

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

—Job. 27.6

JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

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

Vol. III. No. 17

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NO CHANGE YET IN NEW YORK CLOAK SITUATION

The cloak situation in New York has not undergone a material change during the last week. The Manufacturers' Protective Association has not communicated with the union yet, and the trade papers representing the interests of the employers have not contained any definite news with relation to the cloak controversy.

More vigilant than ever before, the Cloakmakers' Union is now on the watch for everything that transpires in the cloak shops of the city. Last week the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union had two meetings, a special one on Wednesday evening, and the regular meeting on Saturday. Both meetings were marked by quiet deliberation, and the delegates present did not exhibit any nervousness over the impending developments in the industry.

The special meeting of the Joint Board has elected a "Committee on Immediate Action" to devote its entire attention to the grave situation in the trade and to guard each step made by the employers with the utmost vigilance. The following were appointed on the Committee of Immediate Action: President Benjamin Schlesinger, 1st Vice-President Morris Sigman, I. Feinberg, the General Manager of the Joint Board, Louis Pinkafsky the chairman of the Board,

Louis Langer, Secretary, and Philip Kaplowitz, Treasurer of the Joint Board. This special committee will be in constant session, keeping an eye over all possible developments, and, if necessary, will call a meeting of the entire Joint Board and of all the officers of the union, to treat the phases of the critical condition in the industry as they might arise.

Right after the publication in the papers of the demands made by the Protective Association, President Schlesinger issued the following statement: "This is not the first time that the Protective Association is attempting to measure strength with the cloakmakers' organization. The Association, however, will fail this time as it has failed in the past. If it should come to a fight, the cloakmakers will defend their bread and butter, their human rights and their union with the same enthusiasm and loyalty as in past years."

The entire membership of the big Cloakmakers' Union is just as confident and calm as are its leaders, and all of them are quietly awaiting future moves on the part of the employers. The cloakmakers know that they can fully rely upon their union and that in case of sudden and important developments, the union will bring the situation to their immediate attention.

MAY DAY CELEBRATIONS IN CHICAGO AND PHILA.

The Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union in Chicago has decided to join the first May Day Celebration which is being organized by all the central labor organizations of that city. The celebration will take place in the Big Coliseum, where workers of various nationalities, tongues and trades will assemble to participate in a real international festivity.

The First of May Celebration will take place in Chicago, first in the form of a demonstration in which no less than 50,000 workers are expected to participate. After the parade, a mass meeting and a concert will take place in which some of the best known musical and concert talent of Chicago will participate. In the evening there will be a May Ball in the Coliseum which will be enlivened by a special concert and artistic dancing.

The 5,000 members of the International locals in Chicago are expected to join in these celebrations to a person.

The Waist and Dressmakers of Philadelphia, our Local No. 15, will celebrate the First of May, two days in advance, on Friday evening, April 29th, at a splendid annual ball at Turn Hall, Broad and Columbia Avenues, Philadelphia.

The annual ball of the waistmakers is a feature in labor and radical circles in Philadelphia, and this year the ball is expected to be an even greater success owing to the combined features of an evening of entertainment and of a May Day Celebration.

UNITY HOUSE TO OPEN ON JUNE SEVENTEEN'TH

"When will Unity House open this year?" This question has been put to us hurried times in the last few weeks. Our members are interested; they are already planning their vacations in their workers' summer land.

Unity House will open this year—with a renewed spirit of enthusiasm—on June 17th. An opening celebration will be held on the day the house is thrown open. Such a crowd is expected that registration will start far in advance, on Monday, the 15th of May.

Unity House is now the property of the Joint Board of the Dress and Waistmakers' Union. This means that many more members are entitled to the privileges of the house, as the Joint Board includes Locals 15, 25, 22, 58, 60, 66. Furthermore, this year the Unity House will be open to all members of the International on practically the same basis as to members of the Joint Board.

It is realized, of course, that occasional members of the Amalgamated, the Capmakers or some other unions will ask for admission to the House at times when it is not filled to capacity. Such members of other unions will be permitted to come to Unity House.

Meanwhile the Committee is busy making arrangements to have the House put in perfect order on the day of the opening. The carpenter, the plumber and the painter are already at work.

A capacity crowd is expected on June 17th. Register early and be at Unity House on the opening day!

LOCAL No. 25 BEGINS ORGANIZING DRIVE

At the last meeting of the Joint Board in the Waist and Dress Industry it was decided to start an organization campaign in Greater New York, particularly among the waistmakers.

The Waistmakers' Union, Local No. 25, is a big organization, yet the waistmakers' trade is far from being fully organized. There are scores of non-union waist shops in the city, where working conditions are much inferior to what they are in union shops. The organizing campaign will be conducted by Brother Julius Hochman with a staff of assistants. Of course, it will be under the general supervision of the Manager of the Joint Board, Brother Jacob Halpern, who has had years of experience in work of that kind.

According to Brother Halpern, the waist shops of New York are very busy and the time is quite favorable for organizing work. All the offices of the Waist and Dressmakers' Union are alive with activity. Shop meetings and district meetings are being called regularly and an adequate control is being exercised in all the union shops.

The collection of the \$6 tax imposed by the union upon all the members of the Waist and Dress Joint Board is progressing very satisfactorily. The attention of the shop chairmen and all the individual members is being called to the fact that funds are needed at present more than ever, owing to the great number of injunction suits started by several waist manufacturers against the union.

Very shortly there will be elections in the new Local No. 25, the Dressmakers' Union of New York. An Executive Board and all other officers will be elected for the first time since this organization was formed.

The members of Local No. 22 are expected to display particular interest in these elections because upon the personnel of the first Executive Board of that local will depend greatly the welfare and the future of the organization. It is the duty of every member of Local No. 2 to take part in these elections and to see that the best and the ablest persons in the dressmaking trade are elected to office.

Boston Cloak Strike Practically Over

"We reported in 'Justice,' several weeks ago, that there were nine manufacturers left in the local employers group who would not concede the demands of the Union.

Of these nine manufacturers, three have since settled individually with the Cloakmakers' Joint Board. Only six are left now, employing about 70 workers, which practically means the end of the strike. The credit for the success of this strike is due mainly to the following persons: Abraham Snyder, the manager of the Union, Vice-President I. Posen, A. Rothstein, the business agent of the

Union, Brother Finkelstein, the chairman of the Operators' Local, and Brother Kurland, the chairman of the Joint Board.

The strike began as the result of a letter addressed by the manufacturers to the workers, in which they declared that they will have nothing to do with the union any longer. There was no alternative left for the union but to take up the fight.

It is needless to add that the union is supporting, as generously as it is within its power, the workers who are still on strike, and will continue to support them until they return to their shops under union conditions.

WHERE THE CLOAKMAKERS OF NEW YORK WILL CELEBRATE THE FIRST OF MAY

The members of the locals of the N. Y. Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union will celebrate the First of May in the following places:

Locals No. 1 and No. 9 will have a classic concert on Sunday evening, May 1st, at the Manhattan Opera House, 34th Street, between 8th and 9th Avenues.

Local No. 3 will have a concert at the Harlem Socialist Center, 62 E. 104th Street. The concert will begin at 10 o'clock in the morning.

Local No. 11 will have a concert on Sunday evening, May 1st, at the Brownsville Labor Lyceum.

Local No. 17 will have a concert and ball at Stuyvesant Casino, 142 Second Avenue. The concert will begin at 11 o'clock in the morning.

Local No. 23 will have a concert and ball in the Socialist Center, 62 E. 104th Street. The concert will begin at 8 o'clock in the afternoon and the ball will commence in the evening.

Local No. 35 will have a concert and ball at Parkview Palace, 3 W. 110th Street, opposite Central Park.

Admission to all these concerts and balls is free to all members of locals. It is necessary, however, to secure tickets in advance at the offices of the local unions.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK

By MAX D. DANISH

BOOKBINDERS STRIKE AGAINST OPEN SHOP

THE first employers' association in the East which resolved to test the open shop issue in a strike, appears to be the Employing Bookbinding Association, which posted last week notices for an open shop and a reduction of 10 per cent in wages. The strike involves several thousand persons in New York City and the entire bookbinding industry in the city of Boston.

It appears that according to the terms of an agreement signed between the employers and the unions last year, the men were to get a 44-hour week on May 1st, next. It is generally understood, therefore, that the move of the employers was directed in particular against this grant, and that in refusing to deal with the union after they had dealt with it for a number of years, they really wanted to sidetrack and defeat the 44-hour week in the bookbinding industry.

The printing, folding and sewing of the books will be continued, but there will be no work on the covers and the binding. We can easily appreciate the feelings of the bookbinders who are very likely to witness soon the binding of books, printed by union men, by strikebreakers. A situation like this is almost inconceivable in any of the needle industries. We can hardly picture a state of affairs where cutters would stay on the job while the operators or the finishers of garments would be out on strike. It is a sad testimony to the lack of true solidarity and genuine unionism in these trades, and in view of the collective aggression of the employers it is even more deplorable.

UNIONS BEGIN DRIVE IN STEEL INDUSTRY

THE long awaited active campaign of national and international organizations in the steel industry, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, to unionize the steel plants of the country, will begin June 19th. This action was decided upon by the Executive Council of the affiliated organizations, notwithstanding unemployment and depression conditions.

The Council decided to lay the foundation for the new unionization work by immediately launching a nation-wide educational drive among the thousands of steel workers in the country, especially those now unemployed. It has been practically decided to open the national headquarters in Chicago, with a large branch office at Pittsburgh, from which places the organization work in the various steel making centres of the West and the Middle West will be conducted.

In explaining the slow pace with which the organization movement of the steel industry was getting under way, William Harnett, the Secretary of the Organization Committee, stated as follows: "We are fully cognizant of the situation we are facing, and for this reason are taking our time in getting the new movement started. The organization to be undertaken by our Council is going to be of a permanent character. The last steel campaign was really an initiatory movement to feel out the attitude of the men towards the unions. The steel workers of the country have demonstrated that they want to be unionized and this committee proposes to give them what they want."

Needless to say that the work of

labor will watch with intense interest the new organizing work among the steel workers. The fact that the present state of unemployment does not halt the Organizing Committee is a sign of intelligent action. The 70 per cent of the steel workers who are unemployed at present will have a better opportunity to read the literature and listen to the arguments of the organizers of labor than at any other time. There is no gainsaying the fact that before the American labor movement will have a right to claim that it is fully able to exercise its influence upon the essential industries of the country, the hundreds of thousands of men that work in the steel mills must be organized.

THE AMALGAMATED CLOTHES MANUFACTURERS

THE Amalgamated Clothing Workers started last week a counter-offensive in their five months battle with the manufacturers, when they instituted in the Supreme Court a suit for an injunction to restrain the manufacturers from anti-union activities, and demanding \$1,000,000 from the Clothing Manufacturers' Association for conspiracy to destroy the union.

Readers of "Justice" have doubtless followed closely the nefarious tactics employed by the manufacturers in their fight against the Union. Among these methods one of the most obnoxious was the charge that the Union was subversive in its tactics and exposed to the labor movement of this country in general and that it was using destructive means in advancing the interests of the workers. The manufacturers, through their attorneys, sought to fasten the stigma of "Bolshevism" upon the union in order to blacken it before the general public.

In turn, now, the union asks the courts to restrain the employers from publishing false and defamatory statements, from falsely seeking to dissolve the union, and from soliciting manufacturers in other cities and centres to break agreements with the union.

That this suit will draw the attention of the entire industrial world goes without saying. It will, when brought out in open court, expose, perhaps as no other lawsuit has done before, the debauched methods to which these "respectable" employers have stooped in order to combat their workers and reintroduce the sweat shop in the needle industry. It will also be of considerable interest for the workers and the public in general, to find out how far the courts will respond to proof and argument on the part of the union tending to show that the employers have been guilty of the particular misconduct of which they have been accusing the unions all the time.

AMNESTY, HOPES AND REALITIES

THE first half of the month of April has seen an unusual amount of activity on the part of the friends of freedom in America and defendants of political liberty. The two pilgrimages to Washington to see President Harding, the first on April 4th under the leadership of President Gompers of the A. F. of L., and the second on April 19th representatives of the Socialists and of a number of other radical bodies went to see President Harding, have given eloquent testimony of the fact that there is a large and ever-increasing number of American citizens who want to see the political prisoners liberated and the stigma of vindic-

tion intolerance finally removed from the name of America.

The delegations went and came. They have returned to public responses by President Harding, Attorney-General Daugherty and various other high dignitaries. They have been even given to understand that at some time in the near future their voices might be heard and something tangible might be achieved.

On the whole, however, the results are rather disappointing. The sum total of these promises amount to the following: No general amnesty before peace is declared. Meanwhile, individual cases may not come up for consideration upon their special merits. So the prisoners are still in jail and are there to be kept in peace with Germany is finally declared.

Somewhat we are not much impressed by the sincerity of these flabby promises. Time and again, when the occasion called for it, Washington officialdom has declared that the "war is at an end," both technically and literally. When it comes, however, to the freeing of the men and women who are still in jail on account of their convictions, we are still "at war"—and peace with Germany is still in the lap of the gods.

A SPECIAL STATE LABOR CONVENTION

A CONVENTION of unusual interest took place on April 14th at Albany. More than 300 delegates representing local unions, joint boards, city central bodies and international unions gathered in that city to listen to a report of the Legislative committee of the State Federation of Labor, which discussed the achievements of our State Legislature in 1921.

Usually a New York State Labor Convention does not attract much attention. These conventions are affairs of small inspiration, of narrow circumference and are, on the whole, cut and dried propositions. In view of the unusual anti-union activities of the employers' associations in New York and the marvelous results achieved by them in their campaign to smash labor, this special convention, called by the State Federation of Labor, was of unusual interest.

The report discussed at length the "achievements" of the Legislature. It recited the laws enacted for the conspiracy to censor school teachers and the proposition to censor school teachers and the juggling with the election laws in order to drive off the ballot minor parties. It told how the State Labor Department was "reorganized" and how a certain Maryland casualty insurance company succeeded in jamming a bill through the Assembly to permit insurance corporations to issue policies to employers, insuring them against loss from strikes and lockouts. Under these policies a union-smashing employer may easily provoke a strike among his employees by dubious methods and collect insurance during the continuance of the strike.

The convention was addressed by President Gompers of the A. F. of L., and adopted the following program:

1. To assemble in mass meetings in every community in the State.
2. To discuss at these gatherings any local evidence of conspiracy to destroy the fundamental rights of wage earners.
3. To invite before these meetings members of the Legislature to give accounting for their acts.
4. To request full publicity for these meetings in the local newspapers and to agitate, educate and organize for the return to the people of the power to make their own laws and control over their admin-

istrative and judicial officials. In other words, a state-wide movement for the enactment of the initiative, referendum and recall of officials.

These are new and bold words at a convention of the New York State Federation of Labor. Instead of confining its activities to slight lobbying the State Federation has decided to come out into the open and to fight the battle of labor before the people. We may have our own doubts as to whether the persons who have spent so many years in the fruitless tactics employed heretofore will be able to execute and carry out the new plans in an effective and intelligent manner. The very fact, however, that the State Federation of Labor has awakened to the menace of the hour, is an encouraging sign for which we are grateful. The unparalleled record of reaction of the last session of the New York Legislature has struck at the very heart of liberty in our State. Between now and November, no means should be left untapped by organized labor to bring the fact home to every worker that his personal liberty and the welfare of his dependents demand the undoing of the great wrongs that have been committed by their "representatives" at Albany.

THE SPECIAL SESSION OF CONGRESS

CONGRESS is assembled again, called together in special session by President Harding.

It will, by all signs, be a very important session. It will have to solve a number of burning problems, including the foreign policy of our government and the making of peace with Germany. The question of taxation and the tariff will quite likely occupy an important place in the deliberations of this session.

Has labor anything to expect from the special session? We doubt it. This new Congress was elected upon a platform which either took little heed of labor's interests, or was in direct opposition to them. One thing is certain, however, that it could not do much worse than the Congress that has preceded it, "the reactionary Congress of which the United States has ever been the victim," in the words of the report issued by the Legislative Committee of the A. F. of L., a week ago.

"That Congress was," that report continues, "a do-nothing Congress, except so far as reactionary results were concerned. The entire program followed was to prevent the passage of any remedial legislation. In fact, say and every measure that had for its purpose the protection of the people, was either killed outright, died on the calendar, or was pigeon-holed by the committee."

It seems almost impetuous that the present session of Congress could outdo or surpass the achievements of its predecessor. If this be our consolation, let us make the most of it.

THE BORISOFF-KLEIN RECITAL

On Sunday evening, May 1st, there will take place at the Auditorium of the Stuyvesant High School, East 15th Street between First and Second Avenues, a joint recital by Anna Borisoff, lyric soprano, and Arthur Klein, composer-pianist. Miss Borisoff is a talented singer and has been on the concert stage for a considerable time. She was enthusiastically received on a number of occasions at concerts attended by large numbers of our membership.

Miss Borisoff will sing a number of arias by Schindler, Massenet and others. Mr. Klein will render a number of piano selections from Massenet, Puccini, Liszt and several of his own compositions which have attracted wide and favorable comment. The public is cordially invited.

RAILWAY MAGNATES VS. RAILWAY UNIONS

By HARRY LANG

The switch in the railway dispute from hearings before the Railway Labor Board to direct conferences between the railway unions and the railway magnates, is being interpreted by each side as a mark of strategic advantage to itself. It would seem as if both parties—the unions and the railway executives—believe that through direct negotiations they could gain greater benefits for themselves.

Readers of "Justice" have, doubtless, followed the developments of this great industrial dispute. The railway industry is the greatest industry in the land and the railways are the nerve centers of the industrial life of the country. Crippled or cramped transportation affects at once the general conditions of the nation and the interests of every individual within the nation. The cost of living depends in a great measure upon the means of transportation of living necessities. The struggle between the railway companies and the unions can clearly be seen, therefore, to be a matter of supreme importance to every inhabitant of the United States.

The railway dispute has become considerably involved owing to the numerous conferences and hearings which have attended it. We shall attempt to simplify the factors of this dispute in a few brief paragraphs.

There is a special Railway Board, a governmental commission, created for the purpose of supervising the railway situation throughout the country. In its duties, this Board is similar to the Interstate Commerce Commission, which was created to supervise commerce throughout the United States. Whenever the railway unions have grievances against the companies involving violations of union standards, it is the duty of the Railway Labor Board to take up these complaints and to pass upon them.

Early in the present dispute, which involves a controversy about a proposed cut in wages, the hearings

came very acrimonious and heated, owing to the attitude of Mr. Atterbury, the chairman of the Railway Executives, who attacked the good faith and the integrity of the workmen because of their opposition to the policies of the railway magnates. The union, through Frank P. Walsh, their attorney, retaliated in kind. They forced from Atterbury and his colleagues a number of damaging admissions which have immensely fortified their position. Subsequently, it became known that President Harding would have a great deal to say in his first message to Congress about the railway situation and that he is ready to give the railway companies a hearing. The representatives of the unions immediately sent a request to Harding that he give them a hearing too. Then the news came that the companies and the unions have met for the first time in a direct conference.

The last event came as a genuine surprise to a great many people. Those who have watched the hearings before the Railway Labor Board and the general attitude of both sides toward each other, could never have expected that the unions and the executives could ever agree to come to a conference. In fact, one of the first statements made by the railway companies was that they will never deal with the unions directly any more; that they would deal with their workers individually or in groups. They would not even think of a national collective agreement. The meeting between the unions and the executive on Monday, April 11th, at Hotel Astor, was, therefore, quite a pleasant surprise to all concerned.

How can this sudden change of heart be explained? The only rational explanation to it is offered in the following way: It is assumed that the unions have finally figured out that the workers could gain but little if the entire matter is left in the hands of the Railway Labor Board. The Board would doubtless decide that the workers' wages should be reduced—if not as much as the companies have demanded, 25 per

cent, at least a substantial portion of it. So when the opportunity for a direct conference with the companies offered itself, the unions decided that they could lose nothing from it and perhaps be eventually the gainers.

The companies must have reasoned along similar lines. They have never had any particular lever for governmental commissions "baiting" into their business. The Board may and may not be sympathetic to their interest; the members of the commission may be their friends and former colleagues, but a commission is, nevertheless, a "stranger," and they are not any too anxious to have such strangers "pry into their business." That is why they grasped at the opportunity of meeting directly with the unions of their workers.

As it stands at present, the situation could be summed up in the following few sentences: The Railway Labor Board is almost through with all the hearings and is now preparing its findings and decisions. Committees from the companies have met, or are about to meet, President Harding, and committees of both sides have meanwhile begun to confer directly. It is true the conferences have, so far, taken place not with the executives, but with the financial agents of the companies. Ostensibly the companies are protesting against the intermeddling of the financial interests. It is a well-known fact, however, that their financial agents would never have conferred with the unions had not the companies silently agreed to it. After all, their interests are identical and interlocked.

Of course, it is difficult to prophesy what the end of these negotiations will be. In view of the widespread campaign for reducing wages and the concessions which many unions have been compelled to make through the pressure of circumstances, it is within the realm of possibilities that wages might be reduced on the railways too. The railway workers may either swallow this reduction or rebel. It is quite likely that we shall witness a series of so-called "outlaw" strikes,

and as it is very difficult to draw a line of demarcation between the end of an "outlaw" strike and the beginning of a "lawful" strike, the eventual results of this turmoil is very difficult to predict.

There is another important point in connection with this dispute which is deserving of mention. It is true, the principal issue in dispute is the question of wages. Nevertheless, there is something even more important and far-reaching than the wage question in this conflict. The railway companies advance the proposition that they cannot, under present conditions, run the railways in a solvent, first of all, a reduction of the workers' wages, irrespective of whether they are employed directly in transportation or in the construction of railways. In addition, they demand a "free hand" in the running of the railway business.

The railway unions, however, have started, in recent years, a very comprehensive agitation for a radical change in the entire system of the management and the running of our railways to the private corporations. After a very thorough investigation, the unions have brought out before the public a plan which is now popularly known as the Plumb Plan. The basic idea of this plan is that the railway industry cannot and must not be regarded as a private undertaking. It is a social industry, and society, the nation must have supreme authority and control over it. The plan concretely proposes that the railways be managed by the three interested parties—the government, the unions and the railway managers. The present railway situation has given the agitation for the Plumb Plan a very strong stimulus, and in the present controversy, the unions, in countering the assertion that the companies cannot profitably run the railways under present expenses, invariably proposed the introduction of the Plumb Plan.

It is difficult to believe that the Harding administration and the Republican Congress will do anything that will advance the Plumb Plan, though some believe that a practical administration, though a conservative one, can at times be more dependent upon to carry out a plan for economy and efficiency, like the one embodied in the Plumb Plan.

With The Waist and Dress Joint Board

By M. K. MACKOFF

(Minutes of Special Meetings, March 30th and April 6th)

Both meetings were held under the chairmanship of Brother Harry Berlin of the Cutters' Union.

The Board of Directors submitted a proposal that a \$5 tax be levied on all members, regardless of earnings. The motion was carried unanimously and Bros. Milatz and Berlin and Sister Mollie Friedman were appointed on the Relief Committee.

The committee which was appointed to look for a general manager reported that they interviewed Vice-President Halpern and that in their opinion he would be the best suited person to fill that position. The Board of Directors recommended that the Joint Board approve this recommendation and appoint Brother Halpern as general manager.

A committee of seven waitmakers, members of Local No. 25, appeared before the Joint Board and stated that while Local No. 22 is duly represented on the Joint Board through dressmakers, Local No. 25 is still represented on the same Joint Board by delegates who are dressmakers. They believe this to be unjust to the waitmakers of Local No. 25 and request

the Board to take steps to see that the waitmakers should be represented on the Joint Board. Upon motion their request was granted and the Board of Directors was directed to act in this matter.

President Schlesinger appeared before the Board and gave a brief outline of the injunction situation. He urged the Board to take up a fight against these suits and appeal them to the Appellate Division. Brother Schlesinger stated that he had made arrangements with Morris Hillquit to start the appeal proceedings and that he has enlisted the help of the chiefs of the A. F. of L. on our behalf.

In reply to a request, Brother Sigman stated that he was glad to stay with Brother Halpern for a few weeks in order to acquaint him with his managerial duties, and to wind up a number of cases started under his supervision.

Miss Switzky, who was appointed by the Unity House Committee as chairman and manager, told the Joint Board that she had no previous experience in this line of work, but promises to do all she can to make the

next season at Unity House a success and hopes to enlist the services of Miss Silver as purchaser for the Unity House.

A communication was read from Local No. 50 applying for membership in the Joint Board, and stressing the importance of this affiliation for Local No. 50 and for the dress industry in general. It was decided to refer this matter to the Board of Directors to bring a recommendation to the next meeting.

Dress and Waitmakers, Attention!

Concert and Entertainment to Celebrate Closing of Educational Season to Be Held May 7th

In accordance with the traditions of Local No. 25, a concert and entertainment will be given by the Educational Department to celebrate the closing of what has been this year a very successful educational season. An opening entertainment has been very successful in the early part of October and all our members are cordially invited to "get together" again now.

A very fine program has been arranged for the evening of Saturday, May 7th, at the Waitmakers' Unity Center, 314 East 30th Street. The concert will begin at 7.30 and will open with a series of Russian and Yiddish folk songs by Miss Rosa Rab-

bach who is well known to many of our members. Miss Nanette Darr, violinist, will give several violin selections. Dr. A. Fichandler, director of the Educational Department of the International will deliver a short address.

Following the concert, will be a general dance. Mrs. Lucy Retting has generously consented to have the Rand School Dancers give several numbers, and the students of the Unity Center gym will give a special and unique number. Refreshments will be served.

Tickets can be obtained from Miss Gluck, Educational Director of the Local, Room 6, 10 West 21st Street, or at any of the branch offices.

All members of the union and their friends are cordially invited.

JUSTICE

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A. SCHLESINGER, President J. YANOFF, Editor
B. SAROFF, Secretary-Treasurer ABRAHAM TULL, Business Manager
MAX D. DANISH, Managing Editor
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EDITORIALS

WHAT DO OUR CLOAK MANUFACTURERS WANT?

Heretofore it was the workers in the cloak and suit industry of New York who took the initiative in striking for better pay and improved standards of work. Now it is the employers who assemble at meetings and adopt resolutions for a strike. Indeed, there is cause for gratification in this switch of activities. To an extent, it is an eloquent register of the fact that the workers have achieved real, substantial progress through years of battling for a better existence.

It is quite ominous that the resolution adopted by the cloak employers of New York at their last meeting, savours strongly of the terminology and tone of the resolutions that used to be adopted by our workers at their meetings in the past. There is the same reference to earnings, the same complaint about the working hours and a similar recital of grievances with reference to shop control, except for the fact that the tables seemed to have been turned. The employers want smaller wages for the workers, they want longer working hours, and they want to wrest out of the hands of their workers that measure of shop control which they had obtained; all under the graceful pretense that the public must have cheaper cloaks.

If the wages of the workers will not be cut, if the working hours will not be lengthened so that more garments can be produced, and if they will not be given the full right to discharge at will, our employers threaten that they will just simply stop manufacturing.

We assume that our cloak manufacturers are not fooling themselves. We assume that they know quite well that paper resolutions do not create new conditions. We are confident that they know there is a strong Cloakmakers' Union in New York City which embraces every man and woman employed in the cloak trade. We dare say that they are fully aware of the fact that the cloakmakers are very firmly of the opinion that their wages are not at all too high, that their working hours are not extravagantly short, and that their right to have something to say in discharge cases is not a flagrant violation of the sacred rights of property.

How, then, do our employers expect to carry out their resolutions? Will they close the shops and give up making cloaks? This would be quite a workable plan, if they intend to go out of the cloak business; but such a plan could be carried out without bombastic resolutions. On the other hand, they might attempt to keep their shops open and try to get men and women to work on their own terms. But this is easy said than done. There are no cloakmakers in New York City who would consent to work under their terms without the consent of the Union. We are inclined, therefore, to the opinion that our manufacturers have acted somewhat in haste and without due consideration. What is the sense in making public resolutions that cannot be realized? Our employers would have acted with greater tact had they invited the representatives of the union to talk matters over, if they honestly believed that they have just grievances to present.

THE VICTORY IN CINCINNATI

The cloak firm of Bishop, Sterne & Stein of Cincinnati has now become richer for the experience it had had with the Cloakmakers' Union of that city and the fight against the International, started several months ago under conditions ostensibly favorable for the firm.

Three months ago, the Bishop firm decided to close its shop and declared to the several hundred cloakmakers employed by it that it will make no more cloaks in Cincinnati. In that statement the firm declared, in a flow of crocodile tears, that it was the system of work week that had brought it to a state of bankruptcy. It offered the workers the alternative of returning to work, but under a piece work system. The workers replied in the negative and the strike began.

It is not an easy matter to conduct a strike against a closed factory. The firm must have had that in mind and endeavored to induce the workers with a kind of hopelessness in the outcome of the strike. It expected that after a short siege the workers would flock back begging it to open the gates of the factory and to admit them to work under any conditions.

Events, however, took a different turn. The International sent Vice-President Lefkowitz to Cincinnati, who knew how to keep up the morale of the strikers, and the General Office supported the workers generously with funds. The Cincinnati Joint Board sent men to New York, who kept a close watch over every garment the firm attempted to make in New York, and in most cases prevented it. The result was that after three months of bitter fighting, the firm reopened the shop and the workers returned to work, after Vice-President Perlstein had signed an agreement with the firm, in which work week and a minimum scale of wages were guaranteed.

Considering the exceptional circumstances attending this strike

in Cincinnati, we must say that, while it involved only a few hundred cloakmakers, it is a very important victory. The International and the Cincinnati cloakmakers who participated in this strike have reasons to be proud of their achievement. It is an accomplishment which required endurance, sacrifice, energy and a great deal of fact.

ARE THE ENGLISH LABOR LEADERS TRAITORS?

Of course, those who had hoped that the warmly-desired and long-awaited by them social revolution had already begun, will feel bitterly disappointed over the events of last week. In their chagrin they are inclined to call the leaders of the Railwaymen and Transport Workers "traitors" and "cowards" for having withdrawn their decision for a sympathy strike with the miners. Those, however, who know that the English labor leaders never had in mind to bring about a revolution in England and under the conditions could have probably done nothing else, the entire story, while not tragic, is only a matter of keen and sincere regret.

Of course, there are some among us who think that a labor leader can achieve almost anything, if only he desires it strong enough. The will of the masses and their feelings are no consequence in such actions, they say. They are, however, who know the limitations of the power and influence of a leader will understand that the withdrawal of the strike order by the labor leaders of England at the eleventh hour was prompted not by their personal feelings, but most likely by the realization of the fact that the order would not be obeyed by the workers with the required unanimity, and that it would be best to recall the order rather than plunge into a fight which could demoralize the trade unions for years to come.

Two things must be kept in mind in order to appraise correctly the present events in the English miners' strike. First, the great working masses of England are neither communists nor socialists. Their fight is a fight for dollars and cents and their cry for the nationalization of the mines is not a demand for the socialization of all public utilities, for the beginning of the end of the capitalist system. They want nationalization of the mines inasmuch as it would help to insure a permanent and equitable wage for the coal diggers. If another plan, serving the same end, could have been advanced by the English workers, they would have discarded the idea of nationalization and adopted that other plan. The English workers may be more intelligent than workers in other countries, but they are practical to the core and there is not the slightest doubt that they would have refused to follow their leaders had these chosen to lead them on the way to a revolution, to a complete overthrow of the present order of society.

It is hard to state what really had prompted the leaders of the Railwaymen and Transport Workers to have issued that order. We assume that it was a calculated, strategic move on their part, intended to engender fear in the heart of the capitalist class of England and to force it to a compromise. To an extent, the events that followed justified their calculations. The capitalists of England, represented by the Lloyd George government, became panicky and in their desperation decided upon the bloodiest form of resistance. The spectre of a revolution by the "Triple Alliance" terrified the powers that be in England and in their horror and alarm, they began to mobilize every power of darkness and brute force to resist the attempt to carry out successfully the general strike.

Another event contributed to the complexity of the situation. Instead of waiting for a compromise offer from the mine owners or the government, the leader of the miners, Frank Hodges, proposed himself a compromise to a parliamentary committee, which was readily seized upon by the mine owners and the government. Out of these circumstances, the leaders of the Railwaymen and Transport Workers, in their resentment against the individual act of the miners' secretary, decided to recall the strike order.

Such is, in our opinion, the true condition in England. The shout of "treason" against the English labor leaders is silly and wild. Just contrary. It can be said that their present action has made possible the future existence of the "Triple Alliance." Its great social role is not ended through the events of last week, as some are inclined to assert. The conditions of the hour were as ripe enough for the carrying out of its true mission and the labor leaders of England, not being either dogmatists or adventurers, have chosen to save its usefulness and strength for a more opportune day.

Does the withdrawal of the Railwaymen and Transport Workers Union from the contest mean the defeat of the miners' strike? As we understand it, this is far from the truth. First of all, the compromises proposed by Hodges have not been endorsed by the Executive Committee of the Federation, and it is reported that they have refused to have anything to do with the miners' strike and the government on the basis of the Hodges compromise. Secondly, it is not at all certain that the compromise proposed by Hodges is of a detrimental nature. It is only alleged that the miners' secretary had told some members of Parliament that for the time being the wage question can be taken up for discussion and the principal point, that of a national holiday for the miners, is a proposal, if it was made. We see nothing treacherous in such a proposal, and the early return. Of course, Hodges is better known as the most revolutionary and uncompromising of all the young leaders of labor in England. But the history of the labor movement is replete with instances of militant labor leaders being compelled to adopt a moderate tone when the fate of the organization was at stake.

Thirdly, the miners are still on strike. Next week there will be a conference of the miners' delegates of all England, and at that conference they might accept the resignation of their secretary and decide to continue the strike, or they might decide to confer with the mine owners and bring the struggle to an end. No matter what happens, we see no cause to lament bitterly over the events of last week.

It is true no revolution has taken place in England. But it is equally true that the English workers, with the exception of a small, very limited minority, never had in mind to start a revolution in the British Isles.

WITH FIRE AND SWORD IN ITALY

By IRA W. BIRD

Rome, March 28.—The increasing number of attacks on unarmed workers by Fascist in all sections of Italy may precipitate a civil war that will cause the death of thousands of Italy's bravest Socialists and Communists. The civil war that exists in some of the northern provinces is on a minor scale, with perhaps ten or fifteen killed en masse each in a week. More are not killed because the General Confederation of Labor and the Socialist Party have cautioned the workers against attempting to take revenge for the attacks on them and their meeting places.

Leaders of the Confederation and of the Party fear that the workers in some section will rise against the Fascisti and kill enough of them to give the government an excuse to slaughter the rebel workers. There has been sufficient temptation already for the workers to arm themselves and retaliate for the wrongs done them. There have been small uprisings in some sections, where workers and peasants went to the homes of the leaders of the Fascisti, killed them and burned their houses. In some places the great villas of the Fascisti leaders were destroyed with all the farm buildings and the crops. But these have been small demonstrations compared with what will come when there is an organized protest movement.

Many feared that the greatest clash between the Fascisti and the organized workers would come last Saturday—the day before Easter Sunday. On this day the Fascisti had organized a national demonstration in honor of the 25 dead and 200 injured who were victims of the bomb explosion in the Diana Theater in Milan three days before. No one accused the Confederation of Labor or the Socialist Party with participation in the bomb plot. It was universally accepted as an anarchist protest against the imprisonment of Enrico Malatesta, leader of the anarchists of the world. Malatesta began a hunger strike a week ago in

protest against imprisonment since last October without trial on the charge of "arousing hatred between the classes." There have been several small strikes in behalf of Malatesta, but no action is even contemplated by the Confederation or the Socialist Party.

But the Fascisti of many cities much like hoodlums in the United States, sought to turn the bomb outrage to good advantage by making it an excuse for attacks on the Socialists. On the morning of the demonstration the Fascisti telephoned to offices of the Socialist Party and Confederation of Labor, warning them that if they did not fly the national emblem at half mast they would be attacked at the conclusion of the memorial demonstrations. Of course the threats did not intimidate the Socialists or the Confederation officials. No flags were flown at half mast, and preparations were made to meet attacks.

The national headquarters of the Socialist Party in the Via del Seminario—a short distance from the Pantheon—was barricaded for the expected siege. The book store on the ground floor was closed with great doors that were reinforced with iron bars. In the book store are thousands of propaganda leaflets and books, which the Fascisti delight to use for bonfires. The heavy doors to Party headquarters on the second floor were closed and barred by great iron bolts. To further reinforce the door against attacks, heavy steel braces have been constructed from the doors to the stone walls of the building. Two peep holes, less than two inches in diameter, gave those on guard inside a chance to see those outside the door before they were forced to open it.

At no time during the most ferocious attacks of the hoodlums against the Rand School and the New York Call were the forces of reaction so well organized for the reign of the White Terror. There were attacks

with canes, sticks and clubs in the raids in America. In Italy the Fascisti, paid agents of the White Terror, go on their raids armed to kill. Though there is a penalty of imprisonment for carrying concealed weapons the Fascisti carry revolvers and automatic pistols without fear of arrest. Socialist workers who are caught with weapons are certain of the heaviest sentence from hostile courts.

But the Fascisti failed to carry out their threat to raid Socialist Party headquarters. They have met with such fierce resistance of late that they gave up their plan to attack the barricaded offices and instead attacked a street car conductor and a letter carrier. With the odds 2,000 to 1 they boldly assaulted the conductor and letter carrier with canes and clubs until both were nearly unconscious before they escaped. If the attack is of interest to the reactionary workers of America. It was given to me by a comrade as follows: "The Fascisti had no grudge against either of the men they attacked. The victims were attacked purely because they were workers. The Fascisti assumed that all the workers of Italy are Socialists, so when they beat a worker they think they are serving their masters of the White Terror."

The two attacks were not made in working class neighborhoods. There would have been bloodshed and civil war if the Fascisti had dared invade the territory near the Coliseum where stands the People's House with all the offices of the labor unions of Rome—and not many Fascisti would have escaped through the crooked streets. The enraged workers, their wives and even their children would have fought to defend the attacked comrades. The attacks were made in the business section of the city, where the bourgeois live, and where there are many soldiers of the Royal Guard to protect the Fascisti in their attacks on workers.

Added to the great problems of the Party and the Confederation is that of the possibility of a general election in the near future. The reactionary forces of the country want a general election in the hope of cutting down the number of Socialist representatives in the Chamber of Deputies and strengthening the forces of reaction. And it appears as though they will have their way. The Chamber of Deputies last week voted to reconvene on April 19, but the Chamber may be dissolved before that day by mandate of the king and a general election may be ordered.

A general election at this time would mean the slaughter of thousands of workers by the Fascisti and the Royal Guard. Socialist and Communist meetings would be attacked. Deputies would be attacked on the street and in their homes. Through the most ferocious application of the White Terror the White Guard would attempt to frighten Socialists away from the polls. The position of the Socialist Party will lose forty deputies if there is a general election soon. The raids of the Fascisti have made many pessimistic. But there are many optimists, like Giovanni Bacci, national secretary of the Socialist Party, who believe that the Socialist Party will gain because the workers are anxious to cast their votes for Socialist candidates in protest against the White Terror.

There are 132 Socialist Party deputies and 19 Communist deputies. The Communists declare they can win 40 deputies in a general election now, taking that many away from the Socialist Party.

But there is a possibility that the Socialist Party and the Communist Party will refrain from participating in the general election. If participation in the election means an extension of the civil war, with an increased number of attacks on workers and their meeting places, there is a possibility that the Socialist Party and the General Confederation of Labor will issue a manifesto to the members throughout Italy, urging them to abstain from voting as a protest against the attacks of the Fascisti.

Workers' Education In Switzerland

By DR. MAX WEBER

Member of Labor Education Committee, Meilen, Switzerland

For many years education of the working class has been recognized in Switzerland as the most important factor in workers' struggle for emancipation. Both the trade unions and the Socialist Party are interested greatly in this problem. But both have their own particular objectives in the economic and political field, and therefore found it necessary to create a special organization.

Here it must be mentioned that the trade unions and the Socialist Party are closely connected, and wherever a branch of the party and several trade unions exist, they are organized in a central body, called the Workers' Union. This central body organizes the Workers' Educational Committee, in which the different unions, the party and the Young People's Socialist League are represented.

These local Educational Committees form central bodies; State Educational Committees and a National Workers' Educational Committee, whose main task is to stimulate educational work in all branches, to coordinate their experience and to supply teachers.

They communicate with all persons

who are able to lecture. Nearly all of these are school teachers or officials of labor organizations. Of course, they must be members of Trade Unions or of the Party. Sometimes other lecturers are engaged for certain subjects. But History and Economics are taught from the socialist point of view. Just now, while there is a conference of opinion on the subject of tactics, teachers are drawn partly from the left and partly from the right wing, but all advocate socialist aims.

The national and the cantonal (state) Educational Committee publish a list which contains the names of teachers, their subjects, duration of the course and recommendations concerning the arrangement of courses. Then the local Educational Committee arranges its program and selects the subjects in which it is interested.

Economics, History of Socialism and the Trades Union Movement are of course the most attractive subjects to the workers. But other subjects are not at all neglected. You can find many lectures and classes in Natural History, Science, Geography (with lantern projec-

tions), Hygiene, Literature, and so forth. Considerable attention is given to art. Courses in Drama and Music are given in connection with the performances in theatres and concert halls. Experience shows that this kind of education is the best means of propaganda among people opposed to Socialism.

A short time ago, courses in book-keeping, technical, commercial and financial management of industries were started. These are of great importance and attract more and more the attention of workers. Visits to museums and municipal institutions with lectures relating to these form another branch of their education.

The lectures last generally between 1½ and 2 hours; half of this time is reserved for discussion. Lectures and courses are generally free, except when there is an additional expense, as lantern projections, but the fees are very small. We demand free public education from the Kindergarten to the University, therefore no discussion, too, must be free. But our financial condition is very poor and we are forced to reduce our expenses as much as possible.

Rooms for classes can be obtained frequently at low cost in a People's House or a public school. Most of the teachers do not demand any compensation, though this principle is perhaps wrong. Advertising, propaganda and other expenses are covered by contributions of the trade

unions and the party. Lack of money brought an interesting proposal—to collect a progressive income tax from all the members of the Socialist Party.

The class-consciousness of the Swiss workers may be illustrated by the fact that they desert bourgeois organizations, such as gymnastic and choral societies, and form their own associations. This is due to the fact that these bourgeois associations are the reactionary bodies, which organized strike-breakers and white guards when the last general strike broke out in 1926. The Swiss Socialist Federation (Schweizerischer Arbeiter-Rat) and the Swiss Workers' Gymnastic Club (Schweizerischer Arbeiterturnverein) have existed for several years and include dozens of local branches and thousands of members. Workers' Choral Societies and many Workers' Clubs of all kinds exist in many towns and villages. All these associations are connected with the labor movement as members of Workers' Unions.

In a country like Switzerland, where there are no big industrial centres, decentralization is necessary also in workers' education. Even in small villages of 3,000 to 5,000 inhabitants, with only a small group of industrial workers, Education Committees full of activity and courage succeeded in arranging well-attended classes and lectures. The ultimate aim is to spread this educational work over the whole country, so that each town and each village may become a centre of socialist culture.

Educational Comment and Notes

SENATOR LUKS AND THE INTERNATIONAL

The most extraordinary legislation is being pushed now in Albany. During the war a large number of amazing performances were perpetrated in Free America in the name of Patriotism. (The performance of Senator Lusk, however, seems to cap the climax.) The bills which provide for the licensing of schools and teachers, introduced by Senator Lusk, were voted last year by Governor Smith. But it seems today that they are slated for passage and approval by Governor Miller.

It is impossible to conceive that an American who understands what Americanism means, should for a moment approve these bills. In brief, they provide that no teacher or school may give instruction concerning doctrines which propose to overthrow the government.

The bill does not say that teachers and schools must not advocate the overthrow of government, but that they must not teach. In other words, according to the provision of this law, if a group of people wish to know what the advocates of the overthrow of government wish, no teacher or school or teacher in the State of New York can give them the necessary information!

It is needless to characterize this measure. The palmist days of the Spanish and Russian Inquisition do not contain similar attempts to prevent men from seeking information on social and economic subjects.

How will this measure, if enacted, affect the educational work of the International?

It is well known that the classes conducted by this Department have always followed only one policy—that is, to give information. Our classes and teachers do not attempt to propagandize or to advocate any particular theory of social or economic action. Our function is to furnish to our members as many facts as possible, dealing with the problems which they are interested. We aim to collect the experience of other workers, in other lands and other times, organize it and present it to our students in such a way that they can profit by it. We want our students to be well informed on all matters connected with current social and economic issues. We wish them to form their judgment only after making as thorough an examination as possible of all the facts available.

But if the Lusk bills become a law, it seems probable that some of our educational activities will have to cease. And if those which give information on matters which are now more than ever concerned with the social progress.

Again, if there is anything that makes education worth-while and beautiful, it is freedom. The human mind cannot be shackled. The greatest intellectual work of the world has been performed by men whose minds have worked beyond the conventional limitations of what was sanctioned by current science and philosophy. The inspiration which our schools have furnished has been due precisely to this freedom. But now, with the licensing of classes, schools and teachers, nothing can be expected but mechanical and conventional teaching. Life and vitality will be gone. The picture that one sees is gloomy and depressing.

But it is impossible to believe that this legislation will stand. The self-appointed patriots who think that

they are the only ones who understand what Americanism means, are rushing to their inevitable end. "Give them rope enough and they will hang themselves!"

The sound American instinct for free thought and free expression of thought has been crushed for the past few years. The immortal ideas of Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln have only been forgotten by many, so-called Americans, but also scorned. But this cannot last. There is no doubt that very soon they will be revived, and will again rule in the minds of the American people.

SETS OF OUTLINES

Many requests have come to this Department from our members who attended courses in our Workers' University and Unity Centers for sets of outlines which were prepared by our teachers. Our members wish to keep these as a guide to be used instead of text-books during the coming vacation.

Requests have also come for these outlines from our members who did not have a syllabus to attend these courses. Sister Margaret Harvey, of Local 116, Newark, N. J., writes us that she read in "Justice" of April 1st, that we have outlines of our courses for distribution among our members. Sister Harvey asks us to send her sets of all the courses, which she thinks will help her in initiating educational activities in her own Local. It is needless to say that our Department is only too glad to be of any assistance in this direction.

That our outlines are being appreciated more and more by our members can be seen from the fact that many of the students who attended courses have bought loose-leaf folders to preserve them.

Those members who sent in written requests for outlines can now obtain them at the office of the Educational Department, 31 Union Square. Other members who may wish such copies can have them by applying at this Department.

A REQUEST BY THE STUDENTS' COUNCIL

The Students' Council of the Workers' University requests members who received tickets for the "Get together" to secure for them either by paying for the tickets or returning them to the office of the Educational Department, 31 Union Square, within the next few days.

This is necessary in order to enable the Committee to prepare a full report of the income and expenditures.

THE EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE I. L. C. W. U.

A meeting of the Educational Committee of the I. L. C. W. U. was held this Wednesday at four o'clock at the office of the International. At this meeting the Educational Department presented a report of the activities for the past season and also a plan for the next term, both of which will be published in next week's issue of the "Justice."

The Committee consists of Abraham Haroff, Chairman, and the following Vice-presidents: J. Heller, S. Nardo, S. Seidman, Fannie M. Cohn, Secretary; Alexander Fichandler, Educational Director.

THE UNITY CENTERS TO CONTINUE

We wish to call the attention of our members to the fact that the classes in English will be continued in the Unity Centers throughout the season, in some to the middle of May, and in others to the middle of June.

We advise our members to continue their studies and to urge their fellow-workers in the shops also to join these classes. This will give them a chance to learn the language of the country in which they live. As workers, and as men and women, they should realize that it is to their interest to know the language.

LETTERS BY STUDENTS

I

Dear Editor:

The workers who are taking advantage of the education given by the International organization cannot find words to express their gratitude.

The opportunity to study, which every worker gets in America is greater than in all other countries. But we ought to lay special emphasis on the education given by the International organization.

The workers, who go to school, feel there as if they are at home. They feel as if their education is paid for by themselves, although they have it free.

Every worker has very little opportunity to study. If he did not have the chance to go to school, where things are made pleasant for him, he would not try very much by himself, because of the reason mentioned. The organization tries its best to draw every worker into the school and also to increase his desire for study.

It is very sad that not every member of the International takes a part in the education offered. But from another standpoint, if all the members could and would attend the school, none of them could take advantage, because of the great expense involved. Therefore, those who are active, owe to the other members of the organization a great debt.

Mental training is very necessary for every worker. However, physical exercise is not less important. The worker has very little time, and very many worries. Physical more than mental education influences very profitably the spiritual conditions of the worker.

The worker after his daily work feels so tired that he has no energy or desire left for any mental effort. Physical training makes him feel youthful, makes him forget his fatigue and his troubles.

When he leaves the gymnasium class, the worker feels fresh mentally as well as physically. The proverb that "a sick body a healthy soul cannot live," is true. And those who cannot understand the importance of gymnastics and cannot enjoy the dancing and romping of the gymnasium class are not so valuable to the organization, as the enthusiastic worker, who is able to drop his mental worries and get recuperation through physical exercise.

LUBA GRÖSSBERG.

II

Dear Editor:

Education is of great value for the worker individually as well as collectively. The individual worker gains by education immediate material benefits. It is a fact that an educated worker is more skilled than an uneducated. An educated will always secure a position more easily and a better one at that.

But of even greater benefit is education to the workers collectively. The educated worker will never be satisfied with merely filling his stomach. He will always strive for a higher standard of living. In studying the history of the workers' movement, the educated worker convinces himself that solidarity is the only thing that can improve his conditions. We, therefore, may say that a union

is much stronger when its members are educated than when the members are ignoramus.

This truth is illustrated by the fact that the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, an organization established for economical purposes only realized the necessity of educating its members. For this reason the International established in the most crowded sections of the city Unity Centers for elementary education.

In this connection it is worth noting the physical education that the International found necessary to provide for its members. This is praiseworthy. Sitting all day in one place almost immovable, the machine worker as well as the hand sewer is in need of physical training. By taking up exercises the worker becomes more gay and is not so likely to feel too severely the task of the monotonous work.

But the International did not satisfy itself by establishing unity centers and gymnasium classes. It established a workers' college. In this college the worker student can learn many useful subjects such as economics, trade union movement, public speaking and so on. When we say useful, we do not mean for the individual personally, but for the organization as a whole. By learning economics the worker student learns how capital works; he becomes acquainted with its strongest and weakest points and knows how to deal with them.

By studying the history of trade union movement, the worker becomes acquainted with all the errors and mistakes that had been made before and is enabled to avoid such mistakes in his own experience.

Public speaking is also of great use to the organization. For a good speaker is in a position to unite the mass on one point by presenting his ideas in a clear and definite speech.

It is useless to add that a worker fully acquainted with such knowledge is of great value to the organization.

In conclusion we may add that although these members who are taking advantage of the opportunities to study owe a great debt to all other members of the organization, yet this debt is repaid to the latter in the consciousness that it is their money that has created a class of useful members and consequently a fortress for the organization.

BENJAMIN LEHBECK,
Member Local No. 58.

KOSHER WHOLESALE DELICIOUS

Manischewitz

Matzo

מַצוֹת מַשְׁכָּוִי

At all Dealers

A Declaration to the American People

(Adopted by the Special Conference of the American Federation of Labor in Washington, D. C., on February 21, 1921)

(Continued from last issue)

To that end this movement of the organized workers acts its face against all forms of compulsion, including such devices as so-called industrial courts, the un-American and repugnant idea of compulsory arbitration and the vicious, tyrannical abuse of the writ of injunction. Through such devices, in addition to the great danger which they constitute to the general public welfare, legislative enactments are set aside so that the organizations of labor may be mulcted, crippled or destroyed. Through such devices, voluntary, democratic and constructive organizations of labor are practically outlawed.

Labor Reacts

However great may be the determination of the institutions of reaction to destroy the organizations of labor by these means, the resistance of labor will be uncompromising and unrelenting. The organizations of labor must not and will not be destroyed. Trade unions foster education, uproot ignorance, shorten hours, lengthen life, raise wages, increase independence, develop manhood, balk tyranny, reduce prejudice, protect rights, abolish wrongs, and make the world better.

It should be the purpose of government to properly stimulate our industrial processes. It should be the purpose of government to make voluntary negotiation more easily entered into. If, on the other hand, all of the safeguards set up in our constitutional and legal structure for the protection of the workers are to be destroyed by judicial construction of the vitality of the Clayton Act has been destroyed, then labor demands the immediate and sweeping repeal of all of that body of laws known as anti-combination and conspiracy laws.

Labor is anxious to serve. It has made this declaration repeatedly. It has lived and practiced that determination. It has done this in the face of most wanton and brutal opposition. Government has given little assistance. It has even destroyed the simplest and most obvious beginning of what might have been an effective Employment Service. Labor repeats it is time for the immediate and comprehensive restoration of this service.

Fanatical Propaganda and Intrigue

Converging upon labor from the extreme right is autocratic reaction while from the opposite extreme is the insidious propaganda of radical European fanaticism, which is particularly and peculiarly deadly in its hatred of the American labor movement because of its democratic character and its steadfast refusal to adopt revolutionary destructive policies. It is a curious and startling fact that this propaganda of fanaticism has the sympathy and support of many of those in our country who style themselves as liberals, but who do not distinguish between that

which is truly liberal and that which is destructive and fraudulent.

Because of its opposition to the American labor movement, this overseas propaganda has even secured in the United States the support, at times secret, of some of the most reactionary American employers because of a common antagonism to the trade union movement. There is an unscrupulousness and a natural aptitude for intrigue in this fanatical propaganda which makes it a most subtle menace to every democratic ideal and institution in our country.

This propaganda, this constant effort to undermine the constructive organizations of American labor, this constant poisoning of the very foundation of our democracy, finds its expression everywhere and through countless agencies. It is assisted in its work of destruction not only by the publications devoted to a perverted expression of "liberal" thought, but it is assisted as well by many of those who speak from our platforms and who write and edit our periodical publications and our daily newspapers. Much of this assistance is involuntary and unconscious, which testifies to the subtlety of the propaganda and to the need for constant study and alertness on the part of all those who have at heart the preservation of democratic life in America.

Labor's Purposeful Determination

In face of the situation here set forth, which is still further embittered by the activities of private agents provocateurs paid by many employers, the American trade union movement, speaking through its duly authorized representatives, offers on the one hand constructive practical injustices and the autocratic policies and on the other hand, utters its uncompromising protest against the injustices and the autocratic policies which reaction seeks to impose. It declares in measured and emphatic tones its unalterable determination to resist at every point and with its entire strength the encroachments both of industrial tyranny and fanatical, revolutionary propaganda. The American labor movement is determined at all costs to maintain that freedom and those liberties which constitute American democracy. The labor movement believes this policy to be one embodying the highest statesmanship, as the only policy that can preserve and maintain and develop that harmonious relationship in industry without which our productive processes must be sacrificed to a reign of chaotic disorganization. The labor movement offers these voluntary and constructive methods of negotiation, arbitration and agreement through which it is possible to develop in our industrial life the highest degree of good will and the highest degree of productivity, in order that there may be for all of our people the fullest enjoyment of life and the loftiest standards of life.

Voluntary Principle is Vital

The effort to crush the voluntary organizations of the workers may be designed by employers as an effort to secure their own immediate enrichment, but no such effort can stop at that point. Whether its sponsors will it or not, it is an effort to bring upon our whole national organization of society, unprecedented disaster and retrogression. The principle of voluntary agreement is the

kernel from which has grown the success of this country as a democracy. If that is destroyed in our industrial life, it cannot exist in any other phase of our life and the social organization that has made America must crumble and disappear. Neither the principle of state dictatorship nor the principle of private autocratic dictation in industry can be permitted to gain a foothold in America, for where either of these comes in, freedom and democracy must cease to be.

American trade unionists have long since made their choice of principles. Their movement is founded upon the principles laid down in the foundation stones of the republic. It is now for the American people as a people to make a choice. We are confronted with a supreme crisis. Not even in the days when the nation hovered on the brink of war was the situation more critical. The path of progress and constructive peaceful achievement and evolution is laid down by the trade union movement. The road to autocracy, unfreedom and chaos is laid down by its enemies. The choice is now before the country.

(To be continued)

MARY LEVITZ,

born in Russia; Jewish, age 37, weighs 160 lbs., dark hair and eyes, tall, nice looking, dresses stylishly. Operates on shirts or shirt waists. Lived in New York, Atlantic City. Last address, 314 Lombard St., Philadelphia, Pa. By communicating with Ch. Labbe, 128 Seymour St., Hartford, Conn., she will learn something to her interest.

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The Weeks' News in Cutters Union Local 10

By ISRAEL LEWIN

After many weeks of agitation by the Cloak and Suit Manufacturers' Protective Association in the daily garment press against the workers in the cloak and suit industry, the former finally came out with a set of demands. In normal times a demand by the manufacturers would be presented in the union in an official manner and then only would be given to the press as news. In this case, owing to the fact that the agreement was abrogated by the Association over six months ago, the ambitious demands of the Association were first made known to the union through the big headlines in the press.

The employers, according to reports, ask for three definite changes:

1. A reduction in wages.
2. The lengthening of the hours of employment.
3. The right to discharge any and every worker whom an employer may, in his opinion, see fit to get rid of.

It is needless to say that the union would never accede in the remotest sense to any one of the above-mentioned changes, and should the manufacturers insist in earnest on any of the three demands, it would precipitate a long struggle. It must be obvious to the manufacturers, and a great many of them have so expressed themselves since the publication of all these so-called demands, that it would be suicide for the union and the workers to acquiesce to the propositions submitted by the Association.

We do not know how the Association intends to bring about this revolution in the industry, but we feel safe in saying that no matter what the manufacturers contemplate doing in their secret councils, our union is ready to give them the proper answer at the proper time.

One result of the announced intentions written in fiery headlines in the manufacturers' press was the closer tightening of the ranks of the workers; so much so, that even the most indifferent members of the union are now coming forward, offering their cooperation in defending the organization and its achievements of the last few years.

The Finance Departments of all the locals report great activity in spite of the slack season that is fast approaching. Our members are warned not to allow themselves to be misled by any false rumors and should read our daily and weekly press for true and reliable information regarding coming events.

Members of the Dress and Waist Branch, no doubt, recall the action taken by the Joint Board with regard to the resolution introduced by the delegates of Local No. 10, in which the Joint Board was asked to take up certain slack time problems pertaining to cutters. This was reported in these columns in last week's issue of this paper.

In accordance with the decision adopted, arrangements were completed for a control of the shops with the aim in view that cutters were employed wherever any cutting was to be done; that wherever cutters were found to be partners, steps are to be taken to place cutters in these shops; and such other measures were arranged for that would tend to do away with many slack time violations.

The manager of the Dress and Waist Division has sent to the managers of the various departments in the Joint Board shop control blanks, and the business agents are now visiting the shops and turning in these

reports to the Waist and Dress Department of the Cutters' Union.

At the last meeting of the Board of Directors, Manager Halperin, of the Joint Board, in conjunction with J. Hochman, Manager of the Independent and Waist Association Departments, reported the printing of a series of leaflets to distribute in the open waist shops. This precedes a systematic campaign. From all appearances, it is certain that within the next few weeks a number of waist shops will have been brought within the jurisdiction of the Union. There is a good deal of work to be done among the dress houses. However, considering the fact that the organization has just passed through a General Strike, it is deemed inadvisable to open this organization campaign in all branches. The Joint Board believes that to begin organizing the waist shops with an educational campaign and then to follow this up with an organization campaign would be conducive to far better results.

In connection with all this, it is well to remind the cutters working in waist and dress shops to render all possible assistance: (1) They should present their dues books and working cards to the business agent controlling their respective shops. (2) Cutters working in open waist shops should report to the office and give all necessary information regarding their shops. (3) If a waist shop is called out on strike, the cutter or cutters working in such a shop should assist the Joint Board organizers.

The Miscellaneous Division has lately been more fortunate than the Waist and Dress Division, with regard to injunctions. The firm of Burgenicht & Sons Co., 1115 Broadway, a children's dress manufacturer, in imitation of some of the waist and dress manufacturers, applied for an injunction against the Union and the strikers, but same was denied them. The only recourse left to the firm now is to settle with the Union.

Generally speaking, the last strike in the Children's Dress Industry has brought a revival in union activity in that branch. Quite a few members who had been in arrears have now put themselves in good standing.

In the Underwear Division the agreements with the independent manufacturers have practically all been signed. The only strike being conducted in this branch is against the firm of the Shapetine Underwear Company, 71 Orchard Street, which firm has paid its workers wages below the union scale, and after the union succeeded in collecting back pay for all the workers, the firm again, the following day, tried to deduct this back pay from the salaries of the workers, whereupon the Union declared this house on strike.

Irving Zilner No. 8719 appeared. Brother Zilner appeared before the Executive Board on March 31st, charged with having been found in the shop of Schildhouse, 133 W. 21st St., during the recent general strike, for which he was fined \$50. He now appears with the shop chairlady of the shop, trying to prove that he had no intentions of working, since Mr. Schildhouse was about to sell the shop. He also wishes to prove that the shop permitted him to go in before the other workers so as to prepare work for them. However, he could not give an account of himself during the general strike nor did he procure permission from the union to go into that shop. On motion previous decision stands.

Ladies' Tailors, Skirtmakers' and Alteration Workers' Union, Local No. 3

MAY FIRST CELEBRATION

Our local has decided to celebrate the first of May with a concert in
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From 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.

PROGRAM

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Mr. Aug. Wiener.....Baritone
Mr. I. Peroshnikoff.....Concertinist

Mr. Alexander Fichandler, Director, International Educational Department, will speak.

Every member is invited to come and celebrate the first of May with fellow workers.

EXECUTIVE BOARD, LOCAL 3

C. SCHATZBERG, Secretary

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A new pamphlet by Mary E. Marcy, giving the only solution to the problem of Unemployment. Price, 10 cents: 15 copies for \$1.00. Sells at sight to union men and women. Other 10-cent books by the same author are "Shop Talks on Economics," "The Right to Strike," "Industrial Autocracy" and "Why Catholic Workers Should Be Socialists." We have also just published a one-act comedy by Mrs. Marcy, entitled "A FREE UNION," satirizing "free love." Price, 50 cents. The six books mailed for \$1.00.

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CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10 ATTENTION!

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETINGS

GENERAL:	Monday, April 25th.
CLOAK AND SUIT:	Monday, May 2nd.
WAIST AND DRESS:	Monday, May 9th.
MISCELLANEOUS:	Monday, May 16th.

Meetings begin at 7:30 P.M.

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