managers of the Joint Board, visited a number of shops both in the Independent and American Association Divisions where the employers did their own cutting, and placed members of our union to work. In all these shops, the shop chairmen were instructed that should the employers at any time do their own cutting or hire a learner to work at the cutting table, they are to cease work immediately and report to the office.

In the downtown district, where the proportion of manufacturers doing their own cutting is greater than in any other district of the city, the office is co-operating with the Cutters' Union. In some instances the employers were made to pay fines for doing their own cutting.

In the Protective Association Department, the work is conducted on a normal basis. Complaints are being adjusted with the individual manufacturers, and where an employer is stubborn, action is taken against him. During the week, some of the Protective houses against whom a strike was conducted were settled to the satisfaction of the union.

Things are becoming lively in the Miscellaneous Division, and we are glad to announce that the strikes conducted against the firms of E. Deutsch, 114 Spring Street, and David Harris, 38 West 21st Street, children's dress houses, have been settled. In the latter house, the firm tried to take advantage of the dullness in the industry and offered the workers a reduction in wages, and also intended to discharge some of the workers. After a vigorous strike of one week, the firm was convinced that it pays best to live on friendly terms with the union, and the strike was settled.

On Monday, January 31st, a strike was declared against the Arlington Underwear Co., 105 E. 29th Street. This firm refused to distribute work equally among the workers of the shop, and when the business agent visited the shop on this complaint, the firm stated that they will not deal with the union any longer. In answer to that statement, this strike was called. The agreement with the Cotton Garment Manufacturers' Association will expire next month and a conference will be held shortly with a view to renewing the agreement.

In order to acquaint themselves better with the situation in the different branches of the Miscellaneous Division, members are urged to attend the next meeting of the Miscellaneous Division which will be held on Monday, February 21st, at Arlington Hall, 25 St. Marks Place.

We wish to call the attention of our members to a recent decision by our Executive Board which was approved by the membership at the General Meeting of Monday, January 31st, 1921: I. e., that any member going into the manufacturing business and failing to resign from our union within one week's time after entering such business, shall automatically be expelled from our union. No excuses will be accepted by the Executive Board from anyone who will fail to comply with this decision. The difference between a member who resigns and an expelled member is just this: when the former wishes to return to the trade all that he has to pay is \$15, whereas the initiation fee for an expelled member is determined in each individual case by the Executive Board.

Once more we urge our members in the different divisions to change last season's working cards for the new white cards, as failure to change a working card is as much a violation of our constitution as failure to take out a working card when going into a shop to work. We hope that our members will heed this advice and act accordingly.

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Union, Local 125

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## Attention of Dress and Waist Cutters!

The following shops have  
been declared on strike and  
members are warned against  
seeking employment therein:

Jesse Wolf & Co.,  
105 Madison Avenue.  
Son & Ash,  
105 Madison Avenue.  
Solomon & Mettler,  
83 East 33rd Street.  
Clairmont Waist Co.,  
15 West 36th Street.  
Mack, Kanner & Milius,  
136 Madison Avenue.  
M. Stern,  
33 East 33rd Street.  
Max Cohen,  
105 Madison Avenue.  
Julian Waist Co.,  
15 East 32nd Street.  
Drexwell Dress Co.,  
14 East 32nd Street.  
Regina Kobler,  
352 Fourth Avenue.  
Deutz & Ortenberg,  
2-16 West 33rd Street.  
J. & M. Cohen,  
6-10 East 32nd Street.

## CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10, ATTENTION

### NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETINGS

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

Monday, February 7th.  
Monday, February 14th.  
Monday, February 21st.  
Monday, February 28th.

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.