

"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

Vol. III. No. 8

New York, Friday, Feb. 18, 1921

Price, 2 Cents

NEW YORK WAIST AND DRESS SHOPS SETTLING FAST

The general situation in the strikes of the waist and dressmakers of New York is very gratifying. More than half of the strikers have gone to work on Monday last under the agreement recently signed with the union. The workers who returned to work are employed in the shops of the Wholesale Dress Manufacturers' Association, of the Dress Manufacturers' Association, Inc., and in over one hundred individual shops, the owners of which have signed agreements with the union.

Meanwhile a new association of waist employers has been formed, into which several prominent members of the old Waist and Dress Association, practically defunct now, have been admitted. This new association has also settled with the union and their workers returned to the shops on Tuesday morning last.

The principal points in the individual agreements with the independent manufacturers, which are being signed daily, are the following: a 44-

hour week, to be divided into 8 days, with the proviso that the union might divide it into 5 days should the workers desire it; no; the scales of prices that prevailed during the past season are to be conforming to; and all other standards to be retained in the shops. The general strike committee calls upon all waist and dressmakers to observe the following important points:

1. The strikers of each shop must picket their own factory every day.
2. The workers of the settled shops must also aid in the work of picketing, during the early hours of the morning and after work in the blocks where their factory is located.
3. Working cards are to be obtained only in the halls where the shops are located.
4. Working cards cannot be given out immediately upon settlement, as a certain time must elapse before an investigation of the condition of the shop is made.

BOSTON CLOAK STRIKE CONTINUES UNABATED

General Organizer Abraham Snyder, who is in charge of the strike in the cloak shops in Boston, has wired the General Office as follows:

"We have settled until now 45 shops, many of which were non-union places before the strike, and have notified them now. These shops employ altogether about 500 people. The non-union shops, strikers in number, and also a few others unaffiliated, still remain unsettled, which leaves about 700 people on strike. We are negotiating with a few of these independent employers and expect to reach a settlement with them some time this week.

"As you know, we have had a conference with representatives of the Association in the presence of Brother Haroff, on Thursday last. The employers raised the usual cry of poor production and insisted upon the right of indiscriminate hiring and discharge. The conference was held at the State House and was called at the

instance of the State Board of Mediation and Arbitration. We made clear to the Board that we cannot consider the demand of the employers, and while the members of the State Board have taken kindly towards our attitude, it did not change, so far, the position of the association and they suit of the meeting and the suggestions advanced by the members of the still threaten to keep their shops closed for the entire season. The Board have therefore proved unacceptable both to us and the association. In this sense we have sent a reply to them and are meanwhile planning to have another conference with the association, without the presence of the members of the Board.

"It is quite certain that the order of our employers has been torn down a great deal during these two weeks of striking, and it is quite evident that they have realized from their irreconcilable position of a few weeks ago.

Cloak Chairmen Vote Immediate Aid to Amalgamated Strikers

The decision of the General Executive Board, adopted at the last meeting in Boston, to aid the Amalgamated in its present fight with the New York clothing employers, through the raising of a two-hour working fund, was received by the Cloakmakers of New York with enthusiasm and a will.

On Thursday, February 10th, an unusually well attended meeting of shop chairmen in the cloak, skirt and reaser industry of New York, was held to discuss the realization of this plan. The following resolution was adopted unanimously by all the chairmen present:

"Whereas the wave of reaction in this country has manifested itself particularly in the irreconcilable stand adopted by the clothing manufacturers of New York towards the

clothing workers, and
"Whereas in their attempt to break the Amalgamated, the employers stop before nothing to achieve their aim and are supported in that by all laborers' enemies,
"Be it, Therefore, Resolved, That, we, the chairmen of the cloak, skirt, reaser and dressmakers' union pledge ourselves to help the Amalgamated in its fight, financially and morally, and we obligate ourselves to carry out the decision of the General Executive Board of our International, to work two hours for the benefit of its strikers. We obligate ourselves to help the Amalgamated in its just struggle, should it ever become necessary to work much longer than the above specified time, so that a victory might be insured for the fellow-workers of our sister organization."

NEW JERSEY EMBROIDERERS IN GENERAL STRIKE

On Thursday, February 17th, at 10 A. M., the embroidery workers in the numerous small towns of Hudson County, New Jersey, have quit work and walked out in a general strike, at the call of the union, the Embroidery Workers' Local No. 8 of our International.

The International has been conducting minority work among the embroiderers of New Jersey for over a year, maintaining an office at 140 Bergenline Avenue, Union Hill, with Brother Conrad Muetke in charge. The embroidery industry, which is the principal industry in Hudson County, employs over 2,000 men and women, scattered among 250 small and large shops. It is a highly skilled trade and requires years of training.

In New York the embroidery trade is 100 per cent organized, and the only weak spot in the industry consisted in the fact that the New Jersey embroiderers were not organized and were competing with union standards in New York City. This general strike is principally intended to create uniform working conditions throughout the trade and to unionize the shops.

The leader of the strike, Brother Maury Weiss, is confident of its outcome and does not expect it to last long. From surface indications, it would seem that the manufacturers will not offer very stubborn resistance as the trade is now at the highest peak and no strike breakers can be obtained at any price, anywhere.

UNITY BAZAAR AND PAGEANT BEGINS NEXT MONDAY

The Unity Bazaar and Pageant arranged by the Waist and Dressmakers locals of New York City will open its doors on Monday next, February 21st, on the eve of Washington's Birthday, at the New Star Casino, 107th Street and Lexington Avenue, at 7:30 in the evening.

The bazaar will be a splendid example of what can be accomplished by the workers themselves in the field of artistic achievement. Instead of getting outside commercial and professional entertainers, the workers themselves will be the feature of the day. A Unity Pageant will be presented under the guidance of a layette, a recognized authority in the most plastic of all the arts—the dance, in which the workers will symbolically portray the struggle of labor for united action and co-operation. These workers will come directly from the shop or now, during the strike, from the picket line.

Another form of giving expression to the aspiration of the workers through their own effort and organization at this Pageant will be the Unity Chorus. This chorus has been trained by Mr. L. Bronshteyn, who is well known to the workers as a vigorous

and enthusiastic advocate of workers' music.

And in addition to that will come the great bazaar. Literally, dozens of booths have been supplied with an abundance of articles presented by the workers of the various shops in the cloak, suit, reaser, whipsnaps, children's dress, embroidery and leather goods trade. These will be sold to the visitors at prices which will represent only a fraction of their real value. Every cent realized from these sales will go toward the great purpose of maintaining the Unity House and of wiping out all deficits and losses from its books.

During the two days of the Bazaar, several concerts will be given and among the artists that will appear at these entertainments, there will be some of the best known performers on the Jewish stage. This is the last time readers of "Justice" are reminded of this splendid opportunity to combine recreation, amusement and artistic joy with the noble purpose of aiding that great institution of ours, the Unity House. Tens of thousands of our readers will doubtless respond to this call and help make this affair a huge success.

PRESIDENT SCHLESINGER ACHIEVES HARMONY IN CHICAGO

President Schlesinger returned yesterday from Chicago, where he spent several days on a mission of peace and reconciliation.

During the past several months there has been brewing a great deal of discontent within the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union of Chicago. The principal causes lack of this were the delay in the election of business agents of the Joint Board, a great amount of irritation caused by the unusual dullness which prevailed in the industry for a long time, and the slow pace at which the officers and promoters who belong to Local No. 100, were being transferred to Local No. 8 and No. 81. This factional disagreement has become very acute of late and finally both sides called upon President Schlesinger to come to Chicago and settle the difference of opinion.

On Sunday and Monday, February 13th and 14th, President Schlesinger held two prolonged meetings with the Joint Board and succeeded in straightening out all points at issue. It was agreed to have election for officers at an early date, to be mutually agreed upon by both contending sides, and to accelerate the transfer of members to their proper locals, in accordance with the decision of the General Executive Board. Aside from that, President Schlesinger has succeeded in removing a great deal of the personal animosities engendered in the course of the fight between the group in the Chicago Joint Board.

Upon his return to New York, President Schlesinger expressed the hope that his trip has borne fruit in the sense that harmony and comradeship again prevails in the ranks of the Chicago cloak and dressmakers.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK

By MAX D. DANISH

THE UPTOWN STREET CAR STRIKE

IN the New Jersey State Legislature, last week, the proponents of a measure to form a State Constabulary in that State on the lines of similar state police bodies in Pennsylvania and New York, have advanced the argument that these state constables will not be employed to break strikes, to interfere in conflicts between capital and labor, etc.; that they will be employed exclusively for the purpose of ridding the country districts of vagrants, bandits and lawbreakers of similar description.

A reply to this argument, as far as New York State is concerned, came quickly, after a few days, when several troops of the New York State Constabulary were brought to Albany to fight the street car strikers of that city in their attempts to resist a material cut in wages ordered by the traction interests of Albany, Troy, Schenectady and a number of other Hudson River cities. This strike has been in progress for more than two weeks and has been marked by an unusual display of brutality on the part of the police and local authorities towards the strikers. The strikers have been clubbed and arrested by the dozen whenever they attempted to demonstrate against the strike breakers who had been brought into the city by the traction interests to take the place of the workers and to overcome their resistance.

Union labor in Albany and in the surrounding cities has, meanwhile, organized an intensive relief movement for the traction employees, and the company's refusal to arbitrate with its men has added to their determination to fight it out to a finish. The employment of the State Constabulary to break this strike is far from brought out even a protest on the part of those legislators in Albany, who at the time of the passage of the New York State Constabulary Bill had made profuse promises to organized labor that these constables shall never be used in conflicts between capital and labor. Since the law was enacted, however, the State Constabulary have been used on numerous occasions in strikes, and the present case at Albany is only one of the most flagrant examples.

For that matter, it would be idle to expect any relief from Albany for this strike. The preponderant majority of the members of both houses represent the other side. Labor is only represented there through a few ineffectual and their voice no matter how trenchant, would be howled down by the reactionary majority which reigns today unopposed at Albany.

WHY COAL PRICES ARE STILL HIGH

OUTSPOKEN charges of proffering in the coal industry is the striking feature in the annual report of J. S. Williams, the Controller of the Currency, submitted last week to Congress.

The Controller, who speaks with authority based upon firsthand and unimpeachable information, charges the retail combines in the coal trade with maintaining the prices of coal at a high level in spite of the fact that the wholesale price has dropped considerably, or has returned to pre-war level. By closing down mines, the output was greatly reduced in order that the coal operators might obtain the exorbitant profits realized during the war, rather than the more moderate profits they would have had to accept if a maximum output had been maintained.

The Controller continues in his report that neither this country nor foreign countries can afford to pay the inflated prices and that the increase which has taken place in wages since the war does not excuse present prices for coal. The coal operators who prior to the war eagerly sought large contracts for coal at a margin of 10c. to 20c. a ton, have in some cases during the past year exacted prices to yield them a profit of \$10.00 a ton, or more. This means that their net profits, in some instances, have amounted to one hundred times as much as a ton as those which they were willing and glad to accept before the war. It is also painfully clear that the highest prices paid for coal have been exacted from buyers who could least afford to pay the exorbitant rates, namely, the huge masses of small consumers throughout the country and the impoverished consumers in Italy, France, Austria and the smaller countries in Central Europe.

These charges are clear, substantial and irrefutable. Can any relief be expected in view of this open accusation of profiteering? Can we hope for a national investigation of the coal business? Frankly, not. Somehow or other these periodic malcontents by one Congressional subcommittee or another manage to die an early death, while the merry game of robbing the workers of the world continues uninterrupted.

MOONEY FRAMEUP LAID BARE

THE confession of John MacDonal, the principal witness in the case of Thomas Mooney, convicted on charges growing out of a bomb explosion in San Francisco on July 22, 1916, has created a tremendous sensation all over the country.

While the general press carried only small notices of this sensational discovery, organized labor from one end of the country to the other is deeply interested in this affair. For the past four years labor bodies have conducted a strenuous campaign to prove the innocence of Mooney and his associates. Organized labor remained unshaken in its conviction that he was railroaded to prison through a conspiracy of the capitalist interests on the Pacific Coast. It has maintained right along that the witnesses who have sworn away the freedom of Mooney and others were perjurers and that his accusers were aiming principally at the breaking down of the labor movement in California.

Search for this man MacDonal had been under way several months. He was found working as a street car conductor and watchman in Trenton, N. J., and early last week he left for San Francisco in the company of seven lawyers, to appear before an extraordinary Grand Jury to give information about the frame-up of Mooney.

The importance of the MacDonal confession will become manifest when it is remembered that Mooney was within a couple of weeks of a disgraceful death on the scaffold. All the other witnesses in the Mooney case have been totally discredited by this time and the testimony of MacDonal is the only one upon which the continued imprisonment of Mooney could possibly rest. It appears that it is not possible at this time, because of technicalities, to get a new trial for Mooney. The Governor can pardon Mooney, as he undoubtedly will, but the matter ought not to be allowed to rest there. Of

gained labor throughout the country is interested that the Mooney conspiracy should be exposed before the entire world and the interests responsible for the perpetration of this huge crime be brought to justice.

THE NEW IMMIGRATION BILL

THE enemies of free immigration are apparently still at work. After the Johnson Bill, which aimed at the putting of a stop to immigration for one year, had lost every chance of passing through the Senate, a new bill, submitted by Senator Clegg of Connecticut, was introduced in the Senate a few days ago. As drafted, this substitute bill would affect largely immigrants coming from Europe. It would regulate the flow of immigrants to 5 per cent. of persons of such nationality already residing in the United States, as determined by the last census. Another feature of the bill is that not more than 20 per cent. of the total number of aliens admissible from any country in one year would be admitted during any one month.

The friends of liberal immigration laws will be just as strongly opposed to this bill as they were to the former. Already protests against the new project have begun to pour into both houses of Congress, and this piece of legislation is being characterized as "opposed to American principles, unscientific and contrary to the highest dictates of humanity." At a great meeting of the Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society in the Hippodrome in New York City, a resolution protesting against this bill was adopted, conditioning its acceptance by such amendments as will make possible the reunion of families, a more just attitude toward minority peoples and the newly created and enlarged countries in Europe, and also that the percentage of limitation shall be in accordance with the census of 1920, and not the census of 1910.

An Assistant Secretary of Labor Post had remarked in the course of his speech at the Hippodrome meeting, "persecutions stimulate immigration to this country of boasted freedom and equality. But when the refugees arrive they encounter the barbed wire of our immigration laws. These laws really do seem unreasonable at a cursory glance, but in operation their cruelties are at times almost unspeakable."

CATHOLIC WAR COUNCIL AGAINST OPEN SHOP

NO one could accuse the National Catholic War Council of being a radical organization. It consists of a number of prominent heads of the Catholic church in America and has, since the war, constituted itself as the mouthpiece of that church on industrial and economic matters.

In the present campaign by organized capital against the trade union movement, this Council has come in for a share of criticism from the anti-union propaganda. In a reply to this denunciation of its declaration on the "open shop" movement, issued last week, the Council reaffirms its former assertion that the open shop movement conducted by a certain group of "strong employers" is an out-and-out attempt to cripple the labor movement. We quote a few passages from this reply:

"The principal issue in this controversy," it states, "is that of collective bargaining between the union and the employers. Unless the members of a union are permitted to deal with the employer as a body, their union membership is futile. An open shop which allows the employees to belong to a union, but does not permit the union to deal with the employer as a union is worthless."

"The President of the Bethlehem

Steel Corporation declared before the Lockwood Housing Committee that he maintained an open shop but that he would not deal with the unions even though they embrace 95 per cent. of his employees. Not only did he maintain this kind of open shop in his corporation, but in conjunction with other makers of steel, by refusing to sell his products to holders who would not adopt the same policy."

The report goes on to enumerate the various other national employers' associations in the essential industries who declared their hostility to labor unionism and determination to crush it through the open shop. It concludes by saying that "the present issue is that of collective bargaining between the employer and the union employees. Trade unions have been formed for the purpose of furnishing the best and most suitable means for helping each individual member to better his condition to the utmost in body, mind and property. Who will dare to assert that this requirement is realized in a labor union which is not permitted to deal with the employer?"

HOWAT OF KANSAS AGAIN DEFIES ALLEN'S COURT

ALEXANDER HOWAT, the President of the Kansas Coal Miners' District and all the other members of the District Executive Board of the Union, have again been arrested last week on charges of disobeying the mandate of the Kansas Industrial Court, in calling a strike in the mine fields of Kansas.

This court action is the outgrowth of a strike in two mines in the Pittsburg field, which resulted from the controversy of the miners' union with the mine owners. The Attorney General contended that the strike was in violation of an injunction issued last summer by a local judge, and that the miners' officials were in contempt of court.

The calling of this strike, and the retaliation by the court through the arrest of Howat and his co-conspirators, is but another test of strength between the miners' forces and the Kansas Industrial Court, the pet creature of Governor Allen of that State. This is not the first time that Howat has defied the authority and the jurisdiction of this industrial court to forbid strikes in Kansas. This time the matter will be fought to a finish, it appears, and will, very likely, be brought up before the United States Supreme Court for determination. It is interesting to note in this respect that industrial court bills similar to the one operating in Kansas have been recently introduced in Iowa, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Texas, Colorado and Washington, recently, and upon the determination of the Kansas case will probably depend the fate of these bills in the above mentioned States.

RESOLUTION

The following resolution has been forwarded to us by the Joint Board of the Toledo Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, which we take pleasure in reproducing below:

WHEREAS, there have been forwarded to Brother Schlessinger some malicious misstatements regarding the conduct of our chairman, Brother Louis Friend, in which he is charged with misrepresentation of the attitude of President Schlessinger with regard to the recent settlement in Toledo, and with having made injurious statements about him, and with having read a letter from President Schlessinger which has influenced us against him and our International;

BE IT, THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to President Schlessinger in order that he may absolve Brother Friend from all blame arising from these unfounded statements.

PRINCE KROPOTKIN AS A TRADE UNIONIST

By S. Y.

Readers of "Justice" have surely heard about Prince Kropotkin, the Russian aristocrat, who, in his young days, sacrificed all his riches, position and the lure of a great scientific career, and has dedicated his life to the struggle for liberty, for which he was persecuted and hounded from pillar to post in every land on the continent.

Kropotkin frequently called himself in his writings, a Socialist. In common with all Socialists, he was convinced that the abolition of private property, the elimination of economic competition between man and man would lead to a fundamental change in our lives. On this latter point he went even further than Socialists of all other schools, who used to be, and still are, largely collectivists. Kropotkin was a communist in the fullest sense of the word, the advocate of a social order in which each was to receive according to his needs and give to society according to his abilities—a communitarian social order which is certainly not of the kind that is being at present enacted in Russia.

Unlike the Marxists and the followers of Engels, Kropotkin was opposed, in addition to private property, to the institution of the State. In his opinion the State was not merely a reflection, or a superstructure over the institution of private property. He considered it an independent, separate will which could not be ameliorated through the abolition of private property. The Socialists of other schools advanced the proposal that the State take over the management of production and distribution after private property had been abolished, and in procedure order and scientific management in place of the economic chaos prevailing under the present system. The school of which Prince Kropotkin was a prominent leader, the communist-anarchist school, offered a distinctly different solution. The trade unions and labor organizations were, in his opinion, the best-fitted agencies for the taking over of the man-

agement and control of industry after private ownership had been done away with. The trade unions would thus become the chief positive economic factor in society, which would be regulated not from above, by a State, but from below, by the workers' organizations, the labor unions.

We are not concerned here in presenting the merits of this particular school in preference to the other Socialist theories. We merely intend to convey in these few lines the idea that it was the theory which Kropotkin advocated that placed the greatest weight upon the labor movement, the function of the trade union organization in the economic structure of society. Kropotkin, a clear-headed, scientific communist, could not help being a thorough-going trade unionist at the same time.

Of course, it must not be presumed that Kropotkin at all times in accord with what the trade unionists have done. At various times in his long career, he had found fault with the conduct of labor organizations and the methods adopted by them in the course of their economic activities. Nevertheless, he remained a staunch supporter of the trade union movement all his life.

It was Peter Kropotkin who had made the writer of these lines understand the true significance of the labor movement. And it appears to me that the trade unionists have lost more than anyone else, through the death of Kropotkin. We wish to call attention of our readers to two of his books which should be of particular interest to them. The first book which we recommend is his "Memoirs of a Revolutionist." The book reads like an extraordinary novel and is at the same time full of information. The most charming pages of this book are devoted to the life, interests and strivings of the workers whom he had at first met in Switzerland. Prince Kropotkin, a scion of the highest Russian nobility, regarded the worker as the true aristocrat of society. He did not look patronizingly

down upon him, but treated him as an equal and had come not only to teach him, but to learn from him.

Another book of his which is replete with interest for workers is "Fields, Factories and Workshops." This book will be a true revelation to many of our readers. The principal point in this book is his fiery appeal for a union between science and labor. He is of the opinion that the man who works with his brain only, as well as the man who works only with his hands, cannot be happy and cannot do his work intelligently. Only a combination of both can bring man to the highest form of development. Kropotkin himself gave us a striking example of this practice. He was not only a scientist, but a manual worker. Once, visiting his house, I found him binding books. Upon inquiry, he explained to me that he was receiving books from every corner of the globe, and not wishing to consign them to the waste basket, he would bind them and conserve them for his library. He learned himself the art of bookbinding and he regarded it as the best form of recreation and rest. After working for several hours at the bench, his eagerness for writing was so much stronger and his head worked with greater clarity.

Both these books display the intimacy with which the thinker and the born aristocrat, Peter Kropotkin, was intertwined with labor. I recall vividly a conversation which I had with him about the trade union movement. To my argument that trade unionism tends to raise an aristocracy among labor which could eventually become the greatest handicap in the struggle for the complete emancipation of the workers, he replied: "It is true that this is likely to happen to some individuals in the labor movement, but never to the workers as a class. The inherent revolutionary sentiment of the workers cannot be blunted because their condition is becoming improved. The more the workers win, the greater become their demands. This is only the logical

trend of human nature." "It is an error to think," he explained further, "that dogs are ever led, or will ever lead, to revolution. It is the great dogs for achieving better and more beautiful in life which drive the revolutionary movement forward and forth." He brought on this thought with particular clarity in his famous work, "The Great French Revolution." To my remark that a revolutionist must not concern himself with such palliatives as the winning of a few more cents and that such activity might force him to give up his revolutionary ideals, he replied: "Revolution is not a game. Do you mean by that? Haricades, gun play? Why, these are only the decorative parts of the affair. The true social revolution is being created within the trade union movement. It is this fight for a few more cents, as you say, which constitutes the real revolution, and every worker who is a true revolutionist must devote his life and activity to work in his trade union."

"What is he to do there, if not to agitate for a social revolution?" I asked. "Oh, no," he replied, "it is just the thing which he should not do. With such agitation he will make himself impossible in the trade union. The trade union is no place for pretty phrases. The social revolution is not being talked about there; it is being practically enacted. In order to obtain the full condensed of his co-workers, he must fall in line and be part of the normal activities of the trade union."

We could talk without end about the life of this great man. Books could be written about his stirring revolutionary career. We hope, however, that through those few lines about Kropotkin, the readers will conceive that he was not a stranger to them and that in his death the labor world has lost one of its best and most loyal friends. If Kropotkin was heretofore practically unknown to the men and women of labor, his death ought to make him an active living factor. Like many other great spirits in world's history, the influence of his ideals and the tenderness of his soul will be felt even stranger after he had departed from among the living.

POOR SEASON NO EXCUSE FOR DISCHARGES

Decision of Cleveland Cloth Referees

A decision which disposes of a very important question for workers in the cloth trade was rendered last week by the Board of Referees in the Cleveland Cloth and Suit Industry, consisting of Judge Julian W. Mack, Samuel J. Rosenbush and John E. McLean. The subject in dispute was the following:

The cloak firm of Landemann-Hirschman, one of the largest cloak firms in Cleveland, discharged last month eight men of their pressing department, giving as reason therefor the reorganization of the shop. The firm alleged that the season did not come up to their expectations, that it could not employ all its men in the pressing room, and instead of employing the entire staff on part time and sending thereby dissatisfaction among all the workers, it deemed it to be better advantage that these eight men leave the shop and go to work somewhere else, so that the remaining pressers might have a full week's work.

On Monday, February 7th, the Board of Referees heard the appeal.

After a session that lasted several hours, the Referees confirmed the award of the Impartial Chairman and handed down the following decision:

"In our judgment there is no ground for reversing the decision of the Impartial Chairman. As we have stated heretofore, an appeal to the

Referees does not involve a complete re-opening of the entire case or permit the introduction of additional testimony, except perhaps under extraordinary circumstances, but involves only an examination of the record before the Impartial Chairman and the determination whether his findings of fact are supported by the preponderance of the evidence and whether the conclusions based thereon are in accordance with the agreement of the parties.

The burden is on the appellant to show that the preponderance of the evidence is against the findings of fact. Not only has this not been shown, but in our judgment the preponderance of the evidence sustains the findings.

Specifically, we concur in the definition of slack periods as stated in Point 2 of the Decision. We further concur in the conclusion, without reference to the prime factor rule based upon the alleged failure to show cause for the discharge to the Executive Committee of the Manufacturers' Association prior to the discharge, all of the other reasons stated in Point 2 of the Decision support the conclusion that the discharge was not in accordance with the rights of the manufacturer under the agreement.

We interpret the word "time idle" to be the Decision of the Impartial Chairman and as in any way impairing the good faith of the employer in

exercising what he believed to be his rights, but only as indicating that he had misinterpreted what those rights were.

There must be some limit to the right of reorganization, otherwise, to port the extreme test, it can be exercised day by day. We agree with the interpretation put by the Impartial Chairman upon our earlier decision limiting this right to the opening of the busy season, subject, of course, to some extraordinary circumstances, such as death, fire, or other calamities, or extraordinary happenings, none of which, of course, appear in this case. We are not now endeavoring to set a day or a week limit to the phrase, but it clearly does not include the peak of any particular manufacturer's season.

We appreciate fully that a prospective season may turn out to be disappointing, and that after the men are on the stand the actual amount of work to be done may be less than was contemplated. In our judgment the number of ordinary employees of the shop should not be determined at such time and by such consideration. In order that there may be some opportunity to secure work by those who would otherwise be discharged, we deem it essential that the discharge incident to a proper reorganization take place at the opening of the busy season.

Furthermore, we deem it proper to point out that while from the manufacturer's standpoint it might be better at all times to employ only the exact number of people to whom full time work can be given, the agreement between the parties contemplates no such condition. Not only in the slack season, but in the busy season as well, has it been deemed better that a larger number of people should be employed on part time than that a smaller number should be employed full time when the expectation of full time for all of the ordinary employees is disappointed. Not only is this the basis of the agreement, but it is the wise basis in this industry.

We recognize that under such a system the greater the part time work, the greater the danger there may be of slackness on the part of week-work employees, in order to work as long a time as possible. Under the production standard system, this danger is minimized. The remedy is the discharge of willing slackers, not an attempt at reorganization because the orders are coming in and as long as they are coming in there has been no expected. Such a discharge will always be approved by the Impartial Chairman. The trouble and difficulty of proving slackness on the part of the week workers cannot be made a justification for reorganization. It is proper to point out that in the very argument presented to us the employers concede that if these people had been piece workers there would have been no reorganization.

(Continued on page 2)

JUSTICE

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EDITORIALS

A RARE DEMONSTRATION OF SOLIDARITY

The strike of the waist and dress makers, which brought to a standstill almost the entire industry in New York, was a demonstration of solidarity and strength which augurs well for the future of the struggle of the workers for a "place in the sun."

It must be kept in mind that the dressmakers did not leave their shops because their demands had been spurned by their employers. The majority of the dress manufacturers settled with the union before the strike had been called. The same holds true with regard to those dressmakers who belong to Local No. 23 and are under the jurisdiction of the Cloakmakers' Joint Board. These too have worked under union conditions and had no specific grievances against their employers.

The majority of the strikers have, therefore, left their shops not for their direct personal interests. They knew, nevertheless, that it was important to organize the entire waist and dress industry, and left their shops together with the non-organized minority, forming one great fighting column of invincible strength. Surely we cannot imagine a greater demonstration of workers' unity, one displaying a greater influence of an organization over its members, and one permeated with greater idealism.

When these lines are being written, the strike has not yet ended. In most of the union shops the workers have already returned to work. Many of the non-union employers are still, nevertheless, hoping against hope that they may avoid the introduction of union standards in their shops. These will soon learn that the International and the Waist and Dress Joint Board are determined to equalize conditions in every dress and waist shop of the city, their opposition notwithstanding.

Meanwhile, the organization work, the principal purpose of this strike, goes on uninterrupted. And once the workers will have been organized, they will, sooner or later, achieve the desired conditions in the shops. The present time is also the most opportune for the transfer of all the dressmakers of Local No. 25 to Local No. 22. The carrying out of the decision of the Chicago Convention and of the General Executive Board is an important part of the general organization plan supported by this strike. We do not doubt that all the dressmakers who value highly the strength and the fighting ability of their union, will, or have already transferred to their own Local No. 22, whose business it will henceforth be to take care of the particular interests of the workers in the dress industry.

WE CONGRATULATE LOCAL NO. 15

Maybe there are members in the Philadelphia Waist and Dressmakers' Union who regret the fact that a strike was avoided in their industry. We take it, however, for granted that the great majority of the members of Local No. 15 are endowed with good common sense and are convinced that the averting of a strike under present conditions and under the terms under which it was averted in Philadelphia, is a distinct gain for the Union.

Of course, all was ready in Philadelphia for the fight. And it is quite certain that the Philadelphia workers would have waged as valiant a fight as they have in the past. It is, indeed, quite probable that because of the fact that they had prepared for the struggle that the manufacturers were moved to retain the agreement for the time being, until next July. However that may be, we may feel gratified that the strike had been avoided, for under the best of conditions the Philadelphia workers could not have won through a strike more than what they have achieved without a strike.

At the same time, though it may be superfluous, attention must be called to the fact that according to the understanding, the old agreement is to remain in force only until July, 1921. No one can foretell at present what the manufacturers of Philadelphia might be inclined to do at the expiration of this term. The best that the members of Local No. 15 can do now is to take advantage of these few months and fortify their position from every point and angle, to multiply their activities and to amplify their treasury, which is a very essential factor in times of struggle.

THE MORAL VICTORY OF THE AMALGAMATED

In a moral sense, the Amalgamated has already earned its victory. There can be no doubt that the entire enlightened public opinion is on the side of the big clothing workers' organization. Its accusers and detractors have been driven into a defensive position. The whole charge of "Bolshevism" the chief trump card of the clothiers and their astute counsel, has burst like a soap bubble and vanished into thin air.

It is true the trumped-up charges are still in the courts. It is, nevertheless, quite certain already that no matter what the adjudication of the case might be, whether in favor or against the Amalgamated, it will not hurt the Union, and its great work, to

improve the lot of the tailors, will not be retarded through this decision for one moment.

It must be remarked here that the so-called "communists" who have been maligning in their organs the Amalgamated and its leaders, have unwittingly, perhaps, done the Amalgamated an excellent service. Professor Seligman in his letter to the "Times," in which he sides fully with the Amalgamated, makes splendid use of the attacks of our quasi-revolutionaries upon the clothing workers' organization. Professor Seligman writes:

"Far from the clothing workers' association being permeated by 'Bolshevistic ideals,' the fact is that their program of conciliation and cooperation with the employers has earned for them the enmity of the extreme radical groups. In recent numbers of *The Struggle* and *The Teller*—both of them Communist labor papers—you will find attacks upon the clothing workers' association. As recently as February 6 of this year *The Workers' Challenge*—another Communist labor paper—was shouting: 'Not for one iota can we praise Hillman, Shlipakoff & Co. They fooled us too long! Enough of their advocacy of peace and negotiations with employers!'"

It appears, therefore, that the attacks of the communists have come in good stead at present for the Amalgamated. A few more such attacks and even the "Times" will not be able to raise the cry that the Amalgamated is a "Bolshevist" union. For this, our so-called radicals have themselves done the labor movement. The further proof of the complete vaporization of the "Bolshevistic" charges against the Amalgamated, we can cite the fact that a great many employers have begun to settle with the union. Very soon others will follow in their steps until the victory of the Amalgamated will have been completely assured from every point of view.

A WORD FOR THE UNITY BAZAAR

It is hardly necessary to tell our readers what the Unity House is. It is one of our best institutions, planned and reared by Local No. 25. This Unity House, the vacation place for the members of Local No. 25, enjoys at present a well-earned national reputation. Unity House is not only more a side issue, but one of the important activities of the union.

Nevertheless, the Unity House is a huge undertaking which still does not pay its own way. And in order to cover the last annual deficit, a deficit which could not be avoided, Local No. 25 has arranged a Unity Bazaar and Pageant. We need not assure our readers that everything possible was done to provide this affair with unlimited resources of inspiring amusement. The great masses of the workers of this Bazaar and Pageant on February 21st and 22nd will receive adequate proof of this friendly assertion.

We wish to remind the readers of "Justice" of the fact that while the Unity House was bought by Local No. 25 for its own members, it has been, during the last few seasons, visited by members of all our other locals. It is, therefore, reasonable to expect that our entire membership in New York City, no matter to what local they belong, will come to this Bazaar and Pageant and help wipe out the losses of last year. Remember the place, the day and the purpose: New Star Casino, on Washington's Birthday, February 21st and 22nd—to put the Unity House on a sound and solid foundation.

TO REMOVE A MISUNDERSTANDING

We have learned from certain sources that the report of the debate at the last quarterly meeting of the G. E. B. was misunderstood by some as an attack against all and everything that was done in the cloak industry of Cleveland during the last year.

We deem it necessary, therefore, to state that such was not the case. The General Executive Board had made its attitude toward Cleveland clear upon many occasions previously, and it is beyond our understanding how persons with their eyes open could have distorted the plain reading of that report in such a manner.

The Plight of the Austrian Garment Workers

By T. VAN DER HEEG
Secretary International Clothing Workers' Federation

In the January number of the Austrian tailors' trade journal, the organ of the Tailors' and Allied Trades' Union of Austria, an article appears which is an excellent light on the economic position of Austria and on the misery prevailing among the proletariat.

During the time that the Social Democrats formed part of the government, the responsibility for the terrible advance in the cost of living was placed on their shoulders. The leaders of the bourgeois parties and particularly of the Christian Social Party attributed the misery in Austria to the policy pursued by the Social Democratic Party. They stated in effect: "Remove all restrictions to trade and we shall obtain plenty. Introduce uncensored competition and prices will be forced down."

After the triumph of reaction at the general election, the restrictions on trade were removed. Profligate traders of foodstuffs extended the scope of their grim pursuits with the result that prices have not declined, but have continually advanced. It

can be now seen quite clearly that the Austrian population was deceived and in fact is still laboring under deception. The difficulties in which Austria is now placed are due not so much to the fact that it has not as long as the value of Austrian money abroad remains practically at zero, and the country is not in the position to purchase material for industrial and productive purposes. For this reason it is essential that any sort of wastage should be dealt with severely in Austria. Nothing should be imported that is not absolutely essential for maintenance of the people, or which is not sent to Austria for the sole purpose of manufacture. The new Austrian Government, however, has adopted a contrary standpoint.

The tailors' trade journal comments on the huge quantities of luxury articles which are being imported, utilized, and hoarded by the possessing class to the great disadvantage of the Austrian rate of exchange. Furthermore, the remaining restrictions on trade have been removed, and these two factors are responsible for the

AT THE SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

By S. YANOVSKY

III

I shall endeavor to give in this final chapter of the review of the last meeting of the General Executive Board a summary of the decisions which the Board has reached after due deliberation.

Two of these decisions have already been mentioned in "Justice," the first, concerning the assessment of \$1.50 on every member of the International to raise a fund for the present and prospective conflicts waged by our Union. The second decision referred to a contribution of two hours' work by its members to the Amalgamated strikes.

It is worth while mentioning that while the second decision was adopted without hardly any debate, the first decision provoked a considerable exchange of opinion. The General Executive Board was not too anxious to levy at this time a tax upon the membership. After General Secretary Baroff had, however, made clear to the work workers in the Board the financial situation of the International, it became clear that there was no other way out. One speaker expressed the hope that our locals, as well as all our members, will regard this as inevitable, and that this assessment will be speedily accepted. It was decided to call upon the locals to advance the money immediately from their treasury, pending the collection of same from the members.

The other decision adopted by the Board bear upon candidates in the various cities where the manufacturers have taken advantage of the difficult industrial situation to strike a blow at the Union. The woolen manufacturers of Philadelphia have, for instance, taken it into their heads that the wages of the cutters and the work workers in the mills should be reduced, even though they could not advance one second reason for this reduction. It was decided to authorize President Schlesinger to act with full discretion in the matter and not to hesitate before any drastic measures, if necessary. (When these lines were being written, the situation in Philadelphia was adjusted peacefully.)

In Boston a strike in the shops of the local cloak employers was declared shortly after the Board had met. President Schlesinger was authorized to negotiate with the employers and he left no means untried to come to a peaceful settlement with the employers. The latter, however, decided not to deal with the Union any more and have provoked a fight. In Boston it is not a question of wages, hours or other working conditions. The fight is being waged by the Union, and the International together with the local joint board will,

of course, fight until the strike is won.

The decision to declare a strike in the shop of Bishop, Stern & Stein in Cincinnati, adopted by the Board, was also carried out since that time. Vice-President Lefkowitz left for Cincinnati immediately and the International is now supporting the fight both morally and financially. As regards the situation in several other cities, from which reports have reached the General Office that the workers have expressed a willingness to concede to the demands of the manufacturers and to return to piece work, it was decided that such locals would be suspended from the International. The General Executive Board went on record against any compromise in fundamental matters of policy.

The decision adopted with reference to Local No. 25 was prompted by the same motives. This local had sent a committee to the Boston meeting and requested the Board that the International allow this local to act in all matters independently in accordance with its own free will. The committee, in substantiating its request, made a statement that Local No. 25 consists of workers of a mentality distinctly different from all the other workers in the ladies' garment trades, and that they, therefore, must be left to rule their organization by themselves. They also claimed that all that the International is doing at present in connection with Local No. 25 is a menace to the existence of the local. The members of the Board listened to the committee very attentively, and after the debate was over, the unanimous decision was that Local No. 25, like all other locals, must carry out the decisions of the International if it wants to belong to the International Union. As regards the allegation that the members of Local No. 25 are of a peculiar type and psychology and must be treated differently than any other local, one of the vice-presidents, who is well acquainted with the membership of Local No. 25, expressed his firm conviction that the disturbances in that local originated from the very fact that the leaders of the Union on many occasions treated the members of that local as if they really were made of different clay than many other workers. The truth of the matter is, however, that the members of Local No. 25 are not any better or worse, not any more intelligent or educated, than other workers in our various industries. And the members of Local No. 25 might as well forget about the claim to a privileged position in our International Union.

The Board also adopted a decision to grant the Pressers' Branch of Local No. 25 a special charter, which

was denied to them heretofore due to an opposition from the Cloak Pressers' Local No. 35. Committees from the Pressers' Branch and from Local No. 35 appeared before the Board and presented arguments pretty well known to readers of "Justice" from previous reports. The General Executive Board elected a committee of three, consisting of Brothers Heller, Seidman and Halper, to bring an amicable settlement between both parties. The decision of this sub-committee was that the pressers of Local No. 25 be granted a charter upon certain conditions, one of which is that the next convention shall have the final say as to whether these pressers should retain their charter. The committee of the Pressers' Branch was not completely satisfied with this decision. Nevertheless, it had to abide by the terms under which it was made and accepted it.

A sub-committee was elected at the request of Local No. 22, to investigate their claim for the transfer of the cloak dressmakers belonging at present to Local No. 23. It was, however, understood that this is not an easily solved problem. The cloak dressmakers of Local No. 23 are quite contented with their own local. They are under the protection of the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union which guards vigilantly their interests. Their dressmakers would be very reluctant to transfer to a new local and this matter was, therefore, left for the time being a subject for further debate. It was nevertheless decided that all the dressmakers of Local No. 23 must join in the strike of the dressmakers, to be called out shortly, and that the agreement with the dress manufacturers should be made both for the dressmakers of Local No. 23 and Local No. 22. This decision of the Board was subsequently carried out faithfully.

President Schlesinger and Vice-President Sigman have rendered a report on the conference of the representatives of the needle industry, summoned by our International in December, 1920. The attitude of our delegates with regard to the form and substance of this Needle Workers' Alliance and the attitude of the other delegates were made clear to the members of the Board. The Board unanimously approved the stand taken by our delegates, as being in conformity with the decision of our Chicago Convention and the subsequent decisions of the General Executive Board. In general, the report of our delegates to the conference of the Needle Trades Alliance has made a favorable impression. The decision of the Board is that the Board had felt that there was lacking enthusiasm at the very be-

ginning of the creation of this federation of unions in the needle industry. It was clear, however, that it was not the fault of our International and its delegates at these conferences. There was expressed that perhaps in time, when the needle workers' alliance will begin to function (many of the affiliated organizations have not yet made known their decisions about it), this sentiment will change and the Alliance will fulfill all hopes placed in it.

Several committees have appeared before the Board in the course of the sessions with various requests for all sorts of assistance. There was a committee from the Embroidery Workers, appealing for aid in organizing work in New Jersey; a committee from Worcester with a similar request; a committee from Toledo; a committee from Local No. 34, Ladies' Tailors; a committee from Toledo in the person of Brother Amdur, who graphically described the local situation; and several other committees. The General Executive Board gave all these committees a courteous hearing, and in most cases instructed the General Office to take care of these requests.

In addition to these committees, there were read at the meeting all the reports of the members of the Board and the general offices, covering their activities for the past three months. These reports were very interesting and in our review we have had the opportunity to touch upon their substance in one way or another. No wish to draw the attention of the readers once more to the report of Vice-President Sigman, about his experiences as manager of the Waist and Dress Joint Board. He brought out a very pointedly the fact that there still are in this union a group of persons parading under high-sounding names, who are imbued with one definite aim and purpose: to demoralize the organization and to bring chaos and tumult into it. They make no secret of their intentions and claim quite openly that they mean to break the Union, if they can, and that they will do so with every means at their disposal. There are not very many of these disturbers in the Union, and according to his opinion, there is no other way of keeping the meeting in an orderly manner but to adopt disciplinary measures and to take away from them the opportunity to be Union officers and members of the executive committee, etc.

A step in this direction has already been made. A few of them have already been charged as malicious disturbers, and he believes that if this policy be carried out with determination, the present state of demoralization will cease to exist. The General Executive Board has expressed its full unanimity and confidence in Vice-President Sigman in this matter.

advance of prices. Wage earners generally have theretofore no other course open to them than to demand higher wages to meet the advance in prices. Wages must increase in the same proportion as prices advance owing to the constant raising policy pursued by destitute Austria.

The precarious condition of the working class in Austria can be seen from the memorandum presented by the Trades Union Commission of German-Austria to the International Trades Union Congress held in Nottingham, 1920. An abstract contained therein on the state of foodstuffs in Vienna during the period from 1814 to 1920 is reproduced hereunder.

Retail prices in Vienna, in Austrian crowns:

	1914	1919	1920
Wheat, per bushel.....	1.00	1.00	1.00
Wheat, per bushel.....	1.00	1.00	1.00
Wheat, per bushel.....	1.00	1.00	1.00
Wheat, per bushel.....	1.00	1.00	1.00
Wheat, per bushel.....	1.00	1.00	1.00
Wheat, per bushel.....	1.00	1.00	1.00
Wheat, per bushel.....	1.00	1.00	1.00
Wheat, per bushel.....	1.00	1.00	1.00
Wheat, per bushel.....	1.00	1.00	1.00
Wheat, per bushel.....	1.00	1.00	1.00

Polish, per bushel.....	1.00	1.00	1.00
Polish, per bushel.....	1.00	1.00	1.00
Polish, per bushel.....	1.00	1.00	1.00
Polish, per bushel.....	1.00	1.00	1.00
Polish, per bushel.....	1.00	1.00	1.00
Polish, per bushel.....	1.00	1.00	1.00
Polish, per bushel.....	1.00	1.00	1.00
Polish, per bushel.....	1.00	1.00	1.00
Polish, per bushel.....	1.00	1.00	1.00
Polish, per bushel.....	1.00	1.00	1.00

The trade journal for tailors also contains an extract on the mortality figures for October-November, 1920, of members enrolled in the Insurance Section for tailors and furriers at Vienna. In October the number of deaths reported is 40, of which 19 were suffering from tuberculosis.

Where the condition of the working classes is so chronic as depicted in the foregoing, it is obvious that the workers, including the tailors and dressmakers, are obliged to present recurrent demands in order to be in a position to purchase foodstuffs which will save them from actual starvation. In the second half of October our comrades in Austria demanded of the employers a general

increase of wages to meet the advance in prices. As a result new agreements were fixed in the women's tailoring branch and also for men's tailoring. The new rates of wages came into force during the first week of December.

The highest wage per hour in ladies' tailoring is 30.47 crowns. We can realize how insignificant this apparently high wage per hour is, when it is considered that I knew before the war was worth 50 Dutch cents, and that now the value is little more than half a cent. The highest hourly wage for a ladies' tailor in Vienna comes to about 17 cents in Dutch money. The hourly wage in Amsterdam, the capital of Holland, is 35 Dutch cents, and we for our part can affirm that this rate is still less low for Holland.

Despite the new rates of wages, hunger will still be the lot of our brothers and sisters in Austria.

(Continued from page 3)

That, notwithstanding the right of discharge, production under part time work is apt to be below the proper amount, is the very reason for the introduction of production standards.

Cleveland is setting an example in this industry, and the readiness of the leaders of the workers, in spite of great opposition, fully to co-operate in this very important and proper measure must be recognized. While it may be that the discharge of the men in the present case happened just at the time of the introduction of production standards by a mere coincidence, nevertheless the effect upon the industry of such incidences should give pause to possible contemplated similar action on the part of other manufacturers.

Our decision, of course, is not based on this coincidence but, as heretofore stated, upon the merits of the controversy."

Educational Content and Notes

LEARN ENGLISH

The American worker must know the English language.

He lives in an English speaking country; he is placed in an English-speaking environment. He deals with English-speaking industry. Without an adequate knowledge of the language in this country, the worker is at the mercy of unscrupulous persons who take advantage of his ignorance, and exploit him easier than those who speak it.

Members of the International must realize how important it is for them to learn the language of America. The Educational Department has organized classes for them. These classes are planned for workers of all degrees of proficiency. These classes are in our Unity Centers. There are three Unity Centers in the Bronx, three Unity Centers in Manhattan, and one in Brooklyn.

If you do not know any English at all, you can join a class in elementary English, where the teachers will instruct you in the simplest and easiest method. If you know some English, you can join the class in Intermediate English, where you will be taught to read and write in a more advanced fashion. If your English is good, if you can speak and write pretty well, do not forget that there is plenty of room for improvement, and that you can learn to use the language still more successfully. In this case, join one of the classes in Advanced or High School English.

In all of these classes, student and experienced teachers are ready to help you. All they want is students who are interested and anxious to learn. That means YOU. The more International members join the classes in English, the stronger will the Unity Centers be, and the more good can you Educational Department accomplish for your education.

You should consider this carefully, and register at once.

If you have already attended one of the classes, but have been away for some time, you must remember that unless you are constantly refreshing your memory and continuing your studies, gradually what you have learned will be forgotten. So, come back to your class to continue with your studies.

Remember! You live in an English speaking country and it is your duty to yourself and to your organization to be able to understand and express yourself in the language of the country in which you live.

COURSES IN HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH

The second term work is beginning now in the Unity Centers and the classes in High School English are organizing for the balance of the school year. The members of the International are reminded that in these classes the students are given advanced work in mastery of literature, advanced composition, composition, parliamentary law, debating, and other similar activities. In addition, there is instruction in history, geography, and civics.

Excellent work is being done in the following High School classes which members of the International are urged to join immediately:

Those living in Harlem are advised to join Mr. I. Biderman's class in the Harlem Unity Center, P. S. 171, 160th St. near 5th Ave.

Those who live in the Lower East Side are urged to join Mr. L. Mark's class in the East Side Unity Center, P. S. 63, Fourth St. near 1st Ave.

Members living near the Waterbury are urged to join Mr. H. Davidson's class in English.

Members living in the Brownsville section are informed of Mr. O'Donnell's class in High School English at the Brownsville Unity Center, P. S. 34, Stone and Glenmore Aves., Brooklyn.

For information about these classes members are advised to consult the supervisor of each Center.

MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF FACULTY AND STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

At the January meeting of the Faculty and the student representatives of the educational movement of the International, it was decided that an executive committee, be appointed to take charge of the various matters that were discussed at the meeting. In accordance with this decision, a committee consisting of Prof. Charles A. Board, Dr. Leo Wolman, Mr. John De Leon, Mr. Spencer Miller, Jr., and Mr. Gustav F. Schulz, representing the teachers; and Mr. George Stein, Miss Sarah Shapiro, and Miss Ida Middle, representing the students met Saturday, Feb. 8. This committee considered a number of problems and discussed them thoroughly. The question of a suitable curriculum was taken up first and there was unanimous agreement with the opinion of Prof. Charles Board that the curriculum of the Educational Department should be built mainly around such subjects as are directly concerned with the welfare and the interests of the workers. And that while workers should be encouraged to avail themselves of such educational agencies as are offered elsewhere, labor educational institutions should be concerned only with such subjects of instruction as the workers cannot obtain elsewhere. A sub-committee is to be appointed to draft a definite curriculum for use during the following term.

Other matters were considered and acted upon at the meeting. The meeting showed that the committee was performing a valuable task and will be instrumental in developing the educational activities of the International to a high degree. All the members seemed greatly interested and keenly alive to the seriousness of their responsibility. There is no doubt that the result of the work will be of great use not only to our own International, but to the entire labor movement.

Professor Board is about to leave for Europe for an extensive study of the situation there, and promised to bring valuable material bearing on the activities of the Workers' Educational Movement in Europe.

ALEXANDER TRACHTENBERG TO SPEAK ON DEPARTMENT OF RESEARCH AND RECORDS, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, AT 3:30.

A series of talks to acquaint the members of the International with the way in which the affairs of their Union is being managed will be given at the Workers' University, Washington Irving High School, commencing Saturday, Feb. 19. On this day, at 3:30, Mr. Alexander Trachtenberg, Director of the Research and Record Department of our International, will give the first lecture on the purpose, aim, and organization of his department, and its use to the membership.

After discussing the importance of the keeping of accurate records regarding the membership, Mr. Trachtenberg will also take up the research work which the International is doing, with particular reference to the preparation of material for arbitration proceedings; the collection of wage data; and the establishment of

a reference library at the headquarters of the International, containing general material dealing with industrial problems which may be used in connection with the work of the Union.

THEATRE TICKETS

Season cards for the Broadway Playhouse, Lexington Avenue, and 26th St., can now be obtained at the office of the Educational Department, Room 1063. Oscar Wilde's play, "The Importance of Being Earnest," is now being produced at this theatre, and members no doubt will be interested to know that the Educational Department has made arrangements that upon presentation of a season card at the box office, members will be entitled to two tickets at half price. These tickets are good for Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday evenings and Saturday afternoons.

NATIONAL SYMPHONY CONCERTS

Members who wish to take advantage of the splendid concerts of the National Symphony Orchestra before its disengagement with the Philharmonic Orchestra will be interested in the announcement of concerts for the next few weeks.

On Monday evening, Feb. 21st, Robinson will be the soloist.

Saturday evening, Feb. 28th, Leo Ornstein.

Wednesday evening, March 2d, Leopold Godowsky.

Sunday evening, March 10th, Sergei Rachmaninoff.

Upon the presentation of an international season card at the office of JOSEPH MANN, 30 Union Square, members will be entitled to two tickets at half price.

MADISON SQUARE CONCERTS

At the Sunday evening concert at the Madison Square Garden, Feb. 20th, Mr. Julius Hepp, director, presents an interesting program. Cantor Kamenitz will sing a group of English, Yiddish, Hebrew, Spanish, Italian and French songs, and J. Platten Borisoff, violinist, will play a programme of interest to our members. At this concert, Miss Emma Linda Newirth, 16 years old, will be presented for the first time.

LECTURES OF LOCALS 1 AND 8 CONTINUE

On Friday evening, Feb. 19th, Mr. J. B. Ballin will lecture on "The Co-operative Movement and Trade Unionism for members of the Clockmakers' Union, Locals 1 and 8, at the Harlem Educational Center, 62 E. 106th St.

ARTHUR GLEASON AT OUR WORKERS' UNIVERSITY

Mr. Arthur Gleason, well-known writer, author of the pamphlet on "Workers' Education," will commence a series of talks at our Workers' University, Washington Irving High School, in a few weeks. Mr. Gleason, recently returned from England, where he made an intensive study of conditions, and will discuss in his talks the Labor Movement in England.

The date and hour of these talks will be announced next week.

HEALTH TALKS

By DR. I. A. CALDESTON

DISEASES AND MICROBES

The history of medicine is full of what to us now seem to be the most peculiar and fantastic ideas as to the causes of diseases. For example, people at one time thought that some evil spirits were in the stricken body and often tried to drive the evil spirits out by the use of the whip. Modern language is full of expressions which still show these old beliefs. For example, we still say that a case is in a bad humor when we mean that he is ill, and we still use the expression melancholy which means black gall and which was supposed to cause distemper. The idea of microorganisms causing sickness is a very recent one, dating no more than 60 years back. Even today there are many diseases whose microorganisms are still unknown and yet to be discovered. Before going any further in this review, let us consider what microorganisms are, and how they cause disease.

There is no difficulty at all for the average person to understand how a body may be attacked by a wild animal, say a tiger, or a lion or even a dog, nor is there any difficulty in understanding how a snake may bite and poison a person. But there is some difficulty in the minds of most persons in understanding how microorganisms can cause diseases and yet, except for their size, there is relatively and in a superficial sense little difference between the attacks of wild animals and those of microscopic organisms. Microbes are little living things which belong to what is called the plant kingdom. They are small, so small, that they cannot be seen by the naked eye and must be seen through a microscope. Microbes are present everywhere and on everything we commonly come in contact with. Not all microbes are poisonous or injurious. Many of them on the contrary are of great use to human kind. For example, without microbes we could have no cheese; without microbes the entire world would be littered up with the dead bodies of all things that die. Without microorganisms we could not have beer, nor yeast nor many of the fermented liquors, which in times past were so commonly consumed by people, and which today are still used in medicine. Metchnikoff even thought that life could be prolonged through the aid of a certain type of microorganism. While the above is true, it is, however, equally true that many types of microorganisms are extremely injurious to life and cause many a dire and dreaded disease. Thus for example, Tuberculosis, Typhoid, Typhus, Cholera, Plague, Pneumonia, Meningitis, Influenza, Syphilis and Gonorrhea are caused by microorganisms. And many of the diseases whose cause today is unknown is also a microbe disease.

In order for the microbes to be causes of danger to the body, in the

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majority of cases, it is necessary that they often get into the body. This they often do through breaks in the skin, or paper linings of the body. Often, too, as in the case with typhus, the plague and malaria, they enter the body through the bites of insects. When the microbe is in the body it may do damage either by destroying the tissues of the body or by producing a poison or through doing both.

Lock-Jaw for example is caused by a germ which while not destroying much of the tissue still produces a very strong poison. The tuberculous germ, on the other hand, produces a poison and eats away the tissues of the body. The germ in the body does not, however, have so easy a time of it, for nature is kind to us and supplies us with various means of defense. In the blood streams we find in addition to the red cells various types of white cells and these white cells are the police and the militia of the body. When the body is invaded by some foreign micro-

organisms, these "police cells" rush to attack the invaders. If the police are "beaten off" the body may produce whole armies of these white cells, and in addition use other means of defense. For example in tuberculosis it may wall off with actual stone material a whole tuberculous colony.

The matter of the body defense is a big subject and will be taken up at some later date. For the present we merely seek to understand how microorganisms can cause disease. This we hope to have done, and from what has been said above it can be readily understood that whatever is done to keep the microbes out of the body is in the interest of health and that this means exercising common cleanliness as well as taking care of little cuts, pin pricks, tears in the skin, or weak spots in the body. Many conclusions along these lines can be drawn from the few facts stated above and we shall endeavor to draw them in the talk that is to follow.

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A. Tavim, Business Mgr.

The Weeks' News in Cutters Union Local 10

By ISRAEL LEWIN

At the time of writing this, the general strike in the Waist and Dress Industry is in full swing. The cutters, as was expected, have responded to the strike call and made a very splendid showing. Even in non-union shops where the rest of the workers failed to answer the strike call, the cutters came down to show their working class solidarity.

This demonstration on the part of the cutters ought to make everyone of our members feel proud in belonging to Local 10. Due to this wholehearted support by our members, a number of shops that were non-union or "open" became unionized, and the employers filed applications for settlement.

The success of the strike was a certainty even before the people were called out on strike, judging by the number of applications filed by manufacturers, and also by the fact that the Association of Dress Manufacturers whose members employ the majority of the workers in the trade have signed an agreement with the union prior to the strike. An agreement was also reached with the Wholesale Dress Association, or as they are usually called jobbers' association of the Dress Industry. By the terms of this latter agreement, the jobbers obligated themselves to have their work made up in union shops only.

Since the calling of the strike another Association of waist employers which was in the process of formation for the last few weeks came to an agreement with the Joint Board of the Waist and Dress Industry. Among those in the new Association are some of the members of the old Waist and Dress Association, who during the strike in 1919 held out

against the union for over 13 weeks, but have now finally come to realize that it pays best to live in peace with the union.

The number of independent manufacturers who applied to the union for settlement has increased greatly since the strike began. The majority of the manufacturers to have their workers union to work is so great that a special sheriff had to be hired to keep the employers in line at the union's headquarters.

By the end of the week almost all of the union shops will have returned to work, and the general strike committee will then devote its entire time energy and resources to combat the few manufacturers who claim to be members of the old Waist and Dress Association; Peace be with her.

A strike has been called at the house of Mayflower Dress Co., a wrapper and kimono house, for hiring non-union girls at a price very below the scale. This strike in the above house is conducted very vigorously by the union, and as it appears, the strike will probably be settled within a few days.

The strike in the Arlington Undergarment Co., which was reported in the last issue of "Justice," is still on, with the strikers in good spirits and hopeful for a speedy victory.

Next Monday evening, February 21st, a very important meeting of the Miscellaneous Division will be held at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Marks Place, where matters concerning the present situation in the Children's Dresses, Wrappers, Kimonos and White Goods Industry will be discussed. The members of this division are urged to attend this meeting.

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Local New York House, 111 East 11th St.	Stern's Jewelry Store, 1217 William Ave., Bronx.	International Phonograph Co., 181 East street.
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WEDNESDAYS, at 7:30: ARTHUR W. CALHOUN

TRADE UNIONISM II—Legal status of Labor Unions. Their legal rights, responsibilities and limitations.

FRIDAYS, at 8:40: WALTER NELLES

TRADE UNIONISM II—Comparative Study of forms of Labor Organization, Craft Unions, Industrial Unions, Inter-Craft Alliance, Shop Stewards and One Big Union.

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Monday, March 7th.

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