

"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. 19

New York, Friday, May 6, 1921

Price, 2 Cents

FIRST CONFERENCE HELD IN NEW YORK CLOAK INDUSTRY

After an interruption of almost nine months, since the "Protective Association" had broken off relations with the Union, the representatives of both camps came together last Monday night at Hotel McAlpin. The first conference has left a favorable impression upon both sides. The atmosphere was quite amiable, even though the discussions were conducted with union earnestness.

The conference was opened by Mr. Louis Lustig, the Chairman of the Executive Board of the Association. He presented the side of the Association and enumerated their grievances. Several other manufacturers spoke in the same vein after him.

President Schlesinger replied in the name of the entire conference committee of the Union. He delivered a clear, sharp and convincing talk based upon the living and indisputable facts prevailing in the trade. His speech made a profound impression, and it was listened to with rapid attention. As there were about 40 persons present in both sides it was decided that it would be best for each party to elect a sub-committee and empower these sub-committees to continue negotiations for the Association and the Union.

When these lines are being written we are informed that the Conference Committee of the Union has already elected a sub-committee to negotiate

with the Association. The following are in the sub-committee: President Schlesinger, Louis Pinkusky, Chairman of the Joint Board; L. Feinberg, General Manager of the Joint Board, and J. Rubin, Manager of the "Protective Division." The locals will be represented by P. Kottler of Local No. 1, Jacob Heller of Local No. 17, Harry Wander of Local No. 23, J. Breslaw of Local No. 24, and Eduardo Molisano of Local No. 48—altogether eleven persons.

The names of the members of the employers' sub-committee have not been made public yet. The date of the next conference will be made known within the next few days.

OUR LOCALS CELEBRATE MAY DAY THROUGHOUT GREATER CITY

All the concerts and mass meetings arranged by our locals in Greater New York for May Day, the international workers' holiday, have been successful throughout. The members of the Union and their families have come to these affairs in thousands and May First was celebrated with unbounded enthusiasm.

As we have informed our readers in the last issue of "Justice," the locals have engaged for these concerts some very prominent talent and have arranged to have at each meeting one or two well-known speakers who discussed the significance and importance of May Day. Among these speakers, President Schlesinger and Vice-President Wander addressed the affair of Local No. 23, Editor Yanofsky spoke at Local No. 23 and Local No. 25. The last named meeting was also addressed by Henry Lang, labor editor of the "Forward," and was presided over by Brother Breslaw. Vice-President Lefkowitz and Alexander Fichandler spoke at Local No. 3, Israel Feinberg spoke at Local No. 11 in Brownsville.

The affair at the Manhattan Opera House was conducted somewhat differently. It was under the auspices of Locals No. 1 and 9 and the concert was an extraordinary one. The famous violinist Michel Piastro and the celebrated Russian baritone Winegradoff participated and their performance provoked genuine enthusiasm and recognition. The meeting was addressed by Socialist Alderman Viadick. It was quite negotiable that the committee had seen fit to invite a certain Mr. Watson, introduced as a "Socialist theoretician," who had taken up a good deal of the valuable time of the meeting which could have been utilized to much better advantage by the performers, as the temper of the audience clearly indicated.

Registration for Unity House Begins Next Week

House to Open on June 17th
With Big Celebration

Next Monday, May 16th, will be the first day open for registration for Unity House. The date has been set so far in advance that workers may be assured of good accommodations. The house will open on June 17th for the season, and the opening will be marked by a gala celebration of music and dance—a real Unity celebration.

Rates are as last year—\$18. Members of the Joint Board of Waist and Dressmakers Union will, of course, be given preference as the house is the property of the Board, but all members of the International are welcome.

Many improvements are being made in the house. A visit of a week ago revealed a new coat of paint for the main house, the trimming of lawns and general preparation for the vacationists. This year Unity House will have its own chicken farms, besides.

Register early. Make this a record year for Unity. Register at the main office, 16 West 21st Street, Room 6, and at all branch and local offices.

New York Organizing Campaign Well Under Way

The International Office is at present carrying on a very extensive campaign among the unorganized workers in the ladies' garment trades in New York City proper. It is conducted in a systematic and planned manner through the distribution of well-written and appealing leaflets prepared by the General Office. These leaflets are being given out to the thousands of workers, men and women, in the numerous non-Union shops of New York to whom the appeal is made that they join the respective unions of their trades and improve their working standards and conditions.

This campaign is but an additional chapter to the out-of-town organizing work which was conducted by the International in the course of the past several months. It has become apparent that right here, in the Greater

City, there are literally hundreds of shops and thousands of workers who have not yet been enrolled under the banner of our International. While there is a lull in the small towns, it was deemed expedient to make an effort to organize the workers in New York and to this end the International has put the agitation work in charge of Miss Jennie Matyas, a well known member of Local No. 25 and a tireless organizer.

The Research Department of the Union has made an investigation of the non-Union shops of the city and the agitation work is now being systematically carried out on the basis of this information. The work is being done as follows:

There is, let us say, a building in the garment district which houses a number of shops of our trades. Most of the shops in that building are, of course, union places. There are, however, two or three non-union

shops where waists, blouses and dresses are made. The shop chairmen of all the union shops in that building are being called together and their aid is solicited in the mission work undertaken among the non-union workers of the building. Stacks of leaflets and other literature is being entrusted to these shop chairmen and they undertake to distribute these among the unorganized workers. Building after building is being canvassed in such a manner through the garment district and the shops are being actively followed up day by day.

This work is already bringing good results. The shop chairmen of the organized shops in the buildings, irrespective of what women's garment trade they belong to, are displaying an unusual interest in the work and are aiding Miss Matyas and her co-workers very loyally. Last week a meeting of all the managers of every local in New York, including the locals belonging to the Joint Board, was held in the International Office under the chairmanship of President Schlesinger, and ways and means were worked out for enlisting the aid of all the locals in the organizing work at present conducted by Miss Matyas.

In the men's clothing industry the up and down course in the injunction fight has been, during the last week, quite similar to the steps recorded in the anti-injunction campaign of our International. The Amalgamated has also scored two victories last week and has had one injunction issued against it. In the principal proceedings, the Friedman Co.'s application for the dissolution of the Amalgamated, no definite decision has yet been rendered.

Meanwhile the planned great mass meeting, calculated to be the first opening gun in the anti-injunction fight inaugurated under the auspices of the Central Trades and Labor Council of Greater New York and vicinity, is materializing very slowly. The organized workers in the garment trades who were promised this help, are looking forward to this meeting as a token of solidarity on the part of their organized fellow workers which they have so richly deserved by their valiant fighting and courageous spirit.

Injunction Plague Still Raging --Union Wins Two Suits

The injunction plague is still raging over the head of our Union in New York City. After one judge dismisses an injunction, another judge of some other court, undisturbed, issues a new injunction, and so the fight continues without end in view.

On Friday last our International had won a case in the Appellate Division which dismissed the temporary injunction granted to the dress firm M. Piermont & Co. of 62 W. 38th St. some time ago against the Joint Board of the Dressmakers' Union and against some officers of our International. The appeal to the Appellate Division was argued by our attorneys, Morris Hillgutt and Morris Rothenberg. In this injunction, as well as in all prior injunction cases, the question at issue were the so-called contracts which the employers

had made for the purpose of putting the union in the light of accomplices to the abrogation of agreements.

Last Tuesday, Supreme Court Justice John V. McAvoy denied an application for an injunction brought by Feldman Bros. of 155 Madison Ave., waist and dress manufacturers, against the officers of the International, on the ground that Union had sought to "induce their employees to quit their jobs."

On the other hand, on that same day Justice Delahanty of the Supreme Court issued a temporary injunction to the waist firm Newport Costume Co. of 105 Madison Ave. This firm is a member of the former Waist and Dress Association and a strike had been conducted against it for quite some time.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK

By MAX D. DANISH

THE CLOTHING UNIONS IN THE SENATE

LET us offer thanks to whoever thanks are due. The illustrious lights of the United States Senate are to be shed upon these horrible organizations, the garment workers' unions. Senator Moses of New Hampshire has introduced the other day a resolution directing the Committee on Education and Labor to investigate "as speedily as possible" clothing conditions in New York, Boston and Philadelphia, including the "purposes, objects, methods and tactics" of the Union. Along with this resolution Senator Moses has issued to the press a covering statement. We call some gems from this statement:

"The Amalgamated is distinctly aiming at the taking over of the clothing industry for the benefit of the workers."—"Their declaration of principles provide for the organization of workers along the lines of complete individuals rather than on the lines of individual trades."—"The most pronounced centres of radicalism in the United States are in the branches of the Amalgamated," etc., etc. Reads just like papers in the injunction suit for the dissolution of the clothing workers' union filed recently by the lawyers for the clothing houses who had locked out their workers five months ago and who are now seeking to defeat the union through the aid of an injunction writ.

Somewhat or other, we are not a bit hopeful that this investigation will actually materialize. A couple of months ago a similar resolution was introduced in the New York legislature "to investigate the clothing conditions in New York, and, strange enough, the resolution has died a peaceful death in committee pigeon holes. We are inclined to believe that the Moses resolution will meet with a similar fate in the United States Senate. That piffle about "hotheds of Boston," "coldness down of production," etc., may sound well enough on paper. Should it come to a real investigation, however, the gentlemen in the employing end of the clothing industry know quite well that the Union may have something very instructive and interesting to offer to the general public that would cast a lurid light upon their sinister activities and price gouging for the last five or six year's testimony that would it or six year's testimony that would not ask quite so prettily on paper. So it might, after all, be found best to drop the whole matter as it was dropped in the New York Assembly.

THE INNOCENT MIDDLEMAN

THE bumcombe that "high wages are responsible for the prevailing high cost of commodities" that has been drummed into our ears times without number during the last few years by employers and their champions, has received a smashing blow a few days ago in the official announcement issued by the Federal Reserve Board in its review of general business and financial conditions for the month of March.

Throughout the review the retail price situation is emphasized as the most important point at which the "inflationment process appears to be sticking." Reports which have been received by the Federal Reserve Board from all of the twelve districts appear to back up these assertions. They show that retail merchants are loath to renew their stocks and are obtaining as high prices as possible from the consuming public. They point out that since January there has taken place a reduction of 11 per

cent in raw materials as compared with 3 per cent. in prices to the consumer. The index figure on retail prices now stands at 58 per cent. above the 1913 average. In every important industry in the country the difference between the wholesale prices and retail prices is striking. While the wholesale rates have in most instances returned to the pre-war level, the retail prices are registering only a small reduction. In the coal and iron group of commodities prices are still 58 to 100 per cent. higher above pre-war levels.

Now in view of this official confirmation of the fact that the workers, the ultimate consumers, have not really obtained any substantial decrease in the cost of living—albeit propaganda to the contrary notwithstanding—the employers, and our employers in particular, can have the temerity to come out with demands for a reduction of the workers' earnings, beyond the grasp of the ordinary human mind. It is, nevertheless, a hopeful sign of growing intelligence that the workers will not permit themselves to be stampeded into a state of helplessness and will resist with every ounce of strength the encroachments of that unholy combination—the manufacturer, jobber and retailer.

THE GENERAL STRIKE OF THE SEAMEN

AS a result of the failure of negotiations for a new wage and working agreement on all American shipping, the long expected walkout of the marine workers has begun on Monday last. The Seamen and Firemen's Unions have announced that their men have refused as a unit to accept the new scale of pay calling for a 15 per cent. cut. 5,000 engineers and about 40,000 unlicensed men are affected in the New York harbor alone.

The strike order has been obeyed at all the principal seaports of the country. Ships at Boston, Mobile, Ala., Galveston, Texas, all along the Florida coast and on the Pacific coast have been tied up completely and shipping is expected to come to a complete standstill within the next two days.

The negotiations which were conducted through the Federal Shipping Board have lasted for several weeks. Finally, on Saturday last, Admiral Benson, Chief of the Board, ordered a reduction in wages. On behalf of the seamen and marine workers, President Andrew Furuseth of the International Seamen's Union stated that the deep sea workers will not accept such an unwarranted cut in wages. The officers of the union pointed out that the reduction amounted practically to a 20 per cent. cut over overtime and subsistence pay is counted.

This cut applies only to employees on the so-called government ships. The private ship owners who have contended for an even larger cut, were expected by the Shipping Board officials to follow the example set by the Board. In anticipation of this lockout, the men of the privately owned ships have left the docks. Union Secretaries Davis and Hooper of the Departments of Labor and Commerce appoint a commission that will mediate the strike, the conflict promises to develop into an obstinate and protracted struggle, as the men are determined not to accept this slash in wages at all costs.

THE PRINTERS' 44-HOUR WEEK

THE events of importance have taken place in the printing industry during the last week. The 44-hour week in the job and book printing shops was scheduled to go into effect throughout the country on May 1st. In some cities the shorter week, however, is not expected to be granted by the employers, regardless of the fact that the national agreement called for the introduction of this measure on the above set date. In these places the union expects to call the men out on strike and to hold the employers all over the country strictly to the terms of their contract.

The other important event is the decrease in wages ranging from \$4 to \$5.50 a week, affecting 7,000 workers in the printing shops of New York, which is embodied in a decision prepared by the arbitrators in the wage controversy between the employers and the New York local unions. The employers had proposed a wage reduction of 25 per cent. to become effective April 1st. The unions came back with a counterdemand for an increase in wages varying from \$7 to \$10 a week, contending that the cost of living had not materially decreased and that the condition of the industry would warrant a rise in pay for the workers. After a number of conferences it was agreed to arbitrate.

In balancing their gains and losses, the printers of New York have thus come out about even. While the introduction of the 44 hours is a distinct gain of a lasting nature to the printers, the reduction in wages offsets materially. When one begins to consider that this reduction has taken place, through a decree of arbitration chosen to represent the "public," who arrived at their conclusion presumably upon the usual supposition that the cost of living had really come down, one begins to doubt the value of arbitration in labor disputes. We doubt if the organized workers in the printing industry could have fared worse in an out-and-out contest with their employers.

CHICAGO HAS A BRINDLE AFFAIR

THE Metropolis of the West, apparently anxious not to be outdone by New York, is having a Brindle affair of its own. Charges of conspiracy involving firms in the building trades and some officers of the building trades' unions have been made public, and last week a Federal Grand Jury returned indictments against 110 individuals in the sheet metal, plumbing and steamfitting trades.

The details of the affair appear to resemble so closely the disgusting practices brought out in the course of the Lockwood investigation in New York, that they need not be retold here. It was the same cutthroat holding up of the individual jobber, the same milking of the small, independent contractors, and the same evidence of debauchery in some of the building trade unions. As in New York, the principal offenders are, of course, the employers and jobbing associations, who, through a system of price fixing have held the building situation in Chicago in the hollow of their hand.

Which offers additional confirmation of the truth which has been stated in the columns of "Justice" time and over again. It is not a question of an individual Brindle or individual malfeasance in the building trades of New York only. It is the general condition of irresponsibility and lack of idealism which makes possible such practices in New York and

which makes it just as possible in Chicago that is at the core of this situation.

LUSK, ARCHIE AND MAY DAY

THE comedy-bouffe of the annual May Day scare was "puffed off" this year with just as much pomp and circumstance as in previous years. Everything went off smoothly and according to formula. Four or five days before May Day there appeared headlines in the papers speaking ominously about "riots, demonstrations, strikes, bombs," that were bound to break loose from one end of the country to the other on May Day. The next day there came the inevitable invitation, with the chiefs of the Secret Service in Washington, in which the latter claimed to have laid their fingers upon the "hotheds of anarchy and destruction." On the eve of May Day, a few well advertised sleuths of New York's own secret service arrested somewhere, somehow a few mysterious individuals and captured "tons of propaganda."

Then May Day came and passed as usual, with mass meetings and orderly workers' demonstrations. Without the slightest trace of confusion or disturbance warrant a rise in pay for the workers. After a number of conferences it was agreed to arbitrate.

We forget to mention that this year May Day was preceded by an unusual agitation on behalf of a certain "Americanization" meeting conducted under the auspices of the notorious American Defense Society at Carnegie Hall, on May 1st. At that meeting New York City was treated to speeches by the famed Senator Lusk of Albany and our own invincible Archie Stevenson, who harangued a meagre and feeble audience of some 600 or 700 people in the spacious Carnegie Hall, upon the virtues of suppressing freedom of thought and of doing away with whatever liberties there are still being enjoyed by the huge and well-tamed American populace.

We are inclined to believe that the press, in displaying these huge scare headlines on the days preceding the First of May, knows well enough that the public is not taking it any too seriously with regard to these terrible prognostications. It has become, however, a habit, a bad habit, we admit, and it will probably require many years before it will get out of it. Meanwhile we shall have to stand for it, as we stand for the flu, for fever, the measles and all other nasty things that come to pass.

WAIST AND DRESS MAKERS, ATTENTION

On Saturday evening, May 7th, at 7.30 p.m., members of the Waist and Dressmakers' Union will have the last get-together of the year.

This gathering will be in the form of a concert and entertainment to be held at Waistmakers' Unity Centre, 820 East 20th Street.

A musical program consisting of Russian and Yiddish folk songs by Miss Rose Rabbach, violin solo by Miss Nanette Deer, numbers by the Rand School dancers and by the students of the Center, will be followed by dancing and refreshments.

All members who wish to make sure of seats should apply for passes to the Educational Department of the Local, Room 6, 16 West 21st Street.

A WOMAN LEADER OF 700,000 WORKERS

By MARION LUCAS

(Special correspondence to "Justice")

Rome, April 5, 1921

During sixteen years of twenty years' existence as a labor organization, the *Federazione Nazionale dei Lavoratori della Terra d'Italia* (Agricultural Workers' Union of Italy) which today numbers 700,000 members, has unanimously retained as general secretary Signora Argentina Allobelli. A woman directs the negotiations of one of the largest and most militant labor organizations of Italy.

Signora Allobelli is a forceful, elderly woman, whose vigorous manner of speaking gives the impression of tremendous reserve energy. I interviewed her in French, which she speaks well, in the branch office recently established by the organization in the headquarters of the General Confederation of Labor in Rome. The main office of the Union of Agricultural Workers is located at Bologna, as it has been for 16 years. Rugged Italian strength typified this remarkable leader of the agricultural workers. She seems to have something of the vitality of the worker of the earth, the peasant, in spite of the fact that she has been, since the age of 18, an organizer and executive. She was one of the first women of Italy to work for the admission of women to the Socialist Party. Capable of tremendous patience, she is energetic, quick of motion, articulate and graceful in gesture.

"I have, to have the energy of a man," she exclaimed, as one of the many important visitors who interrupted our interview claimed her attention.

"She is better than a man," commented an official of the General Confederation of Labor, who accompanied the visitor.

"My hair was black when I first began work with the organization," said Signora Allobelli, running and rapidly through her hair. "It has grown gray with service. I am impassioned with love for the workers of the earth. I love all peasants. They have their faults, which

I, perhaps more than any other person, know. But I accept them as they are, and I love them. I love them and I love the earth they work. Whatever little ability I have, I want to give entirely to them. I do not want to spare my energy. It is all theirs."

"I was born in Imola, in the district of Romagna. At the age of 18 I became a Socialist organizer. I have always worked with the workers, and it is quite natural that, when the agrarian movement began to be organized, I should have been called upon to help in the work of that association. During my work with the organization I was married, had children, and lived the ordinary woman's life. Nothing in my personal life, however, has ever interfered with my work."

"The agrarian movement in Italy began at Mantua in 1884, when the misery and starvation of the peasants caused the first strike. After the beginning in Mantua, a large co-operative movement spread over the country, even reaching Sicily. In 1894, the reactionary government succeeded in stifling all economic movements for a long period of time."

"The movement went through various stages, sometimes diminishing, sometimes growing, until 1893, when a tremendous growth was caused by the high cost of bread. This growth in 1893 followed a period of reaction and went partially, perhaps, the effect of Socialist propaganda. In the beginning of 1900 the first combative organization of the workers of the earth was formed. This organization was called the *Leghe di Miglioramento*, the League for Improvement. This League began and grew especially in the regions of Emilia, Lombardia and Veneto, and later formed the nucleus of the present federation."

"The first congress of the agricultural workers of Italy was an historical event because it was the first gathering of the proletariat of Italy where they met, to the surprise of the bourgeoisie, for the purpose of

extending an organized movement of workers. At this congress, under the chairmanship of Andrea Costa, 704 leagues were represented, with a combined membership of 152,022 workers from practically all districts of Italy. At this congress were discussed the most important problems of the agricultural workers, like internal emigration, tariff, workers' contracts and agrarian legislation."

"The discussion rapidly led to 'Socialization of the land,' and the vote in favor of this raised a protest from the Republican League, exclusively from the colonies, which were alienated from the national federation because of this."

"The congress ended triumphantly with the establishment of the *Federazione Nazionale dei Lavoratori della Terra d'Italia*. This begins the story of the organized movement. Carlo Venzani, who had been one of the first organizers at Mantua, was elected secretary."

"From its beginning, the federation wished to have an explicit class character, with its members from the rural proletariat. It represented the interests of the agricultural proletariat in the legislative assembly, promoted the formation of further local, and carried on written and oral propaganda. The executive power of the federation lies in the congress, the national council, the federal commission, the secretary and the referendum."

"From the moment when the constitution of the Federation was written, the organization began its struggle to elevate the miserable conditions of the workers in the fields, to raise the starvation wages which they received (1.50 lire a day for men and 60 centimes for women) and to diminish the burden of long hours (about 14 hours a day)."

"In 1905, the secretary died. In April, 1906, I was appointed secretary in his place. In 1906, the general headquarters of the Federation were established in Bologna, where they are today."

"The most important technical questions have been discussed by the

National Council and at the congress of the organization. The first congress took place on November 24 and 25, 1901, in Bologna. At the second congress, which took place on April 7-8, 1906, we had lost some of our members and therefore had a membership of only 77,500. Our third congress, which was held in Reggio in March, 1909, witnessed a gain in membership as 125,067 workers were represented there. In 1911, we had risen to 200,000 members. We held our congress at Bologna in March. Four hundred thousand members were represented at the congress held in June, 1919, at Bologna."

"In 1920, we had attained the enormous number of 800,000 members. That is the greatest number of workers that have ever belonged to the federation. We hoped to gain enough new members in 1921 to make a round million. Unfortunately political events have made us lose instead of gaining."

"The continued attacks of the fascists on the institutions of the workers have frightened the agricultural workers as well as the Socialists and Communists. The fascists never attack the agricultural workers directly. They attack, instead, the deputies elected by the workers, the Chambers of Labor and the meeting places of the people. They have burned thirty Chambers of Labor in Italy during the last year."

"We expect that, by the end of 1921, we will have a membership of only 700,000. That is a drop of 100,000 workers and is due greatly to the attacks of the fascists."

"We are still a militant organization, however, and we expect that the present strike of workers in Ravenna will be followed by other combats with the employers. Most of our contracts with employers terminate in December or in February. That means that there will be more fights in the fall."

"The employers are seeking to replace the present system of employment exchanges, established by the Federation, by private agencies. Where private agencies are established, the employers give the preference to fascists. The workers have a tremendous battle before them, but the great majority have remained firm, even in the face of the intimidation by the fascists. We are not afraid of the approaching storm."

WITH THE WAIST AND DRESS BOARD

(Minutes of Meeting, Friday, April 15, 1921)

By M. K. MACKOFF

Brother Harry Berlin presided.

Sister Krohnhardt stated that she received notice from Local No. 25 very recently that she was expelled from the Joint Board of Local No. 25 and believes that it was an unjustifiable act on the part of that Board. Upon motion it was decided to request Local No. 25 to give a hearing to Sister Krohnhardt.

Local No. 25 also informed the Joint Board that they elected an Election Committee to supervise the election of the Executive Board for the waitmakers' local and that only waitmakers would be admitted to vote. The opinion of the Joint Board was that Local No. 25 be given a limited time to carry out these elections and that the committee of the Joint Board should work in conjunction with the committee of Local No. 25 to carry out the elections properly.

Local No. 19, in reply to the communication of the Joint Board, asking it to substitute another business agent for Brother Wilder, replied that they would keep the matter in abeyance until Brother Wilder is granted a proper trial.

An application was received from the House Dress and Kimono Workers' Union, Local No. 41, applying for membership in the Joint Board. This application was referred to the same committee which was appointed to act on the application of Local No. 50.

A communication was received from Local No. 22 in which they requested the Joint Board to arrange a conference between Locals No. 22 and 23 as soon as possible in order to take up the matter of transferring the dressmaking shops controlled by Local No. 23 to the jurisdiction of the Joint Board. Upon motion decided to appoint a committee consisting of Brothers Antonini, Hochman and Horowitz, to arrange for such a conference at the office of the International at an early date.

Sister Jennie Matyas reported on behalf of the Unity House Committee that Sister Hilary agreed to take charge of the Supply Department of the house, and that the committee had decided to open the Unity House on June 17th with a celebration; that the charges this summer will be \$18 per week for members of the Inter-

national, and \$23 for outsiders. The committee also decided that children between the ages of 3 and 9 should not be admitted in excess of ten at a time, and that the charges for such children be \$13 per week. Sister Matyas also reported that extensive repairs are now being made at Unity House and that the Unity Committee needs \$5,000 to complete the arrangements in full for the coming season. The Joint Board approved the report of the committee.

Brother Halpern, the General Manager of the Joint Board, found during the first week in office, that the dress industry is very slow at present, while the waist trade is quite busy. He stated that it is, in his opinion, a good time to do organization work. He recommended that the Investigation Department should be under his own supervision with the aid of some of the staff who are working there, and that the Organization Department should be placed under the supervision of Brother Hochman.

He also reported that he visited the office of the Association and found that some of the business agents, as well as the deputy clerks of the Association are not attending with proper dispatch and efficiency to the work on hand, and that he took steps to expedite matters in the future. He urged that business agents make it their affair to visit

the shops more frequently in order to ascertain whether the agreements are lived up to properly.

Brother Halpern also reported about difficulties with the Jobbers' Association with regard to examiners, and requested the Board of Directors' opinion on these difficulties.

Brother Halpern also reported about some shops which are still on strike and advised that some of them be disbanded. The Board of Directors fully agreed with Brother Halpern and decided to refer this matter to the office for action.

(Continued on page 7)

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JUSTICE

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EDITORIALS

THE RIGHT SPIRIT

It is, perhaps, too early yet to forecast the end of the conferences between the workers and the employers in the cloak industry. Nevertheless, judging by the first conference, held on Monday last, we are inclined to hazard the hope (we should have used the word "conviction" hadn't we desired to be particularly careful, that the entire controversy will end in a peaceful manner.

It is not our frame of mind, perhaps, influenced by a natural wish that a conflict in the cloak industry be averted, if possible? Is it not a fact that in many cases the wish is father to the thought and that we would consciously, or unconsciously, ignore in our conclusions the many factors that might lead to a conflict? Perhaps, it is partly so. Nevertheless, having had the pleasure of being present at that first conference, and having followed attentively the speeches delivered on both sides, particularly from the employers' side, from the representatives of the "Protective Association"—and the tone in which they were uttered, we feel entitled to our belief that unless our employers came to that conference with peace on their lips and war in their hearts, these negotiations are a forerunner of a permanent adjustment in the industry.

Granting that the cloak manufacturers are imbued with such a spirit, we are confident that the union will not place any obstacles in the path of peace. The aftermath of the dark years of the war has brought the cloak industry face to face with certain problems. These problems are admittedly quite earnest. Our leaders and our entire membership readily admit that these problems must be solved. It is, nevertheless, clear to all who can see and think clearly that these problems cannot be solved through fighting. It is likewise clear that these problems cannot, and will not, be solved by the manufacturers alone, as some of them have perhaps thought. Neither can they be solved by the workers alone. For the successful untangling of these earnest questions, the efforts of both sides is required. It appears that both sides understand it in this light and the logical sequence of such an understanding is that given an earnest attitude and the good will, the way will be found for a peaceful settlement. The new relationship in the cloak agreement must be of such a nature that will permit of no victors and no vanquished in the industry, as one of the employers aptly remarked.

Yes, the spirit at the first conference was a very harmonious and encouraging one. The impression made was that neither side wanted to "put something over" on the other side. It appeared as if earnestly interested negotiators had come together to consider and seek ways and means to meet the newly-arisen difficulties in the cloak industry of New York City. In such a spirit and with such a will for conscientious cooperation, this controversy, it seems to us, can end but in a complete and mutual understanding.

INTERNATIONAL SCORES IN INJUNCTION FIGHT

We may expect now that the injunction storm which has raged during the past few months over our International, is about to subside. The dove that forecast the end of the deluge came in the form of a decision from the Appellate Division dismissing the temporary injunction granted by a lower court to the firm of M. Pierpont & Company against our union. This decision was issued against the International on the basis of a serious argument originated in the inventive mind of that firm's lawyer. This argument, or rather plan, is quite a simple one and it works out in the following way:

The union calls out the workers of a certain shop on strike. The firm, retaliates by getting some strike breakers. Quite naturally, the union attempts, through its pickets, to persuade the strike breakers to join the strike. This is regarded as perfectly legal and no injunctions would be issued against that. Here, however, enters the legal subtlety of our attorney. He advises the employer to enter into a so-called contract with the strike breakers. A contract, as you know, is sacred and cannot be abrogated. The union, in endeavoring to persuade such workers under contract with the firm to join the strikers is thereby aiding and abetting the abrogation of the contract. And, presto! The courts are requested to enjoin the union from going on with its work.

It was against this type of injunction that the International, through its lawyers, Morris Hillquit and Morris Rothenberg, had appealed to a higher court, to the Appellate Division, after having laid bare this contract swindle. This time, our lawyers scored a clean victory. The Appellate Division has rescinded the injunction.

We should be guilty of too much optimism were we to say that this decision will put an end to the injunction plague in our industries. It is, indeed, too difficult to prognosticate in these matters at all. Each court in America is a little principality of its own, and there are still judges plenty who would find other reasons for issuing injunctions against a labor union. Nevertheless, the decision is of considerable importance.

We are, at the same time, discouraged and surprised at the very tardy progress the publicity campaign, the campaign of education in the anti-injunction drive decided upon by the organized workers of New York, is making. Publicity of that kind would be of great value right after this decision. We have heard that great difficulties are being experienced in obtaining a proper meeting hall for the opening of the campaign. It is told that it was impossible to get the great auditorium of an armory for this meeting, despite the fact that Samuel Gompers is to be the principal speaker at this meeting. This is all quite possible. Nevertheless, we cannot imagine that if proper energy and efforts are used, that it would be impossible to get a meeting room in New York for this purpose. That would mean nothing short of an absolute denial of opportunity for an open protest on the part of the citizens and workers of New York against any iniquity or menace to its rights and liberties. We are not yet inclined to accept this as a fact and we expect that very soon, regardless of difficulties, this extremely important campaign of education against the injunction plague will be started full steam ahead upon its way.

THE ONE DAY GENERAL STRIKE

Last May Day the world of labor was at a standstill. The working classes of America, not usually given to celebrating May Day, stayed away from shop, factory, mill and mine with marvelous unanimity. A one-day general strike had been proclaimed and obeyed throughout the industries of the land.

The miracle was accomplished. Let us lift the veil of mystery. The order to cease work was given, not by organized labor, but in the name of that Old Revolutionist of a score of centuries ago, the Carpenter of Nazareth.

Last May Day fell on Sunday.

ECONOMIC LAWS, THE PUBLIC AND WAGES

We read frequently in the capitalist press that there exist certain inextorable economic laws which can be changed by no amount of pious wishes; that eventually these iron laws come out victors in every situation. We hear such arguments not infrequently even from some intelligent employers. They tell us: "Your philosophy may be very attractive. It cannot, however, endure against the iron-clad economic laws, and if these demand that the laborer work for lower wages, nothing can prevail against them."

In recent years these economic laws have obtained a new ally, in the form of the dear "public." We hear it stated by employers that it is not they, nor the workers, who determine wages, but that huge modern sphinx, "the public." And against this almighty dictator there is no appeal. Let us see if the "public" decides that the wages of the worker are to be cut, its ultimatum must be obeyed.

Had this been really so, our entire labor movement would have been an unfortunate blunder and the efforts of organized labor, to raise their living standards, would remain futile. The living realities of the day, however, tell a different story. In spite of economic laws and the precious "public," the workers are getting higher pay for their labor today than even a few years ago. Regardless of the fiat of these economic laws and the "public," the hours of labor have been materially decreased. It would appear, therefore, that these laws and this "public," the hours of labor have been materially decreased. It would appear, therefore, that these laws and this "public" are not quite as almighty as some would have us believe; that the worker conscious of his own rights can become an influential factor in determining his conditions. The demand that these laws and the "public" make that labor go back to its former standards of misery, cannot, therefore, have the slightest influence upon the workers who have fought and won, for themselves a measure of humane living standards. They treat such an argument with derision and scorn. "If these economic laws and the 'public' demand, in the name of cheap prices, our enslavement," they say, "we shall carry on the fight until these laws and this 'public' will change their stock of arguments and their tone with regard to us."

Take, for instance, the workers in the cloak industry. It is being argued that if the cloakmakers would agree to work for lower wages, the "public," which had heretofore abstained from buying cloaks, would commence to buy. It is argued that in place of one garment, two will be sold and two will have to be produced. In the end that would chop down considerably on the worker would be just as well off as he is today, under the diminished purchasing power of the dollar. On the surface this would appear as quite a plausible argument; but, think it over and you will at once perceive the lameness of it. If wages are to be cut in every industry, the producers who constitute in fact the great public, will not be able to purchase any garments, even at "attractive" prices. Of what good will these garments, reduced in price, be to the worker, the consumer, the "public," if they will lack the necessary cash to purchase same? As a result, these garments will remain on the shelves of the retailers, production will, naturally, be curtailed and the worker will suffer even doubly under the new state of affairs.

Not only the worker will be the victim of this wage-cutting scheme. Together with him will suffer the manufacturer and all other factors in the industry. The cloak industry has flourished and prospered since the cloakmakers began to receive more or less decent pay. It would, perhaps, be worth while for our employers to halt and think over that. They would then perceive that their demand for a reduction of wages is unjust, unfounded and even against their own interests.

At the conference last Monday, President Schlesinger, in his speech, it appears to us, struck the nail on the head, as it were, with regard to the point under discussion. "Why is the cloak market at the present so badly hit? Is it because cloak garment prices are too high? No. Cloak prices may fall ever so low and the cloak market will not improve one iota as a result thereof. It

WANTED: A WORKERS' INTELLIGENSIA

By HARRY ROGOFF

In the early days of the agitation for an eight-hour work day, the popular argument was that shorter working hours would usher in a new period in the life of the workers. It was commonly asserted that with the acquisition of more leisure, the worker would read more and think more; that he would pay more attention to injustices of our merciless social order; that he would have more time to analyze the causes of the present economic disorder and would become more class-conscious and revolutionary.

The sermons addressed to workers on the benefits of prohibition, we recall, ran along similar lines. When the saloon is abolished, it used to be said, one of the chains which hold the workers down will be smashed; with the passing of the saloon the laborer will not be able to drown his sorrows in the booze. He will be kept out of contact with human driftwood and wreckage and in a sober state will seek saner amusement and enjoyment. He will go to lecture halls, attend meetings; he might even become a better union man and lead a "cleaner life in general."

We have lived to see both things come to pass. We have a shorter workday in all industries and we have prohibition. Have these prophecies been realized? Have the working masses improved? Have they become

more militant, more class-conscious? Has the labor movement in general made appreciable advances in the direction of enlightenment and idealism? We regret to say—no.

As far as our own workers are concerned, we remember well that in the years when the hours of work were practically unlimited, we had comparatively a greater amount of spiritual activity in our midst. There was really in those days more idealism among leaders of labor and more intelligence in the masses. The shorter work day has benefited greatly the theatres, the "movies," and other places of amusement—rather than the lecture hall and the educational classes. This is true of labor unions not only in New York City. There are organizations in other localities and lands, which cannot fill a hall for a lecture, particularly when the topic to be discussed is of an earnest nature. We know how difficult it is to get together a class of a few dozen students, regardless of strenuous advertising efforts. There seems to be always an excuse ready for these failures to attend. Education seems to be too hot in summer, and the weather is of course, too beautiful for indoors between seasons.

Far years we have heard the cry in our unions: "We are short of intelligent forces!" The writer of

these lines was astounded more than once at the stupidity of some members of trade unions in running for office in their organizations without the slightest preparation or knowledge of the first principles and practices of the labor movement. This was only possible because the general intellectual equipment of our masses is so woefully low. This inevitably leads to the situation that the small number of intelligent workers found in the unions become an exclusive group, an aristocracy which controls matters undisturbed. They know that they are the chosen ones, that they have a monopoly of leadership, and no matter how honest and purblind a person may be, such a conviction inevitably lessens their worth as leaders; while those whose motives are, to an extent, selfish, such a position is likely to lead to quite dangerous results. We have no doubt that it was this situation that contributed to a great extent to some of the corruption which was discovered during the last few years in certain labor organizations.

There are a number of young men and women in our shops who spend their free hours in self-education. Most, if not all of them, however, do it for a career. They study not in order to become intelligent workers, but in order to escape from the shop. They study not in order to improve

their grasp of conditions and to enlarge their usefulness in combating the evils of our economic life, but in order to get rid of the environs in which they find themselves and of the struggles which these environs necessitate. They hope to study a profession and to gain eventually the class of the semi-professionals. From such seekers after knowledge the workers have little to expect. Even those among these ambitious young men and women who are compelled to give up their hopes and who remain in the shops, a worker's intelligensia in the true sense of the word cannot be created.

This dearth of intellectual forces is one of the most important problems facing the labor unions at this moment. The old excuse for not learning and studying is about today. The worker has a considerable amount of leisure time; his evenings are free, his Saturday afternoon and Sunday is free, but he wastes, as a rule, this time for nickel amusements, for the gaudy shows at Coney Island, pleasures of a kind that both tire and dull his mind. Instead, the workers should get in touch with true education, with real spiritual work which in time will become to them a source of higher enjoyment and keen and redemptive amusement.

The labor movement all over the world has this problem on the order of the day. Our unions must do likewise. Their development depends on this solution. If they succeed in raising the spiritual level of the workers, as well as they have raised their material standards, their future is safe.

A LETTER TO A FRIEND

By MARY GOFF

Dear—

Last Tuesday afternoon, suddenly and with no preparations on my part, I found myself in our Unity House at Forest Park. The overwhelming surprise upon my arrival prevents me from saying a word about the journey.

Indeed, it was a short stay; so in haste I ran from one glorious spot to another. It was impossible to go by without stopping to greet the little deer—which stands motionless and is forever gazing to see some one approach. He still seemed told from the sharp winds; there was not a soul to pet him. I met his pleading glance and he looked cheerful as I embraced him. Another moment and I was off.

From a distance, I could see the budding lilac bushes. Another week and then what intoxicating fragrance—the apple trees with the sweet white blossoms, completing the splendor, adding that glystering touch to so picturesque an awakening of Spring.

No human foot-trodden upon the new green velvet lawn, so restfully pleasing to the eye. It was as if there had been a deep slumber under the shelter of the snow flakes and now I saw each branch rubbing its eyes, opening their wide to greet the motherly rays of the sun and looking up to see the clear blue sky. How gracefully they stretch their

limbs. And the new-born leaves break forth.

I see the doors and windows wide open to welcome me. And now for the lake. Down the steps and then I see a new world—blue, sparkling water, surrounded by an enchanting forest. I held my breath as I got into a boat and fearing that I may have forgotten how to row, I passionately went across to the other side of the mirror-like water.

The beauty and refreshing splendor no brush or pen can describe. There I paused a moment. There was no one with me. I could hear the harmonious rustle of the trees accompanied by the chatter of the birds which almost melted my heart.

I looked about—there was not a soul to share with the joy of living that moment. Did I hear the echo of voices across the lake? Are those wood cutters?

I trembled and a shudder like an electric current went through me. As I turned my head, I saw the forest starting at me, with a voice that jarred my ear, she said, "Can't you hear me talking to you? Are you dreaming?"

Oh, dreaming I was and carried away from the stifling atmosphere and the droning of the machines into the dreamland called Unity House.

How many of our dreams have been realized. How the heart throbs as the time for vacation is nearing.

is not that cloaks cost too much, but there are in the United States, today, five million men, wage earners, who are unemployed, and these have ceased to be buyers. Let these five million men obtain work again and the cloak market will undergo a revival. The question of a dollar more or less on the garment is of very small consequence. The five million unemployed is a stern fact which influences not only the cloak market, but every other industrial market in the country. This cannot be disputed and as long as this situation prevails, a measure like the cutting of the cloak-makers' wages is no remedy whatever, particularly when the irrefutable fact is considered, that labor is one of the smallest items in the production of garments and amounts to only 15 per cent. of the total market value."

Modern School Will Be Established in Bronx Park Region

The establishment of a modern school in New York City was decided upon at a meeting of a group of workers at 1238 Boston road, which adjourned recently.

The aim of the new school, according to the decisions of those present, will be "to liberate the potentialities of the children of the school; to enhance their inherent powers by a proper environment of freedom and self-expression and to give the children an opportunity for creative activity."

Another aim is to "lay the basis for those mental and spiritual processes which will prepare the children to play their part in the life of a progressive society."

While there will be no effort to foster or promote any special social or any other philosophy, the objective of the school will be to prepare the children for a social and industrial life which is now gradually evolving from the present chaotic state," the initiators of the new school declared in a statement issued after the meeting.

The school is to be partially supported by the parents of the pupils and partially by workers who are interested in progressive education. Classes for adults are also included in the plan.

The tentative location of the school chosen is near Bronx Park. This location was selected, according to the officials of the new organization, so that the natural resources of the park may be used as a part of the school equipment and to keep the children outdoors as much as possible.

"Children are now entirely divorced from nature and the only way most people learn about natural phenomena is through books and lectures," it was declared. "Real education requires real situations, real experiences. This the Bronx Modern School will aim to supply to its pupils."

The officials of the Bronx Modern School group include Missa Lowensohn, Harry Kelly, S. R. Slavson,

LOCAL No. 89 ELECTS OFFICERS

The numbers of members who turned out to vote in the general elections in the Italian Waist and Dressmakers' Union, Local No. 89, just over, was very gratifying. The election was carried out in conformity with a decision reached at the last convention in Chicago, to the effect that votes should be cast on one day only. Seven hundred members cast their votes and this number is a good showing and a fair index of the activity of the local.

Bro. Luigi Antonini was re-elected as general secretary, with a majority of 439 in favor and only 16 against. The following were elected to serve on the new Executive Board: Lipari, Gioacchino; Rizzuto, Charles; Mirabella, Linda; Di Maggio, Margaret; Milazzo, Salvatore; Gelo, John; Ranno, Joseph; Tamburino, Totò; Grande, Rosa; Grassi, Oreste; La Torre, Jennie; Longo, Rosa; De Leo, Virginia; Prestimanti, Mary; Mazza, Josephine; Grassano, Antonio; Egizio, John; Ferris, Rosario; Vigilante, Felice; Terilli, Guglielmo; Donnini, Louise; D'Angelo, Virginia; Faranda, Rosa; Leonardi, Margherita, and Orichio, Gena.

The installation of the new executive board took place on Saturday, April 30th, at which Vice-Presidents Salvatore Ninfo and Jacob Alpers, the Chairman Harry Berlin and Secretary Mackoff of the Joint Board of the Waistmakers; Arturo Giovannitti, general secretary of the Italian Chamber of Labor, and R. Rende, editor of *Giustizia*, presided.

The workers of Samuel Florsheim, in recognition of the splendid work done by the chairlady of the shop, Miss Rosina Croce, on their behalf presented her with a beautiful golden mesh bag.

Georges Seiden and E. Morel. All communications concerning the project should be addressed to Missa Lowensohn, 1238 Franklin avenue, New York City.

A Declaration to the American People

(Adopted by the Special Conference of the American Federation of Labor in Washington, D. C., on February 21, 1917)

(Conclusion)

This conference calls for public support and recognition of:

The right of the working people of the United States to organize into trade unions for the protection of their rights and interests;

The right to practice of collective bargaining by trade unions through representatives of their own choosing;

The right to work and to cease work collectively;

The right collectively to bestow or withhold patronage;

The right to the exercise of collective activities in furtherance of the welfare of labor.

This conference proposes and urges public support for:

Enactment by Congress of legislation which shall protect the workers in their organized capacity against the concept that there is a property right in the labor of a human being;

No application of the use of injunctions in industrial disputes where they would not apply in the absence of such disputes;

Prohibition of immigration for a period of not less than two years;

More general application of the initiative and referendum in the political affairs of the United States and of our several states.

Removal by Congress of the usurped power of courts to declare unconstitutional laws enacted by Congress.

Election of judges.

Immediate restoration of exemption from or the repeal of all anti-combination and so-called conspiracy laws.

Restoration of an adequate federal employment service.

Administration of credit as a public trust in the interest of all the people.

Exact law to make the decision by courts that Labor are co-partners.

Repeal by the states of all industrial court laws and all restrictive and coercive laws, including the so-called open port law of Texas, and freedom from decisions of courts holding trade unions and individual members thereof liable to damages for the unlawful acts of others.

We urge upon the unorganized workers the urgent necessity of joining the unions of their trades and callings, their haven of refuge and protection.

We call upon the workers everywhere to resist the efforts to destroy trade unions, whether by the false pretenses of the "open shop," the usurped authority of courts through writs of injunction, or otherwise.

We call upon the trade unions for a closer banding together, a greater solidarity and unity of purpose.

We call for united support in the protection of standards of wages and conditions already gained and we summon the workers to continued efforts to increase the consuming power, raise the standards and improve the conditions of life and work.

We call upon the workers and all of our people to give their support, their effort and their combined strength of righteous purpose to this appeal for the preservation of the spirit and the letter of that great declaration which was written to guarantee to all Americans "the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" and freedom from involuntary servitude.

To the above declaration and appeal the officers and other representatives of the national and international trade unions of America assembled in the Executive Council Chamber of the American Federation of Labor, Washington, D. C., February 21, 1921, pledge ourselves and those whom we represent.

WITH THE WAIST JOINT BOARD

(Continued from page 3)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING, MONDAY, APRIL 25

Brother Nathan Riesel in the chair. A representative of the Denver Consumptive Aid Society appeared before the Board and requested the grant of a letter of introduction to the shop chairmen in the waist and dress shops to enlist the interest of the workers in the construction of new buildings for the patients cared for by this society. This request was granted.

Brother Horowitz, Manager of the Association Department, reported that in the course of last week the adjustment machinery maintained by the union and association ceased functioning for a while, owing to the failure on the part of some members of the association to live up to the clause of the agreement covering the discharge of workers. It was due to the negligence on the part of the association in not instructing its members properly to that effect. At present the machinery is again at work, but is still creaking in some cases.

Brother Halpern, General Manager, reported that there are, according to information received, 178 open shops in Brooklyn, and about 3,000 non-union workers in Brownsville. He recommends that the Board engage an Italian organizer for temporary work in that district. In the Bronx there are only 20 union shops and a much larger number of non-union shops, and greater activity is required in order to insure better results in the unionizing work that has been undertaken in these districts at present.

Brother Halpern further reported that at the request of President Schlesinger, a conference of all local managers in New York City was held recently in the General Office, where plans for an extensive campaign

among non-union women workers were laid. Sister Jennie Matyas was appointed to work for the International in that particular field in cooperation with the Joint Board of the Waist and Dress Industry.

Brother Halpern reported that owing to slack conditions in other garment trades, large numbers of members of various locals have been applying for working cards to the waist and dress office. In view of the fact that ten shops where waist and dressmakers were on strike have recently been up and those workers had to be taken care of first by the Joint Board office, it was decided to notify a number of locals in New York City that the Joint Board is not at present in a position to issue working cards to their members to work in shops under its control.

It was also decided to confer with Local No. 23 on the working card exchange proposition, and a committee consisting of Brothers Antonini, Hochman and Horowitz was appointed to that effect.

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AMONG THE CUSTOM DRESSMAKERS

By A. BERNADSKY

The question of a minimum scale is the predominant one among the costume dressmakers of this city. At member meetings, shop meetings and in the shops our members are discussing this question earnestly and with a display of deep interest. They are beginning to realize the importance of a minimum scale in such a trade as custom dressmaking where each worker is an expert and a mechanic. In the custom trade an employer cannot threaten the workers with moving to a small country town to do the work by cheap, untrained small town help. His customers, he knows too well, cannot have their dresses finished, except by the full-fledged expert workers of the trade, and such workers are not easily obtainable.

Yes, the bosses understand this quite well. But do all our workers understand this as well? We doubt it. For if they only understood it, we would have had one of the strongest unions in the garment trades, a Union which would protect our interest at every move and step and the prevailing oppression would disappear. Today the employers pay exactly as much as their hearts desire. If he wants one finisher, for instance, he advertises, as a rule, for several and picks the one who would work for lower wages. If we, however, had a minimum scale in our trade, such a competition between worker and worker would be impos-

sible. If we had a minimum scale, we could have faced the employers with something concrete and definite. That is why we call upon all our members to pay their utmost attention to this question and then begin aiding the Union in putting through this highly necessary reform.

The organization campaign of our local is proceeding successfully with the aid of Miss Jennie Matyas, International organizer. In the course of the last few weeks several thousand circulars were distributed in the Union shops. The non-Union workers have received our committees with deference and respect. We call upon our loyal members to report to the office of the Union and to lend a hand in the organizing campaign in the non-Union district.

We wish to call the attention of our members and the members of the Ladies Tailors' Union to the fact that strikes are still going on in the shops of Hattie Carnegie, 56th Street and Broadway, and Miss Gold, 2238 Broadway. These firms are advertising now for help and cannot get any as no self-respecting worker would become a strikebreaker and all these bosses in establishing an "open shop." We wish to inform our members also that the shop of Miss Ornstein, 181 West 121st Street, is a non-Union shop.

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The Weeks' News in Cutters Union Local 10

By ISRAEL LEWIN

The appeal against the first of the wholesale injunctions rendered recently against the Joint Board of the Waist and Dress Industry and the International, namely, that against the firm of G. M. Piermont & Co., 29 West 53th Street, was upheld by the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court.

This legal victory is of the greatest importance to our local as well as to all other unions, as it will tend to put a damper on the zeal and haste of the judges in the lower courts to issue restraining orders and injunctions in labor disputes. The decision in the Piermont case will establish a precedent in future cases of this sort.

The waist trade being at present very busy, the Joint Board has launched an intensive organization campaign which promises to be successful. In only a few instances does the organization resort to the calling of strikes for the purpose of organizing shops. In most cases the employers are willing to sign up with the union.

The cutters in all these non-union waist shops are almost all union men, which fact is of great help in the organization campaign. Members of Local No. 10 working in open waist shops are urged to aid the representatives of the union in their efforts to unionize their houses.

Business Manager Sam B. Shenker will render a detailed report on this and other matters at the next meeting of the Waist and Dress Division, which will be held on Monday, May 9th, at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place.

The slack season has set in in the Clark and Suit trade and the majority of our members are at present out of employment. As in former years, some of the unscrupulous employers will, in all probability, take advantage of the dullness in the trade, to try and reduce union standards. It becomes, therefore, the duty of the workers in the shops to keep in close touch with the union and to inform it of every violation of the agreement committed by an employer.

The union has reached a point in its development where it can very well take care of the interests of the members in the slack periods of the year as well as in busy seasons, and let no member be afraid to inform the office of any grievance against an employer. Most of the complaints at present, as is usual during the slack period of the year, deal with unequal division of work. While from one season to season, as our members get more and more used to the system of dividing work equally, the number of such complaints diminishes, they are still predominating at present. The union and its officers are paying special attention to complaints relating to equal division of work, owing to the fact that this practice has prevailed among the other workers in the industry ever since the General Strike of 1910, it has only been in vogue among the cutters for the last three years, and it is still difficult for some of our members to get used to this change.

Some of our members still believe that they are "God's chosen people," and are entitled to work steady while their co-workers are idle. Fortunately, the latter are very few in number.

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

Phil Jaffe, No. 6378, appeared on summons, charged with failing to respond to the call of the General Strike on Feb. 9th, from the Belle Dress Co., 122 West 53th St., and that only the following day, when a committee appeared, did he come down on strike. Brother Jaffe states that he acted in that shop as designer and pattern-maker, receiving \$50 per week, and therefore decided not to quit of his own accord but to wait for a committee. On motion a fine was imposed.

Abe Cohen, No. 9541, appeared on summons, charged with having worked for \$40 per week instead of \$45, for 21 weeks, at the Unger Dress Co., 141 W. 21st St. The brother admits to the charge but claims that he notified the representative of the union that he was receiving less than the usual scale, whereupon a strike was called and he struck for seven weeks. On motion a fine was imposed.

Michael Schwartz, No. 2725, appeared on summons, charged by Business Agent Nagler with working for Sprayragen & Marks, 158 W. 29th St., during the day, and for the Trico Clock Co., 41 Division St., at night and on Saturday afternoons. Brother Schwartz denies that he worked for the Trico Clock Co., but states that the owner of the above concern being an uncle of his, he once called him up and had him grade a pattern from a 16 size to a 36. On motion a fine was imposed.

Isidore Schulman, No. 5663A, on reinstatement, appeared on summons, charged by Miss Reich, Business Agent of the Joint Board, with interfering with the work of the operators in the shop of the Delta Dress Co., 30 West 21st St. He is also charged with stating to the business agent in the presence of the firm that he does not need to belong to the union in order to work there. Brother Schulman denies the latter statement, and as to the first charge, he states that he has already stopped distributing work and will not do so in future. He also promised to behave in the future. On motion Brother Schulman was censured and the case was dismissed.

Max Silverstein, No. 1470, shop steward of the shop of D. Blumberg, 28 East 90th St., appeared. Brother Silverstein asks the Executive Board whether Brother Henry Goldstein, No. 407, who has been working for the above house during the slack season and who also has a claim on a job at the house of Spindel & Rosenthal, 10 West 20th St., is entitled to a share of work at D. Blumberg. On motion the Executive Board decided that since Brother Goldstein has worked during the season for the house of D. Blumberg, he is entitled to a share of work.

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NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETINGS

<p>WAIST AND DRESS: Monday, May 9th</p> <p>MISCELLANEOUS: Monday, May 16</p> <p>GENERAL: Monday, May 23d</p> <p>CLOAK AND SUIT: Monday, June 6th</p>	<p>Meetings begin at 7:30 P.M.</p> <p>AT ARLINGTON HALL, 23 St. Marks Place</p> <p>Cutters of All Branches</p> <p>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.</p>
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