

"My righteous-
ness 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. 12

New York, Friday, March 18, 1921

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CHILDREN'S DRESS STRIKE NEAR VICTORIOUS END

The general strike of the Children's Dressmakers Union, Local No. 59, called out two weeks ago, has brought the entire industry to a standstill, and realizing the earnestness of the situation, the employers have begun to settle individually with the union on the day following the strike. As a result, this walkout, which is barely two weeks old, is practically settled.

The leaders of the strike are Vice-President Sol Feldman and Harry Greenberg, manager of Local No. 59. According to their statement, most

of the shops in the trade will be settled about next Saturday, with only a few small shops remaining out.

The gains obtained through this strike for the workers in the trade are very significant. First, they have again won for themselves a strong union which the bosses have so diligently sought to destroy. Secondly, a minimum scale of wage, the bone of contention which brought about the abrogation of the agreement on the part of the employers, has been definitely introduced. A minimum of \$14 a week for learners has been fixed;

a minimum of \$25 a week for operators, and of \$32 a week for women cutters; \$40 a week for men cutters; \$40 a week for pressers, and \$20 a week for examiners and finishers. It is, of course, understood that this is the very lowest that the people in the shops will get, and that it does not exclude the workers from earning considerably higher wages than the minimum scales. The work hours remain as before: 44 per week. In practically all cases, the employers have deposited securities for the faithful carrying out of the agreement.

In addition to that, we wish to mention that during the critical slack months of last Fall, when the children's dress manufacturers have abrogated the agreement with the union, several of them have taken advantage of the hard times and have reduced the wages of their workers—some of them from \$3 to \$10 a week. Now that these employers came seeking for a settlement, the union kept in mind these arbitrary reductions, and the employers were forced to return these wage cuts in the form of back-pay.

In short, the strike was a great success and the workers of the industry have every reason to congratulate themselves on the rapid and substantial victory they have won.

Final Conferences in Whitegoods Industry

As reported last week in "Justice," conferences have begun in the whitegoods industry between our Local No. 63 and the Cotton Garment Manufacturers' Association for the purpose of renewing the collective agreement in the trade. On Wednesday, March 9, a second conference took place at the Metropolitan Tower, but no results were arrived at. The representatives of the Association came to the meeting with a demand for a reduction in wages of 25 per cent. The committee of the union, of course, would not countenance this proposal.

On the following evening, March 10, there took place a general member meeting of the whitegoods workers at Beethoven Hall, which was addressed by General Secretary Burdett of the International, and William Davis, manager of the union. The hall was crowded to the doors and both the tenor of the speeches and the reception accorded to the speakers registered plainly the determination of the workers not to yield an inch of ground to the employers.

Another conference will take place

on Thursday, March 17th, at which a final attempt will be made to renew the agreement which expires on the 24th of the current month. The decision of this conference depends principally upon the attitude of the manufacturers. The union presents no new demands to the manufacturers. The union insists only on the renewal of the old agreement. It asks for no increase in wages, no shortening of the work hours, but it is absolutely determined not to give up any of its former gains and hard-earned standards.

If the manufacturers will consent to the retention of prevailing conditions, there will be peace in industry. If they will adopt a different attitude, the union stands ready to offer powerful resistance. The whitegoods employers have surely not forgotten their earlier fights with the union. They know their girl workers and their fighting ability. And because of that, it is to be hoped that the Thursday conference will bring a full and peaceful understanding between the union and the employers.

Cloak Officials Tax Themselves for Clothing Strikers

The officers of the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union of New York have a mutual benefit organization known under the name of "Board of Officials." At the last meeting of this society, the question of aiding the Amalgamated in its struggle against the employers in the clothing industry was taken up for discussion and it was decided that the officials of the Cloakmakers' Union follow the decision adopted for the entire trade and contribute two hours' of their earnings to the Amalgamated strike.

Brother J. M. Groblier, the secretary of this "Board of Officials," has made the following statement in this connection: "The Board of Officials of the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union, assembled at a special meeting, adopted the following resolution:

"Whereas, the Amalgamated is engaged in a bitter struggle against their employers who are bent upon destroying their organization, we resolve to follow out literally the decision of the International for the two hours' earnings contribution to the defense fund of the Amalgamated."

"We hope that all the general and local officers of the International will emulate this example and contribute generously to this fund."

Several hundred dollars have already been collected and a great deal more is expected. It is needless to reiterate here the desirability and the urgency of every officer of the International in every city and town contributing to this fund. Let them follow the noble precedent of the officers of the New York Cloak Joint Board.

CLEVELAND CLOAK REF- ERREES TO MEET

MARCH 27

The hearing before the Cleveland Board of Referees in the cloak and suit industry of that city in connection with standard measurement plans, the \$41 per week guarantee and other trade matters, scheduled to take place in April, was advanced to Sunday, March 27.

Drs. Alexander Trechtberg, the director of the Research Department at the General Office, left for Cleveland this week to take up together with Vice-President Perlstin the preparation of data and argument to be laid before the Board in connection with the contentions of the Union.

Labor Educators in National Conference, April 2-3

Adult labor education is only a new movement in this country. It is barely ten years old. Nevertheless, the active spirits behind this movement have every reason to feel contented, nay, proud over what they achieved during this comparative brief span of time.

These few years have seen the establishment of educational departments in the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, of a United Labor Education Committee catering to the educational needs of a dozen of other substantial labor bodies in New York, of a Department of Education within the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor and of labor college and leagues in Chicago, Boston, Philadelphia, Greater New York, Cleveland, Amsterdam, Miami, Pittsburgh, Rochester, Baltimore and a number of other cities. Next came a demand for the formation of a workers' educational bureau on a national scale, a clearing house and an exchange place for all ideas tending towards coordination of effort and for the stimulation of additional experiments in labor education.

To satisfy this demand the Temporary National Workers' Educational Bureau has called for a conference of all active and directing workers in the field of labor education for Saturday and Sunday, April 2-3, to be held in New York City, in the Auditorium of the New School for Social Research, at 465 West 23rd Street. A comprehensive and wide program has been arranged for, divided into five sessions and devoted to the discussion of the following five subjects: What is Being Done in Workers' Education in the U. S. ? Organized Labor and Education. Organizing a National Workers' Education Bureau. The Problem of the Worker Student. The Problem of the Teacher in Labor Education.

One of the principal features of the Conference will be the dinner on Saturday, April 2, at 6.30 P. M., at Strunsky's Restaurant, 34 West 35th Street. Among the speakers at this affair will be President Benj. Scheninger of our International; James H. Maurer, the President of the Penna. Federation of Labor; John Brophy, President of District No. 2, United Mine Workers, and John Sullivan, the President of the New York Central Labor Council.

Boston Cloak Strike Nearly Won

The strike of the cloak and skirt makers of Boston is almost at an end. The union has scored a clean-cut victory, having settled already with 60 manufacturers who employ the bulk of the employees in the trade, under standard union conditions prevailing in all cloak centres in the country.

The strike is being continued against a few employers who still cling to their association. There is approximately ten of them in that group and they keep constantly wrangling with each other in the sad realization of the fact that they cannot break the Cloakmakers' Union of Boston and that the business of the spring season has drifted out of their hands.

Ever since the strike broke out, these bosses have employed various means to disrupt the morale of their workers. They have threatened to move their shops to New York and to the various small towns around Boston. They have spread rumors that they were giving up business altogether and that their shops will remain closed—all in an effort to cajole the workers back to work upon their own terms. All these desperate at-

tempts, however, did not avail them anything. The workers remained steadfast and loyal to the union, and as a result, their bosses are facing ruin on account of their own strong-headedness.

The cloakmakers who are still out on strike know full well that the union will support them to the very last. There are about 200 men and women left, and these are receiving strike benefits every week. The funds for this strike benefit are being raised from the 10 per cent assessment levied upon the workers in the settled shops, and the remainder is being generously supplied by the General Office.

The Boston cloakmakers are particularly proud of the fact that not a single man or woman has, during the strike, left the ranks of the organization or attempted to do scab work. To a person, all those who had left the shop are either working again under union conditions in settled factories, or are still in the ranks of the strikers. A little more patience and endurance, a little more exercise of will power and determination, and the strike will be a complete victory.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK

By MAX D. DANISH

NEW YORK LABOR DEPARTMENT AMPUTATED

The spate of repeated protests by organized labor and numerous bodies of progressive and liberal citizens, Governor Miller has signed the Night-Dwelling bill "reorganizing" the State Industrial Commission.

The measure abolishes the present five-headed commission and creates instead one commissioner in an administrative charge and a State Industrial Board with quasi-judicial powers. In signing this measure, Governor Miller has stated again that he is actuated by motives of "economy." It was no secret to organized labor that this display of economy at the expense of the only official bureau in the State charged with the task of enforcing the labor laws of New York, has been hailed with enthusiasm by employers throughout New York. It is, in fact, the first step in the carrying out of the program of economy provided by the Governor to the State, and true to form, it strikes first of all at labor.

Whatever there is of labor legislation in this State enacted to protect the workers, will be now enforced through one person appointed by the Governor, presumably a trained politician and one that can be depended upon by the employing interests.

THE HEARING ON THE WELFARE BILLS AT ALBANY

The so-called Welfare bills, among which are included the State Minimum Wage Commission Bill and the Anti-Weak Shop Bill, have again had their hearing at Albany on March 16. An array of delegates representing every labor union of importance in the State and a number of leading educators and delegations from women's clubs appeared before the legislative commission to argue in favor of the enactment of a State minimum wage measure. The advocates of this measure have advanced their plea on the ground that the average wage of women in this State is less than is required to maintain a standard of decent living. In view of proposals by some legislators, to repeal the law prohibiting night work for women, the advocates of the welfare bills also insisted upon the retention of this law as the standard, pointing out the benefits which have accrued to women workers through the observance of it.

Last year a committee, styling itself as representatives of the Equal Opportunity League of Brooklyn, claiming to represent some women workers, have appeared before a similar hearing at Albany, with the startling report that women be permitted to work at night and arguing against the prohibition of night work and against a minimum wage commission. This year, two or three of these "women workers" appeared before this legislative commission and repeated their arguments. The overwhelming majority of the delegates, however, insisted upon the retention of the night-work law and pleaded for more beneficial labor legislation for the workers of the State.

The chances for the enactment of these laws are, nevertheless, quite slim. Governor Miller has already pledged himself at the beginning of the session against any new labor legislation, and he seems to be determined to carry out consistently the policy of lowering the demands of labor that he has made his own from the very beginning of his administration.

THE 8-HOUR DAY IN THE STEEL MILLS

THE great conflict in the steel mills of 1919 is beginning to bear fruit. The workers were supposed to have been beaten in that strike and their cause lost and smashed. Nevertheless, it appears clearer from day to day that the principal point of that struggle, the introduction of an eight-hour day in the steel mills, is approaching a favorable solution and that it will soon become a fact in the steel industry.

Already the seven-day week and the long term in changing shifts in the steel mills have been generally eliminated. Now comes the announcement that experts are at work on the change from the twelve to the eight-hour day in all the steel mills of the United States Steel Corporation, and hopes are expressed of satisfactory results. It is claimed that the change from a two to a three-shift system will involve an expenditure of tens of millions of dollars. On the other hand, it is certain that this change will give employment to thousands of workers now idle in the steel district, and that it will, in addition, relieve unemployment in the building trades, as it will involve the expenditure of hundreds of millions of dollars in construction of houses for the additional workers.

It is almost certain that within the next year the twelve-hour day and the two shifts will become a matter of the past in the steel industry. The fight of the workers was not in vain. The next dominant issue during that strike was the question of the recognition of the union. This will come, too, though probably a little slower. A large proportion of the steel workers have stuck to their organization notwithstanding defeat. Still greater numbers will now be enrolled in the union, and now the union will have gained the allegiance of the majority of the workers in the steel mills, its recognition will come, no matter how bitterly opposed by the steel magnates.

NEW YORK CITY TO BE INVESTIGATED

FINALLY we have it. The country in general and the citizenry of New York in particular will be treated, within the next few months, to a highly edifying spectacle.

New York City is going to be investigated. By this we mean the city government, the administration and the five counties within the city, and the conduct of the city departments. The Republican majority at Albany will not be niggardly in this matter as it was in the Lockwood Investigation Committee, and will spend enough money to raise sufficient capital for the next New York City mayoral campaign.

One thing is certain: The workers of this city will not be deluded into the belief that the Albany politicians are actuated by anything but narrow party interests and party gains, in having ordered this investigation. The ruling majority at Albany cares as much today for the true interests of the workers of the city as the ruling majority of yesterday, the Democratic Party, had cared for it. It is just a case of having the trumpet at this or that particular time by this or the other group of politicians. It will also be regarded as a sort of retaliation by the Albany clique at those New York politicians who have sought to rip the traction grab going through the Albany machine without a hitch. They have been sore at this

interference with their smoothly laid out plans, and in savoring their grudge they thought they could best strike back by ordering a general investigation of the city so that they could sink the traction common grab through without too much protestation.

ACTORS VOTE FOR "UNION SHOP"

THE poll of the Actors' Equity Association on the Equity shop question resulted in an overwhelming verdict in favor of the proposition. The number of votes cast in favor of the Equity shop was 3,398 and 115 in opposition. The Equity has a membership of more than 10,000, but owing to the nature of their employment it was not possible to reach all members.

The Equity shop will bind members not to appear on the stage save with non-Equity members, and since the Equity now includes a great majority of the best known players, the enforcement of this rule would probably mean the wiping out of every opposition group in the theatrical field. It was, however, officially stated that the Equity secret would close its doors to new members.

Thus the cause of solidarity of the workers—in the workshop, the studio and the stage—surges on relentlessly. Who would have thought, only a few years ago, that stagecraft, supposedly the most individualistic and least recognizable element, would form a powerful, "closed shop" union? It is here, nevertheless, and it lies at the head of it the cream of the profession.

MAYOR INTERVIEWS IN CLOTHING STRIKE

THE fourteenth week of the brave fight of the clothing workers of New York under the leadership of the Amalgamated came to an end with the intervention of Mayor Hylan in the form of the appointment of a committee to inquire into the conflict and to attempt to bring it to a settlement, if possible. The committee will be led by George Gordon Battle, who has had previous experience in the mediation of industrial disputes.

We are frankly pessimistic of the outcome of this inquiry. Had the Clothiers Association been possessed of the least desire to see the principle of fair play and arbitration predominant in the clothing industry they would not have locked out their workers and the existing deadlock in the industry would not have occurred. As it was stated at the headquarters of the Union when the news of the appointment of the committee had reached it, "the Union now, as in the past, welcomes any effort to put a stop to the unnecessary warfare. Fourteen weeks of struggle has brought confusion to the industry, but not to the Union."

The manufacturers, on the other hand, would not discuss the selection of a mediation committee. The fight of the workers for their very lives and the life of their organization will, therefore, go on until crowned with complete victory.

STOCKYARD WORKERS TAKE STRIKE VOTE

THINGS have been moving with lightning rapidity in the stockyards of the country since the last magnates announced last week that they had decided to discard the machinery of arbitration of disputes established in the industry, to lengthen the work hours from eight to ten and reduce wages fifteen to twenty per cent.

A special conference of the representatives of the workers union which met at Omaha, Neb. during

last week authorized the Executive Committee to arrange immediately for a strike vote. A message was forwarded to President Harding asking him to intervene and to prevent a nation-wide strike in the packing industry. Therogren, Secretary of Labor Dept., offered his services to mediate, notifying both sides that he was holding himself in readiness to send representatives of the Department, if the employers will accept the proposal.

Meanwhile great mass meetings of stockyard workers are being held daily in Chicago, Omaha, Kansas City and St. Louis, at which the irrevocable stand of their leaders not to concede a step from their position is being unanimously endorsed. The workers are ready for the challenge of the master packers, and as there exists but little hopefulness, both among the workers and the general public, that the meat trust will release from its position of defying the workers, it looks as if a fight is inevitable.

CUBAN LIBERALS "STRIKE" AGAINST REACTION

THEY do these things differently in the "liberated" island of Cuba. There the powers that be, the conservative elements aided and abetted by the great financial interests of Wall Street and the sugar trust of the United States, have found a very simple way of perpetuating themselves in power against the will of the workers and the more progressive citizens of the island. They terrify elections, drive out opposing candidates and make free and honest exercise of suffrage an impossibility.

In consequence, the liberal elements of Cuba have decided to strike back at the reactionaries through a no less direct and unique means. The Liberal members of the Cuban House of Representatives and the Senate will henceforth refrain from attending further meetings of Congress and will not discharge their duties of office. Liberals who hold places on Provincial and Town councils, Boards of Education and clerical boards will also refrain from attending to their official duties until the election of the Liberal candidates. In addition to that, all Liberal candidates will be withdrawn from the coming partial elections until a semblance of free elections is guaranteed.

It is stated that the action taken by the Liberals was meant for the purpose of forcing the American Government to take a definite stand with regard to the political anarchy prevalent in Cuba. The Washington Government, the Liberal elements allege, was supposed to supervise the Presidential elections, and this it has absolutely failed to do.

UNITY MANDOLIN ORCHESTRA

Under the leadership of Mr. David Hain, a Unity Mandolin Orchestra has been formed. It meets every Friday evening at eight o'clock at the Waitanetars' Unity Centre, 214 East 25th Street. By May, the Orchestra hopes to be able to play at a Unity Center entertainment.

There is still an opportunity for members who can play the mandolin to join the orchestra. Inquiry should be made of Mr. Hain or of Miss Ghork, Educational Director of Local 25, Room 6, 14 West 21st Street.

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JUSTICE

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EDITORIALS

THE SURVIVAL OF THE STRONG

In time of epidemics the weak, the physically rundown, are affected first. These are less able to offer resistance to the attack of the deadly microbes and they fall the early victim. In the present epidemic of wage cutting—organized capital's "starvation campaign"—those of the workers who possess the weaker organizations and the lesser power of resistance are similarly the first to suffer.

Witness the action of the railway magnates. In proposing a wage cut to their employees, they took care not to include the skilled men, those who have powerful organizations, among the ones to be affected. The same practice is occurring in other industries. The weakest, the poorly organized, are compelled to accept a paring down of their earnings without a protest, and at times even without a murmur.

For, it is quite useless to protest against capital in the event of such an action. It is the nature of the bacilli to attack the weakened body. In fighting the bacilli of capital, complaints and prayers are useless. The workers must have power of resistance, solid organizations, to protect themselves against these dangerous microbes. They must be ready for a struggle in which determination and endurance play a very important part.

The present crusade against the wages of the workers is a powerful living sermon for the imperative necessity of unionism. This crusade presents itself to us as a sinister double-flanking move. On the one hand, the campaign is conducted against the so-called high wages earned by the workers, particularly by unskilled and unorganized labor. In this direction capital has to exert but little effort to achieve its purpose. A mandatory order is posted in the non-Union shops, and forthwith the hours are lengthened and the pay is considerably reduced. On the other hand, capital is conducting an active propaganda campaign against the "closed shop," i. e., against the union shop, and for the "open shop." In this campaign they mention not a word about wages or working hours. On the contrary, they would make us believe that the wages and the hours are of little account in this controversy. All they want is the coveted "open shop."

Of course, it is all too simple. They want the "open shop" in order to reduce the resistance of the workers to a minimum. After that the bacilli of capital will advance in solid formation against the weakened organizations of the workers and undermine the foundation of their strength.

*Organized capital, nevertheless, has a tremendous job on its hands in this "open shop" drive. They have, it seems to us, bitten off too big a slice to swallow. It is true, our labor movement is not as class-conscious and enlightened as we would desire it to be, as evidenced in the action of its leaders and not infrequently by the behavior of the masses themselves. Nevertheless, we are confident that capital will not succeed in destroying the powerful, deeply rooted labor unions of America. This crusade against the workers will only tend to raise their power of understanding and their intelligence. It will tend to arouse those of the workers who have been lulled into a false sense of security against an attack from capital, to a better understanding of their position and their mission as truly fighting organizations. They will come to realize that one can never be safe without vigilance; watchfulness in a society where capital dominates politically and economically. They must be ready to fight for the protection of their hard-earned rights and liberties in order to progress in the direction that leads to the emancipation of the workers.

MEMBERS OF LOCALS Nos. 22 AND 25, ATTENTION

You know well that the clothing workers of New York are still in the midst of a fight for their union, for their human rights and for a continued possibility to live under decent conditions and against a return to the dreadful sweating system of old.

They have been locked out of their shops for the last fifteen weeks and they are ready to stay in this fight until they win. As workers they have a right to call upon the aid of all other workers, no matter of what trade or occupation. The members of our International are, nevertheless, their nearest kin and more closely allied with their interests. Their fate, bad or good, is bound to react upon our own conditions, and their fight, perforce, becomes our own.

This was the principal motive that prompted our General Executive Board to adopt the decision that all members of our International contribute the earnings of two hours for the Amalgamated strike. The members of all the cloakmakers' locals in New York City have responded splendidly to this appeal. Over

\$40,000 has already been collected during the past three weeks. In perusing the shop list we see, however, none from the shops where dress and waistmakers are employed. We find it difficult to believe that you are indifferent to that momentous struggle, or that you fail to understand its great importance. It passes our understanding that the members of all our locals in the waist and dress industry, reputed to be intelligent persons with high ideals, with a deep understanding of workers' solidarity, should fail to rally to the assistance of a great army of fellow workers in time of stress and strife.

We know, however, that the weeks of the general strike have prevented you from doing your duty. We also know that you are still compelled to share part of your earnings with those workers in your trade who are still on strike. We refuse, nevertheless, to accept these reasons as an excuse in such an extraordinary event as the strike of the Amalgamated. We hope that you will realize the importance of an early and an exceptional effort in this direction. The Amalgamated needs your aid and has a full right to demand it.

These words are addressed to all our locals in Greater New York and out-of-town—the raincoat workers, the embroidery workers' locals and the several others who have not yet responded to the decision and the appeal of the General Executive Board. Members of the International, no matter in what section of the country, must live up to this sacred obligation and contribute the earnings of two hours to the Amalgamated strikers.

SLEEPING SICKNESS—AN ANCIENT DISEASE

The newspapers have carried in the last few months stories relating to the prevalence of an epidemic of sleeping illness. Persons fall into a sleeping coma that lasts days and weeks. This phenomenon is being designated as a brand new disease, a new affliction upon humanity.

Somehow, or other, we have been wondering to ourselves why this disease should be styled as new. Our own experience, though not a medical one, has taught us that this sleeping sickness is quite an old malady which has plagued mankind from times immemorial. Honestly, we are inclined to believe that the great majority of humans are plunged in an unbroken sleep under the everlasting impression that the darkness of the night is continually with us. And when we poke their ribs and say: "Arise, good folks, the day is bright!" we receive in reply an indifferent groan, an incoherent murmur, as we watch them turning over to the other side and continuing in their trance.

We were quite happy, indeed, when we learned that our opinion regarding the antiquity of the sleeping sickness was substantiated by no less an authority than Dr. Simon Flexner of the Rockefeller Institute.

"It is not true that the sleeping sickness is a new disease," this eminent scientist had declared in a recent address. "Historically this malady is a very ancient one. It is, indeed, quite difficult to say how old it is."

"It is essentially a sickness of the central nervous system. Its symptoms vary according to the parts of the nervous system which are attacked. It is not always accompanied by deep sleep. Frequently the patient is restless, wild and delirious."

The disease is infectious as it is being caused by a very tiny microbe which does not lend itself yet to detection. The sleep is caused probably by the fact that this tiny organism bars the light from the eyes and thus makes the afflicted drowsy."

Indeed, according to the diagnosis and the clear characterization of this disease by Dr. Flexner, the sleeping sickness is a very, very old disease, even when it is not expressed in incoherent, feverish talk. . . . And the distressing fact that the microbe is so tiny that no one has not only not captured it, but even had a chance to take a look at it, lends still greater conviction to our doubts, whether we shall ever be able to get rid of this pestiferous sleeping malady.

THE UNITY HOUSE—AN INSTITUTION FOR ALL

Upon the request of Local No. 25, the Joint Board in the Waist and Dress Industry has taken over the Unity House and it now becomes the property of all the locals in the waist and dress trade.

The undying honor of having taken the initiative in the founding of this institution belongs to Local No. 25. The expansion and growth of the Unity House has made it clear, nevertheless, to all that it is too important an institution to be left to the management of one local exclusively. Thus, the Unity House now becomes the property of all the locals affiliated with the Joint Board.

We have full confidence that the Unity House will be managed now even better than in the past. What was difficult for one local will be comparatively easy for a number of them. They will bear the burden of a deficit more lightly and will introduce improvements with greater facility.

We welcome the decision of the Joint Board to admit to the Unity House as vacationists not only members of Local No. 25 or of the locals belonging to the Joint Board, but all the members of the International no matter of what local. This will give the Unity House a more representative character as the summer home of our International.

We have every reason to believe that the next year or two will see both moral and financial prosperity at the Unity House. It is to be hoped that very soon it will be possible to keep the house open all year round, instead of the two summer months. There is no reason why the Unity House should not become a place where our members can find a chance to rest and to gather new strength for work and activity, not only for their employers, but for their union during every season and every month of the year.

THE AIMS OF LABOR

Address delivered by President Benjamin Schlesinger before the Jewish Center

There exists, I wish to state in all consciousness, a deep-seated notion in the minds of a number of well-meaning persons, a notion nurtured and bolstered up by an unfriendly press, that the labor movement is the artificial creation of a group of ambitious men, fostered and kept alive for the purpose of either selfish gain or for the exercise of social and industrial power.

Nothing can be further from the truth than such an idea, if accepted by any person eager to learn the ground-work of the movement of the masses of workers in America and Europe. Of course, no reputable school of social science has ever taken seriously this sinister view, and such of it as still exists is regarded as immature judgment that is unable to penetrate further than narrow personal surroundings, and of judging anything except by those selfish impulses and standards which govern modern commercial life.

The labor movement was not created by any one person or any group of persons. There were, and there are, true enough men and women, who have risen from the ranks of the working class and from beyond its limits, who had given up their entire lives to the service of labor. These have contributed greatly to the growth of the labor movement and have given it its literature and its principles and have aided in formulating its philosophy. They have defined, time and again, its aims, have given concrete form to its hopes, and have voiced its aspirations. Nevertheless, these persons, no matter how influential within this movement, and no matter how indispensable to its clarity and growth, were, on the whole, only a steering, interpretative factor to a movement which in itself was the inevitable and legitimate sequence of social and economic evolution.

What are labor's aims? In the present industrial stage, labor, having recognized its position as the principal element of constructive activity in production and distribution, is determined to derive proportionate benefits from its work and endeavor.

Let us make that clear. When I say "labor," I do not have in mind manual labor only; I refer to every man and woman who produces valuable commodities or renders valuable service in connection therewith and whose work, whether in managerial capacity or in direct production, adds to social wealth and accomplishment. These workers have learned that there is only one way through which they can accomplish, or hope to accomplish, their aims, and that is through organization. They have taken a leaf out of the experience of modern industrial life in general, and have come to learn that through mutual efforts only can they accomplish whatever they might set out to do. This, in brief, is the "reason for existence" of labor unionism in Europe and America.

The history of labor unionism varies greatly, both in form and substance, in the various countries of Europe, and the American labor movement bears its own distinctive marks. Principally, however, these unions, except in such places where they were organized both for political and industrial purposes, confine themselves to the achievement of definite economic reform. In America, organized labor has set out to accomplish for the workers a shorter working day, better pay, protection from unfair employers, and industrial mismanagement, and regulated, decent treatment in sanitary and clean shops. It must be admitted by every impartial observer that the American labor movement has made great strides in this direction. It has reduced the work day to forty-four hours in the majority of the great industries of the land, and has raised the earnings of the workers to standards which enable them to

maintain a normal and healthy life.

The labor movement has no smooth and even road to travel. It is a fighting movement; it has had its ups and downs, and is encountering tremendous opposition and obstacles. These obstacles come primarily from the interests that control industry in America, interests that are still eager to maintain their former, selfish grip upon industrial life and to eliminate what they call "interference" with their "personal" autocratic control of industry. In this they come in direct contradiction with the essential aims of the worker. The workers claim that as the principal factors in modern industrial life, they, the workers, are entitled to a position and voice of equality in the regulation of working conditions, earnings and management of industry.

The past half a dozen years have seen a phenomenal growth of the labor movement in America. Its membership has almost doubled, and its influence has increased manifold. The years of the war have brought to the fore a demonstration of the unusual amount of reserve strength contained within the working class of America. After the war, however, the same sinister and predatory elements that had held sway in previous times, have become fearful and jealous of labor's increased prestige and strength of position. We see again, today, a clamor spread from one end of the country to the other by the allied employers "to put labor back where it belongs." Ostensibly this is leveled at the "closed shop," a slogan which finds plausibility, I suppose, with some insufficiently-informed people, on the pretext that it violates the "American" principles of freedom of occupation. As a matter of fact, this campaign against the "closed shop" is only a thinly-veiled campaign against the labor movement in general and an attempt to break down the organizations of labor in America. The "open shop"

means nothing else but a non-union shop, and a non-union shop, in its turn, means nothing but a return to old conditions, to discrimination, to lower working standards, smaller earnings and longer hours. Any endeavor to explain this "open shop" propaganda on any other grounds is dishonest and meaningless.

Will labor's aims be modified, or changed in any way on account of this propaganda directed against it at this time? I say most positively and definitely: No. Labor cannot change, the basic conditions of stagnation in industry, or even an artificially created industrial or financial panic. These attempts to "teach labor a lesson," when viewed from the perspective of evolution and social development, are short-lived efforts after all. Labor's aims are the natural and logical product of modern industrial life. This life proceeds along an upward and downward route, and the labor movement—the desire and the resolution of the workers to obtain "their place in the sun," naturally reflects these changes to a certain degree. But essentially they cannot change, unless the modern economic structure changes or topples over altogether.

It may become necessary for labor to halt in its demands, to take, as it were, inventory, and, under the pressure of temporary economic conditions, to steer its course into more expedient channels. On the whole, nevertheless, labor is sufficiently strong to defend itself against any attack that may be directed at it. When necessary it can concentrate its strength not only in offensive, but in defensive battles. The exigencies of the present period will probably put labor into such defensive positions for a while. But even these tactics, these temporary changes of front, are part and parcel of the general aims of labor, part of its historic mission to accomplish for the workers their goal; the return of the earth and its wealth to all those who, by citizen, brain or brawn, make it a habitable and comfortable place to live in.

ON DUTY AT SCRANTON

By ARTHUR SAMUELS, Organizer

There are in Scranton, Pa., approximately 800 workers engaged in the making of ladies' garments. Most of these shops could be classified as "runaway" factories, such that have come to Scranton seeking refuge from Union standards—wages, hours and conditions; from such centers like New York and Philadelphia. This is particularly true of the cloak shops.

More than a year ago, the cloak-makers working in the M. & M. shop have sent a request to the International office in New York for aid in organizing this shop. After a visit by several organizers, this shop was unionized and the firm signed an agreement with the International pledging itself to maintain Union standards. It appeared, nevertheless,

that the faith of this firm, insofar as its pledge to live up to its contract with the Union was concerned, was not worth the paper it had been written on.

Strike after strike followed and the firm kept on breaking its agreement which would be renewed after fight. Just at present, the firm took it into its head to revert back to piece work, and as a result the shop is again involved in a fight.

While in Scranton in connection with the cloak shops the organizers of the International have endeavored to organize the other women's wear shops of that city. Let me relate to you an incident in connection with this work which throws some light on the methods used by the local employers in opposing our activities. A

certain Mr. Tyrell, a member of the Scranton Dress Co., where we are doing organizing work has made a public statement, which found its way into the press, to the effect that I, together with another organizer, had recently come to his plant and stood outside near a truck, and that he suspected that we came there to throw acid on his dressers. Just like that—a simple little charge of this sort! The truth of the matter is that neither I nor my companion have ever seen the semblance of a truck at any time that we came to this shop to distribute literature to the workers. I immediately wrote to the Scranton Times which had published his statement, denying his malicious accusation, and challenging him to prove it, and to prove also that our organization, the International, is an "un-American organization and is affiliated with an 'outside' body," what-

ever that means. My letter appeared in full, and now this Tyrell person stands revealed as a liar and detractor.

In connection with the pending fight in the M. & M. shop, I can tell you that they too, like all up-to-date employers, have resorted in this fight against us to the injunction weapon to restrain the workers from picketing. A court hearing will shortly be held on this application at which the Union's right to visit the workers' homes in connection with this strike will have to be determined, as well as the right of a worker to call a strikebreaker "hushed."

In our local campaign we have used a great deal of literature and printed several folders and circulars which we distributed in front of the shops and mailed to the homes of the workers.

THE NAVY AND POISON GAS

By OBSERVER

About this time look out for poison gas! The naval appropriation bill failed last session. When Congress reassembles next month a new bill will have to be passed. So the people must be scared out of their wits, or the navy will not get the \$10 billion dollars that the Senate Naval Committee so generously claimed to give it. Watch for a deluge of propaganda.

Front-page articles already predict immediate war with Japan. It like this. A British aviation expert warns

us that Japan is going to attack us with countless flocks of airplanes, right away quick—in 1924, in fact, before our new navy is finished. On the same page we read that thirty British aviation experts have just left for Tokyo to help the Japanese fly. It's all dreadfully alarming, but we have a vague recollection of an earlier naval bill.

We're afraid of Japan, and the Japanese are afraid of us; so the navy builders get their way in both countries. The shipyards that are build-

ing ten out of our sixteen new \$40,000,000 fighting ships get their contracts. The financiers that want a guarantee of their investments in Haiti and Nicaragua and Colombia get the threat of irresistible force behind them. The newspaper men get war scares to fill their columns. And the people get the satisfaction of footling the bills, and then being more afraid.

Will the big-navy interests, backed by the new Secretary of the Navy and his chiefs, get away with their half-billion-dollar naval bill in the coming Congress? They will unless the people stop them; for a handful of courageous men in the Senate can't kill

the bill as they did in the short session. The outcome will be a huge fleet of dreadnoughts of doubtful value, plus enormous taxes.

In the cities of Japan, they are holding today disarmament meetings. They are urging their government to cut armament expenses and apply the savings to educational and social improvement. Yukio Ozaki, leader of the movement, recently distributed 7,000 postal cards in Osaka, Kyoto and Kobe. No less than 2000 were returned, all but 60 of them favoring his views. If Americans will follow the Japanese example, the people may yet beat the war makers. But meanwhile look out for poison gas.

Educational Comment and Notes

WORKER'S EDUCATIONAL BUREAU

One of the most important events in the development of Workers' Education in the United States will occur at the conference to be held on Saturday and Sunday, April 2 and 3. This conference was called by a number of persons connected with Labor Education, and its aim is to organize a National Workers' Educational Bureau. The program published states the following in answer to the question, Why the conference?

"The education of workers is being gradually assumed by themselves. They are increasingly aware of the fact that the training which is offered, by existing educational agencies is concerned mainly with such interpretation of life as justifies things as they are instead of planning things as they should be, particularly in connection with the life of workers.

"Several attempts have been made by American workers to create a new educational agency aiming to satisfy the needs and aspirations of the workers. The Workers' Educational Bureau is planned to co-ordinate such attempts and, to stimulate the creation of additional experiments in Labor Education. This Conference aims to bring about the existence of the Bureau. It is hoped that the result will be greater success of the movement for the education of workers by workers and for workers.

The first session of the Conference will be held on Saturday, April 2nd. Miss Fannia M. Cohn will be the Chairman, and reports will be made by delegates from the existing labor educational institutions in Rochester, Newburg, Boston, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Albany, Cleveland, Washington, Chicago, Baltimore, and New York City.

The evening session on Saturday will be held at Strunsky's Restaurant, 24 West 36th St. Dr. A. Picardier will be the Chairman, and addresses will be made by James H. Maurer, President of the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor, Mr. Joseph Schlossberg, Amalgamated Clothing Workers', President Benjamin Schlesinger, International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Secretary Abraham Baroff, International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, and other well known labor leaders.

Tickets to this session can be obtained in Room 1003, 21 Union Square, \$2.00. Reservation should be made immediately.

On Sunday, April 3rd, there will be three sessions of the Conference, and the morning session report of the Organizing Committee will be discussed and plans will be adopted for the organization of the Bureau. At the afternoon session, students from many labor colleges will present their point of view on the subject.

All the sessions will be held in the auditorium of The New School for Social Research, 465 West 23rd St.

It is the hope of the organizers of this Conference that the proposed Bureau will be of great assistance in helping to spread Labor Education in the United States.

THE STUDENTS' COUNCILS

The Students' Councils elected by the various classes in the Workers' University took up the problems of each class and plans will be adopted for the organization of the Bureau. At the afternoon session, students from many labor colleges will present their point of view on the subject.

a basis for next year's work. The Students' Councils consulted with their classmates and ascertained from them what the general sentiment was in reference to such matters as the number of sessions to be held during the remainder of the term, additional classes to be given, hours in which these courses are to be held, etc. A general meeting of the Students' Councils, who were thus instructed by their classmates will be held next week in order that the Educational Department may know the desires of the membership.

It is important to note that all the activities of the Educational Department are planned with the particular end in view of meeting the needs and desires of the students. Through personal contact and inquiry, a great deal of information has been obtained by the Educational Department in reference to these matters. But more valuable results are obtained by the Students' Councils, who conveyed to the Educational Department the wishes and sentiments of all the students in the Workers' University and the Unity Centers.

LECTURES ON HEALTH AT THE WAISTMAKERS' UNITY CENTER

A series of health lectures of interest to every one and especially prepared to be of benefit to workers is being conducted by Dr. Jerome Meyers of the Bureau of Industrial Hygiene at the Waistmakers' Unity Center, P. S. 40, 330 E. 26th St., on Friday evenings at 8 o'clock.

Last week Dr. Meyers discussed the subject of Constipation.

This Friday evening, March 18, Dr. Meyers will treat the subject of Cancer.

All members residing near this Center as well as the East Side Unity Center should avail themselves of the opportunity to hear Dr. Meyers.

COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT AND TRADE UNIONISM BY J. B. BAILIN

On Friday evening, March 18, our members in Harlem will hear Mr. J. B. Bailin lecture on "The Cooperative Movement and Trade Unionism" at the Harlem Educational Center, 62 E. 126th St., at eight o'clock.

NEXT YEAR'S CURRICULUM

The Executive Committee which was selected at the last meeting of faculty and the students' representatives of the Educational Department of the International, is planning at the present time the organization of the work for next year. In order that this may be done properly, it is necessary to have the best judgment not only of the teachers and of the officials of the Union, but also of the rank and file. It is the latter who are most vitally affected by the curriculum of the Unity Centers and the Workers' University; and it is therefore their business to signify just what their attitude is on the various subjects of the curriculum.

To meet this situation, a committee consisting of several of the faculty will meet a number of students both from among the students' councils and the rank and file. It is hoped that by doing this, the Committee would be able to organize and incorporate in their report the demands of the workers themselves.

Another important meeting will take place between the Committee of the faculty and various Union officials. The object will be to ascertain from the Union leaders what they consider to be the particular problems which should be solved by the

Educational Department. It is felt that the views of the rank and file can be supplemented by those of the officials, and that the result is bound to be a course of study particularly fitted to the demands of the workers and of the organization.

MR. GLEASON'S COURSE ON LABOR IN ENGLAND

The long expected course on the "Labor Situation in England" to be given by Mr. Arthur Gleason, was finally arranged for by the Educational Department. Mr. Gleason will give this course the first part of April in the Workers' University. He proposes to take up the latest developments of shop control in England and the present development of the labor movement in that country.

Mr. Gleason's experience and first-hand acquaintance with the British situation will make this series of lectures particularly valuable to the members of our union. All feel that developments of the Labor situation in England will affect profoundly the situation in the United States and, therefore, Mr. Gleason's observations will be helpful to the students of the problem.

HOXIE'S BOOK ON TRADE UNIONISM

The students in the class on Trade Union Policy, conducted by Dr. Leo Welman of the Workers' University, are urged to purchase and study one of the best books on this subject—Hoxie's "Trade Unionism." This book can be obtained at reduced rates in the office of the Educational Department, 21 Union Square.

Prof. Hoxie's book is considered to be one of the most authoritative dis-

cussions on the subject. The students who attended Dr. Welman's class during the winter will be particularly benefited by reading this book during the coming vacation.

CLASS IN LABOR PROBLEMS FOR STRIKING WAIST AND DRESS MAKERS

The very close relation between the educational work of the International and the organization work of its various locals has again been demonstrated in the present strike in the waist and dress industry. The Educational office of Local 25 has followed close on the heels of the organization work accomplished in the strike and has formed a class for the study of organization purposes and problems.

In response to an announcement by Local 25 that such a class would be formed, thirty-five persons, many of them new members in the Union, registered for the course. The class met for the first time the following day in Arlington Hall and has since then met twice a week.

Miss Margaret Daniels, one of the Unity Center teachers, was secured for the class through the cooperation of the Educational Department of the International. Twice a week, these strikers who are on the picket line early and late, come together, in the strike hall, receive instruction and participate in a lively discussion. As the shops of these workers are being settled, they will join classes in the Unity Centers or at the Workers' University. They will go back to the shops with a better realization of what their organization means; that themselves will become a more valuable part of their union.

A. F. OF L. LEAVES INTERNATIONAL BODY

SEVERANCE of all relationship with the International Federation of Trade Unions was practically decided upon last week by the American Federation of Labor's Executive Council.

Relations between the International Federation and the American Federation have not been any too friendly ever since the International body had begun a very active campaign for fighting reaction in Europe. The declaration of the American Federation on the proposed separation is based on the assumption that the European organization believes in "revolutionary" activities and has failed "to recognize the national autonomy of each trade union center." It is also alleged that the system of dues of the International places an excessive burden upon the American Federation.

The Federation, thus, continues moving continually to the Right. Until last year the International body of Trade Unions was regarded by the heads of the Federation as the only conservative group in Europe worthy of its affiliation. In the course of the year the International organization had apparently moved so far towards the Left that the American Federation finds it impossible to continue its affiliation with it.

We are inclined to believe that it is not the "revolutionary activities" of the International body that prompt the American Federation to withdraw from it. It is rather the Federation's policy of running its head into sand and a desire to keep away from any international affiliation whatever that is behind this decision. It is but another manifestation of that narrow-mindedness and provincialism which has been so characteristic of our labor movement throughout.

NEWS FROM HACKENSACK SACK

Local No. 134 of Hackensack, N. J., one of our youngest locals, is quite an active little body of men and women. It usually takes some time before a young local learns to meet its duties towards the International promptly. Not so with the Hackensack local. No sooner did they receive the notification from the General Office that the International membership was assessed \$1.50 each than they drew the entire amount of the bill from their treasury and sent down the money in advance.

New the local comes again with contribution of \$100 for the Amalgamated strikers. Of course, this is a very big sum, but we must take into account the size and the age of the local. It is only six months old and has been all this time under the supervision of Bro. Nathan Weiss, International Organizer. The local now has a membership of 150, pays all its own expenses, has a few hundreds in its treasury, and expects soon to be fully self-supporting.

The ball which this local gave last week was a big success, notwithstanding the inclement weather. The ball was crowded and the local cleared a few hundred dollars. Among the present were Vice President Halpern, manager of the Out-of-Town department, Sister Jennie Matyas and Ben Friedman representing the New York Joint Board of the Waist and Dress Industry, and Bro. Louis Antosh with a delegation of twelve from Local No. 99. Bro. Antosh delivered a address and aroused a lot of enthusiasm.

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A Declaration to the American People

(Adopted by the Special Conference of the American Federation of Labor in Washington, D. C., on February 23, 1921)

We ask the American people to give solemn consideration to this declaration. It is the pronouncement of a movement that is consecrated to the cause of freedom as Americans understand freedom. It is the message of men and women who will not desert the cause of freedom, no matter what the tide of the struggle.

The American labor movement in this crucial hour here lays before the people the full story and asks them to rally with labor to the defense of our imperiled institutions.

Labor speaks from no narrow or selfish point of view. It speaks from the standpoint of American citizenship. And the indictment it lays is an indictment of the enemies of freedom and progress.

American labor battling for the preservation of American democracy and American institutions today stands between two converging destructive forces.

Standing between two opposing forces, uncompromising toward both, the American trade union movement today finds itself and every American institution of freedom assailed and attacked by the conscienceless autocrats of industry and the followers of radical European fanaticism. If either of these wins the doors of democratic freedom and opportunity can never be reopened in our time.

Though inspired by vastly different motives these two unrelenting forces work toward the destruction of the same ideals, each using the other as a tool in the struggle to overwhelm democracy and put an end to American progress politically and industrially.

On the one hand Labor is compelled to meet in a wide variety of manifestations the determination of reactionary industrial autocrats, autocrats who would destroy the organizations of labor and remove from the field of industry the only agencies through which the workers may protect themselves from aggression and the only agency through which they may offer to industry their cooperation in the improvement of industrial processes and the expansion of productive energy with that improvement of the product and lowering of prices justly demanded by the public.

Reaction Casts Off All Pretense

Reactionary employers have joined their might in a campaign which they are pleased to call a campaign for the "open shop," which they have been waging vigorously since the signing of the armistice. Compelled by the presence of public opinion to accept Labor's cooperation during the war, when the utmost conservation of productive energy was necessary to the life of the nation, they cast off all pretense immediately upon the passing of the emergency.

This entire campaign on the part of the combined reactionary employers is in no sense a campaign for the "open shop" no matter what definition may be given to that term. The campaign is (distinctly and solely) one for a shop that shall be closed against union workmen. It is primarily a campaign disguised under the name of an "open shop" campaign,

designed to destroy trade unions and to break down and eliminate the whole principle of collective bargaining which has for years been accepted by the highest industrial authorities and by the American people as a principle based upon justice and established permanently in our industrial life.

Not only during the war, but during every year since the labor movement has had a place in our industrial life, it has justified its existence and proved the necessity therefore, by making possible the necessary cooperation between employers and workers on the one hand, and on the other hand by rescuing the workers from autocratic domination and depriving for them a standard of living and of working conditions fitting to American citizenship. The American trade union movement is here because it is a necessity.

Unscrupulous Financial Speculation

The unscrupulous pirates of finance, having squeezed the consumer throughout the period of the war, are now broadening their field and enriching themselves by squeezing both the producer and the consumer. Fortunes are being made today by commodity and financial speculation.

Flagrant Profiteering Continues

It is astounding, but true, that even after so great a lapse of time since the ending of hostilities, there is, so far as the average family is concerned, practically no reduction in the high cost of living. It is admitted freely that in some commodities there has been a reduction of price in the wholesale markets, but there has been no appreciable reduction in the retail prices at which the working people must make their purchases.

Labor has time after time indicted the employers and the commercial interests of the country for wanton profiteering. We declare again that the government has been and continues impotent in the face of the criminal operations of profiteers and must therefore accept the responsibility for a great portion of the indignation and resentment of the people against those who have slashed their pockets for no reason except that they have had the power to do so.

(To be continued)



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The Weeks' News in Cutters Union Local 10

By ISRAEL LEWIN

The Dress and Waist Branch is gradually readjusting itself to a peace basis. Not the peace where tranquility prevails. Peace this year for the dress and waist trade will mean an intense organization campaign.

A great deal of skepticism met the news of a general strike in this trade. Employers said, some of whom were veterans and are supposed to know all the ins and outs of strikes, that if the Joint Board ever dared to call a strike now the Union would be wiped out. The cry, they said, had been raised all over the land for lower wages and longer hours, and here the union comes out for holding on to the standards it had won during the war. The Union, however, felt otherwise. It felt that if ever the organized workers in the dress and waist trade had to take a determined stand against any reduction in standards, the time was now. And so the strike was declared.

Today 95 per cent. of the shops are settled. The few who are still holding out, are the ones who were loud-est for lowering conditions. The owners of these shops are resorting to all means in order to avoid living up to the conditions secured by the union in the great majority of the shops. How successful they can be in this respect may be seen from the fact that these firms had to resort to injunctions in order to combat the union.

This brings us down to the problems that confront the Union now. Having shown the employers that we do not intend to stand for reductions, the Joint Board is prepared to keep up its organization work. The few who thought that their shops were immune from organization have somewhat modified this opinion. Employers who had ideas of running open shops are coming to terms now.

Reports have reached the office of the Dress and Waist Branch that some cutters are somewhat hazy as to whether they should pay the \$1.50 assessment, levied by the Joint Board, to the chairladies or chairmen of their respective shops. Let them bear this in mind: that no cutter working in any shop under the control of the waist and dress Joint Board is exempt from this tax. Each cutter is required to pay his tax to the chairman on pay day. He is also to give him his book along with the money. The book will be given back to the cutter with the tax stamps pasted in it. If a cutter has not got his book with him at the time the collection is made, he will receive the stamps which he himself is to paste in the book.

Cutters employed in shops of jobbers, where there are no workers who belong to any of the other locals, should give their money to their chairman, who will follow the same instructions.

The strike in the Children's Dress Industry is on in full swing. About eighty per cent. of the industry was completely tied up. Many of the employers who have already settled with the union are former members of the Children's Dress Manufacturers' Association, which recently disbanded itself. The majority of the strikers, it seems, will have returned to work by the end of this week. The union, however, is all ready and prepared to fight to a finish those few manufacturers who may hope to obstatinate and refuse to settle.

Business Manager Weinstein reports that the strike in the shop of S. L. Hoffman, 129 W. 25th St., a wrapper and kimono house, which was called last week, was settled to the complete satisfaction of the union.

Brother Weinstein requests the members of the different branches of the Miscellaneous Division to attend the next meeting which will be held on Monday, March 21st, at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place. The members of the Underwear Branch are particularly invited, as a report on the progress of the conferences between the Union and the Cotton Garment Manufacturers' Association will be rendered.

There is hardly any news in the Cloak and Suit Division outside of the constant agitation, being conducted by the Protective Association through the trade papers against the Union, and particularly against the work system, which was inaugurated in the Cloak and Suit Industry in July, 1919.

Knowing that while the majority of the manufacturers are also opposed to the work system, these manufacturers would refuse to follow in their footsteps should the Association start any trouble in the industry, they have raised the cry of production, claiming that the work system has been given a trial of two years and is a failure. Ever since the reconstruction period began, the employers all over the country have started a concerted attack upon the union, and in order to "bunco" the public into sympathizing with them, they have raised the cry, "We want more production on the part of individual workers." That this claim is not justified is proven by the fact that millions of workers in the United States are at present idle, due to over-production.

Whether or not the public will permit itself to be fooled by this agitation on the part of the employers will give the proper answer at the proper time to all these machinations on the part of the Protective Association. For the present the slogan must be Preparedness. We must not be caught off our guard. As one of the means of preparedness the Joint Board has levied a Defense Fund Assessment on all the members working in the Cloak and Suit Trade, which will amount to a million dollars when collected in full, and we hope that before the expiration of this present season, this tax will have been collected in full.

Talking about preparedness, reminds that the Committee on Arrangements for our twelfth annual ball has informed us that everything is in readiness for the coming affair to make it one of the most memorable events in the history of our union.

As an additional attraction this year, the Arrangement Committee succeeded in getting some of the best professional talent to amuse the guests between the dances. Petite Sylvia Binder, famous as a singer and dancer under the name of "Tickle-Toe" will appear in a number of songs and dances that are sure to make a hit. Tickets for this coming affair, which are only 50 cents including wardrobe, can be procured from any of the officers or active members of the union. Do not forget the date of the ball which will take place at Hunt's Point Palace, 163d Street and Southern Boulevard, Saturday, April 2, 1921. Do not make any other appointments for the above date.

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A worker's eyes are his capital. If he loses them, his life loses its worth.

Take care in time or it may be too late! Come to the well-known Dr. S. Mermelstein, and examine your eyes by modern scientific methods. If you use glasses, you need not waste time. We grind all our lenses from the purest crystal right on the spot.

This is our only office, open daily, until 9 in the evening, and closed on Sundays.

DR. S. MERMELSTEIN

392 Grand St., corner Suffolk Street, New York City.

Bring this ad. along.

CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10 ATTENTION!

OUR ANNUAL BALL

will take place

Saturday Evening, April 2, 1921

at

Hunt's Point Palace,

163d Street and Southern Boulevard.

Make no other appointments for the above date.

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETINGS

MISCELLANEOUS:

Monday, March 21st.

GENERAL:

Monday, March 28th.

CLOAK AND SUIT:

Monday, April 4th.

WAIST AND DRESS:

Monday April 11th.

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.