

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

—Job. 27.6

JUSTICE

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

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

Vol. III. No. 27

New York, Friday, July 1, 1921

Price, 2 Cents

CHICAGO CLOAKMAKERS SETTLE WITH EMPLOYERS

The atmosphere of uneasiness which prevailed among the cloakmakers of Chicago and in the local trade in general, owing to the pending negotiations between the Chicago Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union and the Cloak Employers' Association of that city, has cleared. On Tuesday, June 28, the negotiations came to an end and the local cloak situation was amicably settled.

Credit for the settlement is largely due to the efforts of President Schlesinger, who visited Chicago three times during the last six weeks. He first met the local employers for the purpose of negotiating the new agreement on his way from the St. Louis meeting. When he went to the Denver convention of the A. F. of L., he also stopped at Chicago for a few days to continue the negotiations begun a few weeks before.

Last Monday and Tuesday, President Schlesinger spent in Chicago on his way to New York from Denver, and succeeded in bringing the negotiations to an end. The following is a telegram which the General Office received from him on Wednesday from Chicago:

"Cloak situation of Chicago settled. Present agreement extended to December. Meantime no reduction in wages, and all working standards remain as heretofore."

Comment is practically needless on this settlement. Like their brothers in New York, the Chicago cloakmakers have succeeded in retaining their wage scales, work, system, and all other conditions for which they have fought in years gone by. It is a splendid achievement, and the Chicago cloakmakers should be congratulated upon it, for it is the best testimony and tribute to the solidarity and firmness of their organization.

CLOAK, WAIST AND DRESS MAKERS WILL OBSERVE JULY FOURTH

The Fourth of July is a legal holiday in the cloak and suit, as well as in the waist and dress industry. It is definitely provided for in the agreement with the employers of these trades, and the members of the unions must observe this point scrupulously.

No member of any of the locals belonging either to the Cloak or Waist and Dress Joint Board should report to their shops on Monday next. Each and every one of them is to receive pay just as if they had worked that day. Our workers must remember that if they fail to enjoy this coming holiday it will be none but their own fault.

The Executive Boards of all the locals affiliated with the Cloak Joint Board will send out on Monday morning large committees through-

out the cloak district, to watch that no cloak, skirt, dress or reefer shop is working on that day. Whoever will be found at work by any of these committees will be brought before the Grievance Board of the locals and will receive severe punishment. Rather than take such chances, the cloakmakers should spend the day in the open air and enjoy the holiday doubly, in the knowledge that they are getting paid for it.

Saturday, July 2, is the last day for filing applications at the Cloak Joint Board, for the office of business agents of the Cloakmakers' Union. Let all those members of Locals Nos. 1, 3, 9, 10, 11, 17, 23, 35, 48 and 82, who consider themselves fit for the post, take advantage of this opportunity and make applications. No applications will be received after 2 o'clock on Saturday afternoon.

PHILA. CLOAKMAKERS VOTE FOR STRIKE IN JOBBERS' SHOPS

The last few years have seen an abnormal development of sub-manufacturing and corporation shops in the city of Philadelphia; so much so, that they have become a real menace to the existence of the organization and a dangerous competition to union standards prevailing in the organized shops.

A number of firms who have previously been engaged in manufacturing have abandoned this line of business and have gone into jobbing, intending, perhaps, to evade thereby the control of the union and to be able to purchase garments in any shop, whether union or not. The growth of jobbing went hand in hand with the development of sub-manufacturing and the corporation shop, which served as a source of supply of garments for these jobbers.

The Philadelphia cloakmakers have clamored vehemently during the last few years for a remedy to this intolerable situation. From time to time shop strikes would occur in these sub-manufacturers' or corporation shops, but, of course, they would be of no permanent relief. Finally, the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union of Philadelphia decided to take the matter fully in hand. On June 22, the Joint Board forwarded the following letter to every cloak jobber in the city of Philadelphia:

We should be glad to take up with you a special agreement of these terms in order to effect the above referred demands without any danger of loss of trade. If possible, in a conference with the desire on our part to avoid any loss of trade on our part, we would expect to hear from you in reply to this communication not later than June 25, 1921.

On Tuesday, June 28, at a mass meeting held at the Philadelphia Labor Lyceum, at Sixth and Brown streets, the membership of the various locals of the Philadelphia Joint Board unanimously adopted a resolution that a general strike be declared in all the shops belonging to jobbers, sub-manufacturers and the so-called corporations. The date of the strike will be set later by the Joint Board. The meeting was presided over by Bro. Barnett Karp, the manager of the Philadelphia Joint Board, and was addressed by First Vice-President Sigman who came to Philadelphia specially for that purpose, and the well-known labor agitator, M. Weinberg, of Philadelphia.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed you will please find a copy of an agreement and conditions which we have drawn to present to you in behalf of the workers in the Cloak and Skirt Industry.

We believe that these terms require a fair and equitable consideration which we respectfully submit to your attention.

Under the terms of the enclosed terms you will find that the organized cloak and skirt workers of Philadelphia have decided that the jobbers should be responsible to the Union, that they will pay to make all their cloaks, suits, coats and suits in Union shops, and that they will be paid for their work at all wages and other Union standards.

It stands in reason that these reforms will be of great benefit to the workers and the main centers of our industry throughout the city should be in a position to meet and in justice adopted in Philadelphia as well.

NEW EXECUTIVE BOARD IN LOCAL TWENTY-TWO

The election campaign in the Dressmakers' Union, Local No. 22, is at an end, and the first Executive Board of this local union has already been elected.

The campaign, as expected, was a very hot one and provoked a lot of friction and bitter differences of opinion. As usual, there were two parties who contended for supremacy, a "radical" party and a "conservative" one. Essentially, however, there was little difference between the two, as both were inspired by considerations of the welfare of the union and the improvement of the general conditions of the trade.

This is the list of the names of the 21 members who were elected as the Executive Board of Local 22: Rose Genet, Augusta Hirsch, Peter Rotherberg, Rebecca Kantor, Harry Lenest, Samuel Weinberg, Clara Tes-

man, David Becker, Samuel Chelstis, Louis Shapiro, Samuel Goldstein, Rose Hoffman, Feida Berman, Sol Asimof, Minnie Cohen, Julius Holbowitz, Clara Goldberg, David Hollander, Benjamin Katz, Mollie Horenstein and Joseph Rabinowitz.

It would be perhaps, not amiss to say to these newly-elected members of the Executive Board of Local 22, that they were not chosen for the purpose of forming separate groups or factions in that Board. Board members of all shades of opinion may as well know that they were elected to lead the Dressmakers' Union for the benefit of its entire big membership. It is to be hoped that unity will prevail in their organization and that all factions will unite to give Local No. 22 a compact, unified and workable Executive Board.

INDEPENDENCE DAY AT UNITY HOUSE

Hundreds of members from all the International locals in Greater New York will spend the week-end over the Fourth of July at the Unity House in Forest Park, Pa. The Fourth of July is a legal holiday for practically all the workers in the ladies' garment industry of New York, and as many of them as the house could conveniently accommodate will take advantage of spending it on the "estate" of the Waist and Dressmakers' Union in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Pennsylvania.

A splendid classic concert, in which will participate several celebrities in the world of music and belles in the world of music and

art, has been arranged for the Fourth of July at Unity. Miss Jennie Matyas, the Secretary of the Unity House Committee, has succeeded in obtaining for that concert the celebrated Vienna opera singer, Mr. William Miller, who had, during his 19 years' of operatic work in Europe, sung in the most renowned opera houses on the continent. Mr. Miller has been a very high salaried singer and has sung before, as he aptly put it, "most of the ex-crowned heads of Europe." In Europe, Mr. Miller enjoyed the reputation of a "heroic" tenor as great as Caruso here. Richard

Strauss termed him the greatest tenor in Europe.

The well-known concertina-virtuoso, Mr. M. Piroshnikoff, will also participate in this concert. He does not need any introduction to our readers, who have known him for so many years.

The management of the Unity House requests us to announce that no one should leave for Unity House without a registration card from the union office. Prospective visitors must register at 16 West 21st Street, and the committee has issued strict orders that only those with registration cards be admitted to the House.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK

By MAX D. DANISH

WANTED: A LIST OF PROFITEERS

THE Beck Resolution, calling upon the Treasury for a list of individuals, firms and corporations making net profits exceeding 25 per cent of their outstanding capital in 1918, was tabled without much ado by the House, and, of course, was just as neatly buried in the general press of the country.

It will be recalled that columns upon columns of newspaper space was devoted during the past two months to lists containing names of alleged deserters and slackers. These lists have proven to be very careless and faulty and have stirred a great amount of indignation because they included names of persons who have either volunteered or were drafted and were later honorably discharged from the army. Congressman Beck charges that "Big Business," in order to divert attention from themselves, prevailed upon the War Department to publish a list of the names of slackers. The resolution is very eager, therefore, that "the names of those who avoided, falsified or wilfully understated the amount of their incomes and profits during the period in which the United States was engaged in war, be also disclosed before the public."

It does not require a great amount of sagacity to predict the fate of this resolution. It will, very likely, never come up for discussion. Should it ever reach that stage, it will, of course, be overwhelmingly defeated on the ground of "general public interest." And should the impossible happen and it is adopted, we can safely wager that no "reputable" newspaper will take any particular pains to publish such a list, as it might include a goodly sprinkling of their advertisers, past, present or future.

"TECHNICAL" PEACE IN SIGHT

ONE of the principal aims of the present special session of Congress, we were told, was the adoption of a resolution of peace with Germany and Austria. Congress has been in session now for eleven weeks and, as yet, this promise remains unfulfilled.

We are told now that by July 4th the passage of some peace resolution is assured. The Senate adopted several weeks ago the Knox Resolution which embodied a repeal of the war declaration. The House Republican leaders, fearing obviously, that under this resolution all remaining war-time legislation would be swept away, refused to accept it and proposed instead a resolution declaring a "state of peace." The hitch caused by this disagreement was chiefly responsible for the delay in ending the state of war with Germany and Austria.

It is at last reported that a compromise, which, in fact, consists of a surrender on the part of the Senate Committee and the adoption of the House Resolution has finally been reached. In other words, the war declarations will not be repealed. The remaining war-laws will be retained and instead of that we shall have a "declaration of a state of peace" with a provision reserving American rights to German property and privileges under the peace treaties.

War-time autocracy dies hard, indeed, and it is safe to predict that unless a nationwide agitation is cen-

ducted for the restoration of a free press and the abolition of bureaucratic censorship, the vested interests will do their utmost to retain it as long as they can possibly do so.

BRITISH COAL STRIKE NEAR SETTLEMENT

DESPITE repeated assertions to the contrary, the definite and mainly refusal of the British coal miners to return to work under the unsatisfactory compromise terms offered to them by the mine owners has had its effect. After 88 days of idleness in the coal pits, the prospects of a settlement of the most stubborn labor dispute in the history of Great Britain are brighter now than at any other previous stage of the strike.

Conferees have been going on since the day the result of the referendum vote was announced, between the owners, miners and the government. And it is already reported that the owners and miners have reached a provisional agreement and are now awaiting for the Cabinet to decide whether or not it will renew its offer of a grant of 10,000,000 pounds to the mining industry in the poorer districts. The provisional agreement covers a standard wage for all miners, sets a ratio between profits and wages, and fixes the period for the run of the agreement.

By the time this issue reaches our readers, the mine strike will probably be at an end. Already, from preliminary reports, it can be stated that this strike has been a remarkable achievement on the part of the miners. If instead of scattered wage scale—without a national agreement,—and particularly without assisting the miners in the poorer districts, the miners' Federation of England will have gained, through these eleven weeks of sacrifice, a measure of justice for all the workers in the coal pits of England, their efforts will not have been in vain. It is remarkable that during all these trying weeks, not a single mine out of the hundreds throughout England, Wales and Scotland, was able to open or to operate through the aid of deserters or "blackleg" labor.

THE NEW PEACE-TIME SEDITION LAW

READERS of "Justice" are, in a way, familiar already with the features of the reactionary Sterling Bill in the United States Senate, which aims at the placing on the statute books of the country a drastic peace-time sedition law. Last week this abnoxious measure was reported out in the open Senate and is now scheduled for discussion.

It is to be hoped, however, that the Sterling Bill will not have as smooth sailing as its proponents have planned. It is being vigorously opposed by a number of national organizations, among these the American Civil Liberties Union, as unnecessary, violative of the right of free speech and of all elementary American civil liberties. It is pointed out that there are ample and sufficient provisions in the Federal Criminal Code for punishing criminals and that these sedition laws are only meant for the purpose of clamping the lid on free speech tighter than ever; that, in practice, it is certain to punish economic and political radicals who never dream of "force and violence." In addition, it is destructive of free speech and establishes a censorship of the press in advance of publication.

Last week this bill received additional formidable opposition in the form of an amendment proposed by Senator Borah, adding six sections to the bill. This amendment provides imprisonment and a \$10,000 fine for every government agent who hides any person "in the free exercise or enjoyment of any right or privilege secured or guaranteed to him by the constitutional laws of the United States." It also forbids any government official, civil or military, from interfering with the rights of any person "by lawful means to advance, promote, agitate for or discuss any constitutional amendment or propose new federal statutes." Another section of this amendment provides protection against unwarranted search and seizure, so often practiced under the infamous Palmer regime. Further provisions aim at the discharge from the service of the United States of anyone found guilty under its terms and affording injured persons right to legal redress.

It is quite obvious that these amendments are aimed to counteract the malice of the main features of the Sterling Bill. Whatever liberal forces there exist in the Senate will, it is expected now, line up for the Borah amendment in an effort to make the Sterling Bill "toothless," and at the same time to give permanent protection against official arbitrary acts and the deliberate destruction of constitutional rights and guarantees practised with such unbridled license in recent years.

THE STRIKE OF THE QUEBEC POLICE AND FIREMEN

WE do not know whether the Dominion of Canada has a prospective or a budding Coolidge within its midst. An opportunity for rendering the same kind of service that was rendered by ex-Governor Coolidge of Massachusetts to the City of Boston, in breaking the police strike of that city in 1919, however, is offered today to some enterprising politician, with probably no less an alluring promise of advancement than has met the efforts of the present incumbent of the Vice-Presidency of the United States. In brief, the police and fire departments of the City of Quebec are on strike.

Of course, the press is already reporting wide-spread violence, disorder and a great number of fires in the stricken city. The formidable demands of the strikers and firemen, which forced them into a strike, amount to an increase of \$1.50 a week. Their wages vary from \$37 to \$25 a week, and they refuse to accept the award of an arbitration board, which granted the police and firemen the munificent increase of \$1 and 75 cents a week respectively.

Of course, the virtuous Mayor and Aldermen of the city of Quebec refuse to make any further concessions and even to confer with the strikers. Instead of that the city is recruiting a scab force of policemen and firemen,—so far without any success. The soldiers too, of course, have been called out under arms and with machine guns to protect property. Already it is reported that the head of the striking firemen (who is, mind you, the President of the National Catholic Union of Employees, supposedly a very conservative body of men), has already been arrested. A number of other arrests have been ordered and the authorities stand ready to drench the strike, if necessary, in blood.

We may rest assured that the undivided attention of the front pages of our general press will be, henceforth, devoted to the diligent slandering of every step and move made by the Quebec strikers. There is little

doubt that the strike will be of short duration and out of its debris there will rise as it fell behind the figure of some Canadian Coolidge to receive the frantic applause and ovation from all "leading" citizens on either side of the border.

Statement by The General Organization Committee of Local 9

(Continued from last week)

Why should we then remain silent if the Joint Board ignores this explicit provision of the constitution? Did not the International compel Local 25 to give up the shop delegate feature because it was unconstitutional and took away from the members the right to elect their own officers? When compared with the democracy prevailing in the Joint Board, the delegates system of Local 25 was indeed the highest form of the expression of the will of the people. How can the Joint Board, therefore, entirely abolish elections without committing a breach against the constitution? It would be interesting to inquire about it from the International and to hear what they have to say regarding it.

While we are on the point of shop committees, we wish to underscore that our local believes very firmly in the usefulness of such an institution. It is not overruled by the fact that our employers have proposed to introduce shop committees and that the union has rejected it, which could be interpreted by the opponents of this idea that we are against the very interests of the workers. We depend upon the intelligence of our members and we believe that they can easily see the difference between shop committees which the bosses would have to establish and the committees which we want to introduce. It is also proper to state here that Local No. 9 is not alone in this movement; that Local No. 1 has also adopted a decision to work for the establishment of such committees in our shops, in addition to many attempts made by a number of locals of the International in that direction. Who, would, indeed, dare to accuse all these locals that they are working in the interests of the bosses?

We cannot dwell here upon this point in detail. We shall do that upon a different occasion. We only wish to point out the principal difference between the plan proposed by the bosses and our plan: they want committees without the union and we want the union with committees.

We are not opposed to the control of the shops by the union and we are not for the settling of the shop disputes without the interference by the union. On the other hand, we want to strengthen the control of the union, and because we know that it is physically impossible for the union, through its business agents, to control the 3,000 cloak shops of New York City, we wish that the union should have in each and every shop a few intelligent and devoted men to aid it in every undertaking launched by it. We take it that it is our duty to surround the union with as great a number of loyal members as pos-

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Pages From Garment Trades History

By DAVID P. BERENBERG

THE EARLY DAYS OF THE INDUSTRY IN AMERICA

III

THE EARLY DAYS OF THE INDUSTRY IN AMERICA

The making of clothing is one of the great industries of America. American clothes are worn in all parts of the world. But that was not always the case. In fact it is only in the last forty years or so that the trade developed here. It began with the pogroms in Europe.

The Jew in Russia and Galicia had for a long time suffered from persecution, official and unofficial. They came to America, often without a trade. Many of them went into peddling. From peddling some of them graduated into the ownership of small shops. Then some of them began to manufacture on a small scale. Who was the first of the Jewish immigrants to do this we shall never know. At any rate, after a while the Jewish refugees from Eastern Europe began to go into the clothing industry as a matter of course, just as the Greek went into the randy business, or the Italian became a barber.

Pogroms drove the Jew to America. America met him with the sweatshop. The Jews had been accustomed to work in their little towns at home. The work had been hard, and the return small. They had lived very poorly. But never had the work at home been so depressing, so dull, as it now became.

In the Jewish character there has always been the desire for independence. Working for some one else did not suit the Jewish immigrant to the "promised land." He wanted to be a "boss" himself. So he pleaded; he half-starved himself; he allowed himself no pleasures, and in the end he opened a small clothing factory. It was in these small factories that the newly arrived immigrant usually went to work. The conditions in these factories were terrible. Often the place was in a dark cellar. Some times it was fourteen hours, sometimes more. The wages for men were about ten dollars a week; women, girls and boys worked for three or four dollars a week. There were no vacations in these shops, but there were slack times during which the workers earned nothing. There were no unions, and anyone who tried to organize a union was at once discharged.

Nor were conditions much better in the large factories. The surroundings were a little better, but the wages and the hours were the same.

And when the garment worker went home after his day's work he often found the same conditions as those in his shop. The East Side, when the Jews began to settle there, was largely Irish in population. The Jews came in with a rush. There were not enough houses for them. They

crowded in four and five to a room. Rents went up. Sanitary conditions were very bad. There were no fire-escapes on many of the houses. The plumbing was old and bad. There were not enough windows; air and light were scarce articles. Was it surprising that under such conditions the clothing workers became a weak, sick, worn-out set of people? Was it surprising that tuberculosis spread among them like wild-fire?

The Jew had come to America to find freedom from persecution. He had also heard glowing tales about life in America. While he did not believe all the fairy stories that the immigration agent told him, he did think that a decent life was possible here. When he understood the truth he was dazed. He did not know what to make of it. Life was hard here, harder than it had been in the old country. There seemed to be nothing to look forward to but a life of slavery, with no reward at the end. Some of them worked and skimped, and became bosses themselves and exploited those who were still coming over. But the masses soon realized that not every one could become a boss. And many of them felt that to become a boss meant to sell one's soul.

It was then that some of the thinkers among the Jewish workers began to point out the reasons for their hard lives. What was to be done? "Form unions," said the bolder, and younger element. It was easy enough to say. When it was tried it was found to be a long hard job. Many of the older men and women in the trade could not understand what the union was for. The bosses spread stories among the workers, portraying the union organ-

izers as irreligious thieves and rascals. Whenever a union was started it was smashed and every active unionist found himself out of work. Many of the workers still had the European humbleness toward their employers. They looked upon them as their "bread-givers." To oppose them in any way was ungrateful.

These were some of the conditions with which those who dreamed of better things had to contend. There were, besides, those who said that the clothing trades were unorganizable. You could not organize a trade when it was so easy to train new workers in a few weeks to take the places of the workers in time of strikes. "The clothing trades," said some people, "are unskilled trades. Anyone can learn how to run a machine. What is the use of bothering with such a poor lot of people anyway?" The garment industry was doomed to be a sweated industry. And the pessimists turned away to more profitable occupations. But there were those who could not be discouraged. Every failure only increased their determination. From every failure they learned, from their own mistakes. "What if the trade is easy to learn? Then we must have a stronger union, that's all."

So they kept it. The bad times of 1893 and 1894 helped to open the eyes of many of the workers. The "Forward," the great Jewish labor daily, was founded and it served to educate thousands. Teachers and lecturers came up from the ranks, and taught their fellow workers to see their lot, and to free the way out. It was a long fight, and a hard one, but in the end it was a winning fight.

Miscellanies From Cleveland

By M. PERLSTEIN

Only those who live and work in the crisis through which the Cleveland Clockmakers and the local trade have passed during the past year or two.

The Cleveland agreement is only a year and a half—three seasons—old. The first season was a pretty good one and the Cleveland clockmakers had steady work and no money. The second season, and particularly the last spring season, were poor and a large number of our members went without work. Even those who had some had to struggle hard to make ends meet.

It was during these last poor seasons that we have begun to introduce the scientific standards in our industry, an innovation with which our Cleveland workers were very little familiar, and know but little about as yet. Even the preachers in his shops, who already were well under this system, are not well acquainted with it. In addition to it, there came the reduction in wages. In New York and other cities where the workers were not tied up with arbitration agreements with employers, they had succeeded in averting reductions in wages. In Cleveland, however, we had an arbitration agreement and, willy-nilly, we had to accept the decision of the arbitrators, who ordered a cut in wages from 9 to 15 per cent.

Of course, this wage cut did not tend to make things easier for our organization in Cleveland. However, we managed to pass this difficult time without heavy scars. After the passions aroused by the reduction in wages had cooled off, we buckled down to work again. It must be kept in mind that our union members are still young in their experience in the labor movement. Nevertheless, we can safely assert that as far as loyalty to the organization is concerned, they are not

behind the clockmakers of other cities.

The last few years have seen the development of various tendencies of thought and opinion within our unions far apart from each other and extremely divergent in policy and principle affecting the aims and ends of the labor movement. In Cleveland, like in all other cities, we too, have a group of members who profess readiness to fight for extreme ideals; and while we often disagree and differ sharply from them, we never considered barring anyone of them from holding office on account of opinions. On the other hand, we have tried our best to have many of these extremists elected to the Joint Board as long as their loyalty to the union was not questionable.

Indeed, we have come out from the crisis and the excitement with the emotions and created full of life, courage and a will to do future work. Our union was not only not weakened during this hazardous period, but became stronger. It passed its acid test and came out with colors flying. And when one takes into consideration the fact that we have in our union in Cleveland men and women of 12 different nationalities, one cannot fail to come to the conclusion that the clock trade in Cleveland today is as much of a bulwark for unionism as it was an antiunion outpost in days gone by.

THE TWENTY-WEEK GUARANTEE—HOW IT WORKS OUT

Together with the reduction in wages, the arbitrators gave us also a guarantee of work—namely, a condition that the workers in the Association shops are to get from June 1 to December 1, not less than twenty weeks' work. To insure the faithful performance of this guarantee, each manufacturer is obliged to deposit 7½ per cent of his payroll, each week, with the impartial chair-

man, in order to make up a fund for any eventuality. In case a manufacturer could not give his employees less than twenty weeks' work, each worker is entitled to receive from this emergency fund two-thirds of his minimum wage during the time he is compelled to stay home. As a result, the manufacturers are making full preparations for running their shops for at least twenty weeks straight, and we expect this season some busy activity in the Cleveland shops.

As known, in most of the Cleveland shops, the piece work system still holds. The piece workers, I mentioned before, are already working under the production standard system. The operators, however, are still employed on piece work. The guarantee for the piece workers is as follows: They settle prices in the same manner as they did before, but they do not hang around the shop to wait until their bundles are forthcoming. The piece worker has as much a right to demand twenty weeks' work in six months as the week worker. And in case of default on the part of the employer, he is entitled to commensurate compensation.

In the busy weeks, the piece workers, of course, are employed a full week. When there is less work, it must be divided equally between all the workers, and each piece worker can be laid off for the afternoon. When a piece worker enters the shop in the morning, the employer must give him at least half a day's work, or a half day's pay, on the basis of the minimum rate of his earnings per hour. When the piece worker is compelled to wait for work during the day, the employer is to pay him on the basis of his minimum rate of earnings per hour. Under the guarantee system it works out that the piece worker has the same advantages that the week worker has and can, at the same time, settle his prices for labor. It would seem that the workers will benefit a great deal from this guarantee system, particularly the piece workers.

The sub-manufacturers and the contractors, and the small manufac-

turers, are also compelled under the agreement to deposit the 7½ per cent of the weekly payroll, as well as the large manufacturers.

There is a suburb in Cleveland, Newburg, where a considerable number of outside shops, employing Bohemian clockmakers, are located. These workers have never been organized, and it seems as if they are very difficult to get into the union anyway.

In addition to these shops, a number of small contractors have moved out recently from Cleveland into suburban settlements around Cleveland, and have started non-union shops. We approached our manufacturers recently and demanded that they cease sending work to these non-union contractors and sub-manufacturers on the ground that the latter do not deposit weekly the required amount with the impartial chairman. After a lot of wrangling, the manufacturers conceded this demand and ordered the contractors to deposit these sums weekly. Their shops, however, remained non-union. Lately, these shops were declared on strike and we are now demanding that the manufacturers do not give these contractors any work until the strike is settled. A number of manufacturers have declared to us that they will not concede this demand. As a result, the case is now in the hands of the referees, who will decide whether or not the Cleveland firms have a right to send work to these striking shops.

The H. Black firm, however, did the wisest thing. They have ordered the few contractors they employ to go down to the union and sign an agreement.

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JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

Published every Friday by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
Office, 31 Union Square, New York, N. Y. Tel. Stuyvesant 1126
R. SCHLESINGER, President E. YANOFF, Editor
A. BAROFF, Secretary-Treasurer ABRAHAM TUVIM, Business Manager

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Subscription price, paid in advance, \$1.00 per year.

Vol. III. No. 27 Friday, July 1, 1921

Entered as Second Class matter, April 16, 1920, at the Postoffice at New York, N. Y., under the Act of August 24, 1919.
Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage, provided for in Section 1102, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized on January 23, 1918.

EDITORIALS

WILTED CONVENTIONS IN MID-SUMMER

In these dog days, when it is so hopelessly difficult to write a line and read it with patience, conventions and congresses that drag out for weeks upon weeks deserve our genuine compassion. How, indeed, can one expect a new word, a new thought to issue forth from brains fatigued and worn out by a relentless temperature? What can one expect save iteration and reiteration of old, hackneyed phrases? In Denver, the A. F. of L. has floated for two weeks in its own perspiration and the results are a mass of spineless, old-fashioned, heard-so-many-times-before statements and declarations. Anyway, we would like to know who it was that invented conventions in sweltering summer, when nature itself is up in arms against any strenuous work, mental or physical?

Another congress, of a somewhat different nature than the A. F. of L., is being now held in Moscow. It is the International Congress of the Communist Party. Under different circumstances, the very idea of such a convention in the City of Moscow, erstwhile the old, orthodox capital of the Tsars, would carry an overwhelming appeal. The environments of the day, however, detract so much from the marvel of the occasion. They call it the "Convention of the Third Internationale," it is true. But, they are compelled to admit at this Communist convention that so far the communist experiment has been a failure. It is an international convention at which the representatives of the workers of the various countries of the world shine by their absence,—many of them not because they would not want to go to Moscow, but because the organizers of the convention were afraid to admit them lest their presence might prove detrimental to their own interests. Add to that the Moscow heat, perhaps, felt stronger there than anywhere else on the face of the globe (even in the cold, cold months of late winters persons have been suffering there from perfrigid attacks) and you will understand why there is nothing forthcoming from that Congress that would give one hope for something constructive and durable.

And here in America, we too have had, during the last few days, a Socialist Convention in Detroit. These are grave days for Socialism in America. After the numerous splits and wranglings, there is hardly anything left to-day of the Socialist Party. The old road, it would appear, leads not to the millennium; the old slogans, it would seem, have lost their magic and their hold upon the adherents of socialism. The old outcry that "capitalism is bankrupt," and that the "revolution is approaching with gigantic strides," leaves the great masses cold and undisturbed. It would seem that meticulous efforts and an abundance of sound judgment of the best leadership of the party is required to galvanize the socialist and radical movement of the country into virility. For this, cool, deliberate and extraordinarily careful consideration of every angle and point is required. Instead of that, they have feroceerathered in Detroit in the broiling heat of midsummer and keep on singing the old songs, rehearsing old credos. Can one expect anything fruitful and vigorous from such a convention? Again Hillquit reiterates as of old, that the war has proven the bankruptcy of capitalism and the vital necessity of socialism. Again Victor Berger rails against every form of "dictatorship," in total oblivion of the fact that the "dictatorship of the proletariat" is, after all, a Socialist article of faith. Comes Engdahl from Chicago and insists that we must have nothing more nor less than an "immediate revolution" in America as we have had enough of the rule of the bourgeoisie. So, while the results of this Detroit gathering are not yet fully known at the writing of these lines, we can afford the prophesy that if there be no new split at this convention, that everything will, at least, remain as of old, status quo, as if no convention had ever taken place.

Honestly, we believe that the merciless heat is a great deal responsible for it. It simply would not let one make an earnest effort to think, to decide and to act.

And there is our Congress in Washington. They have been wrangling for months over the wording of a resolution for formal peace with Germany, and they do not seem to be able to overcome this awfully knotty problem. How can anyone expect them, indeed, to tackle successfully such important questions as disarmament or the bringing back of the country to a state of "normalcy" if it, indeed, ever was in such a state? Why, after all, do our good congressmen and senators waste their time in Washington? Why not retire to summer places and vacation haunts? But our legislators are genuine, dyed-in-the-wool patriots. How can they think of comfort when their country is in such a critical state? They would rather wilt with the heat in a heroic effort to prove to the country their readiness to perspire without end for the public weal.

THE RE-ELECTION OF GOMPERS

Our prognostication, that Gompers would be re-elected President of the A. F. of L., has come true. Lacking an abler leader, one more loyal to the labor movement, one that would, at least, differ from him with regard to the fundamental policy of American trade unionism, the exchange of a Gompers for a Lewis would be unwarranted folly. We do not mind going a little further with our prophecy. Until there will appear on the firmament of the American labor movement another leader who will be at least as capable, as popular and as honest as the veteran president of the A. F. of L., Gompers' hold on leadership is perfectly safe.

There is another eventuality that might compel Gompers to make room for another leader. A sudden change of the entire complexion of the American labor movement might force such a coup. Under the circumstances, however, this can not be reasonably expected at an early date. The Denver convention has made it clear that it is not Gompers who leads the labor movement, but that it is the labor movement that leads Gompers. He is beloved and popular because he is the most forceful and typical expression of this movement. Perhaps, under the stress of unusual economic conditions, our labor movement will change its face. Then, of course, it will find a different leader to take the place of Gompers, but not before that.

We have not heard of any differences of opinion among the delegates of our International at the Denver Convention, except on the question of the re-election of Gompers. When the roll was called on the vote for President of the A. F. of L., one-third of our delegation voted for Lewis, and two-thirds for Gompers.

It would be quite interesting to learn the grounds that prompted these two delegates of the International to vote for Lewis. It was not, certainly, because Mr. Lewis is more radical or more revolutionary than Gompers, as this is, of course, not the case. It is because they thought that it is advisable, once in a long while, to make a change of leadership? But, of course, this is a poor reason. Jumping from the frying pan into the fire has not been known as an effective measure of relief. We, ourselves, have been deriding the workers of America who from time to time flop from the Democratic camp into the Republican and vice-versa, just in order to "make a change." It is, indeed, a matter of regret to think that some of our delegates to the A. F. of L. convention could have been prompted by such shallow motives.

This incident, however, has its silvery lining, too. It proves very clearly that there does not exist any such thing as an iron heel or despotism in our organization. The well-founded policy of freedom of opinion within our International has been demonstrated again and those of our delegates who could not find it possible to agree with the opinion of their fellow-delegates at the convention, were given the free opportunity to vote in accordance with their convictions.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN NEW YORK

Do you know how many people there are out of work in New York City to-day? After a thorough canvass, it appears that we have no less than 400,000 unemployed persons in the Greater City, alone. Lightly said, 400,000! Think of the families, women and children, of these 400,000 New York City and you will obtain the staggering figure of at least 1,200,000 of destitute human beings in this metropolis, a situation of transcending gravity that cries out for immediate relief!

What may be the result of all this? The human mind labors in a vain effort to perceive the consequences of such a terrible situation, yet the future remains as enshrouded in darkness and sealed in mystery as life itself. Our memory brings back similar crises in the past, when destitution and misery were just as rampant, and yet, how pitifully helpless the victims of unemployment, of want and hunger, continue to be! Yes, one's mind is split in fragments thinking of the intolerable times we are passing now. What are our captains of industry, our politicians, our aldermen, our Mayor and our press doing to relieve the situation? And what about our organized labor movement? Are they not at all interested in the fact that over a million persons in New York, their friends and kin, are in extreme want? Are they not the employed of to-day, the potential unemployed of to-morrow? And, generally speaking, what is the need for a labor movement with great, powerful organizations, when at such a time as this, when hundreds of thousands of workers are unemployed, this labor movement is dumb and deaf and has nothing to say and nothing to propose?

First of all, let the silence be broken. Let a far-reaching protest be raised at numerous mass meetings against such an order of things that permits 400,000 persons in one city to suffer want for lack of employment. Let a storm be raised from one end of the city to the other, and let work be provided, as far as possible, for these unfortunate unemployed. There are schools to be built; there are a number of necessary public works to be constructed. Why not do it now, when it can save the lives of tens and hundreds of thousands of persons?

Yet, this is not enough. The labor movement must not leave all things to the municipality. As union men and women, they must do something themselves; they must strictly observe in their shops and factories that the principle of equal division of work be scrupulously lived up to. In the local union of our International this rule of dividing work in slack-time has been observed for a number of years. Why not apply the same principle in all other industries? One does not have to be a revolutionist or a communist to understand that a great army of unemployed, such as exists in New York City today, is a fearful menace to the very existence of the labor movement. Aid to the unemployed is not a matter of charity for the unions of New York; it is a matter of self-defense.

Overtime must be, above all, completely abolished these days. The question of work-hours, too, must be given very close and immediate attention when 400,000 unemployed crowd the streets

SHOP COMMITTEES

By S. YANOVSKY

The executive boards of two of the biggest locals of the Cloakmakers Unions of New York have come out in "Justice" with statements in favor of shop committees in cloak shops, followed by a joint declaration to that effect. Obviously, both locals consider it as an important demand, one requiring thorough-going and searching consideration. We must also take it for granted that the executives of these locals have themselves given this matter earnest attention, and that their demand that shop committees be established in all cloak factories was not reached without adequate forethought.

We regret, nevertheless, to state, upon reading these declarations, that they contradict each other on a very important point. In the declaration of Local 1 the demand for shop committees is not proclaimed as a reform of enormous consequence. It is plainly stated there that "the Executive Board of Local No. 1, in deciding to adopt this plan, pertains to create nothing new." After the close of the strike of 1919, it is asserted, not a single shop was returned to work without a shop committee, and these have been charged with definite and important union work and functions. In the individual declaration of Local No. 9, the shop committee reform, however, is presented as one of extreme radical importance, one "which is advocated only by most upright, radical and intelligent union people either here or abroad." We must, therefore, accept either that the committees of Local No. 1 and Local No. 9 misunderstand each other on this particular point and that each of them desires something else, though under the same appellation, or that one of these locals is misinformed with regard to the true sense and meaning of shop committees. It is, therefore, extremely important, at this point, to throw a little more light on this subject in order to avoid, as far as possible, any misunderstanding.

Of course, shop committees, as defined by the executive of Local No. 1, should not be opposed by any union member no matter how conservative he or she may be. On the other hand, it must be supported wholeheartedly by every member of organized labor. The function and the work of the business agent must not be confounded with function and work to be carried on by the shop committee. The business agent is charged with the duty of settling disputes between the workers and employers

which cannot be settled by the latter. If the business agent were to take part in every petty misunderstanding that arises in the shop, the Union would have to employ in New York at least 1500 business agents, one for every two shops. It would have been a sad day for the union if the intelligence of the workers and of their shop committees would not suffice to settle the ordinary shop troubles and disputes that arise from time to time. The business agent of the Cloakmakers Union is spared the trouble of attending to such small matters and his attention is taken up by the bigger problems and controversies in the shop.

Nothing substantiates this better than the history of the New York cloak shops during the nine months when the agreement between the Protective cloak firms and the Union was abrogated. During these months no business agent could enter the Protective shops, and while all questions of general importance and policy had to be solved by the Union as before, it was the shop committees who took care of the immediate interests of the workers in the shops and, under the direction of the union, working standards. Of course, no union shop is possible unless intelligent and active union people work in it, men and women who jealously guard union interests and conditions. And if it is true, as it is being asserted in the statement by Local No. 9, that in many shops employers have given to newly-engaged workers less work than what they were entitled to, with the knowledge and silent acquiescence of the worker in the shop and the shop chairman, that only proves that those particular workers were not true union men. And we venture to assume that shop committees in such a place newcomers will always be treated with just as little fairness as in the case referred to in that statement. We do not have to repeat here that a true union man, regardless of the consideration of kindness and good nature, will and must treat his fellow-worker fairly and squarely and will protect his interests which he regards as inseparably linked with his own.

And no matter how many hundreds of business agents the union may engage and how vigilantly these may watch over the shops, it would be impossible for them to guard against unfairness and greed unlearned the true message of unionism. The demand for a shop committee to supervise and to guide the carrying out of the ordinary everyday rules and obligations imposed by the trade union does not, indeed, require "the most upright, radical and intelligent union men." It was an illusion on the part of Local No.

9 to believe that it had proposed an unusually radical innovation in this connection.

In order to make it clear that the shop committee idea, as brought out by Local No. 1, is not a radical reform, we shall quote here an article from "Forbes Magazine" of June 11th by Mathew Well, Vice-President of the A. F. of L., whom surely, no one will accuse of radicalism. Here it is:

While trade unions have manifested little resistance against the "shop committee" or "industrial council," the abolitionists urged war against the "shop committee" organization per se, but against the attempt to change the nature and form of organization, and in delegating to them shop supervising functions which ought to be exclusively exercised by the trade union. The standards of wages, maximum requirements of hours and working conditions can be established in any other form than through the trade union organization. This is not to say that the shop committee should not be established, but that it should not interfere with the functions of the trade union. The trade union is the only body which can contribute nothing of a labor nature. To the workers, the shop committee is a method of securing the investment of the workers in the shop, and it may create industrial confusion, and unrest. It is not to be confused with the "shop committee" plan as a supplemental branch to the trade union. The trade union is the only body which can be established in industry. To the contrary, the trade union is the only body which can be established in a plant or shop to be fair and true.

The trade union fully realizes that there are many things which it cannot do. It cannot contribute anything of a labor nature. To the workers, the shop committee is a method of securing the investment of the workers in the shop, and it may create industrial confusion, and unrest. It is not to be confused with the "shop committee" plan as a supplemental branch to the trade union. The trade union is the only body which can be established in industry. To the contrary, the trade union is the only body which can be established in a plant or shop to be fair and true.

Again we say, it is one of the two: Either that what the conservative leaders of the A. F. of L. regard as an ordinary trade union function has become a "reform of extreme radicalism" in the minds of the Executive Board of Local 9, or Local 9 means something totally different from what Mathew Well describes, from what Local No. 1 describes and from what we all have in mind. If this be true, then Local No. 1 and Local No. 9 can not go hand in hand on this proposition, as their demands are distinctly different one from the other and incompatible.

In the declaration by Local No. 9 we come across the following noteworthy sentence: "While we are at the point of discussing shop delegates, it is worth while to underline again that our local believes very strongly in the necessity and importance of such an institution." This statement is made in connection with the shop delegate feature as Local No. 25 had wanted to introduce, and which was barred by the International. In a subsequent sentence in the same statement it is said that the idea of the shop committees is the same as the idea of "shop councils," "shop stewards" and "that these are only different terms for the same principle." It is obvious, therefore, that if Local No. 9 understand their proposition and if Local No. 1 understand theirs, that the two demands have to admit that their proposals are, in fact, markedly different one from the other. What did Local No. 25 want with its system of shop delegates? In brief, the scheme amounted to the replacing of the union and its meetings and officers by the shop delegates and their meetings. It meant to be the superceding of the union by shop delegates. If Local No. 9 advocates the introduction of such an institution, it must be understood that it agrees to this replacing of the union by shop delegates. In this case, Local No. 9 must understand first of all that what was unconstitutional in the case of Local No. 25 is just as unconstitutional in the case of Local No. 9. Secondly, it is difficult to perceive how Local No. 9 can speak about shop commit-

tees under the control of the union, when their very interpretation of the shop delegate system implies the handing over of the entire control and power of the unions into the hands of the shop delegates. Again, we must assume that either Local No. 9 fundamentally does not understand what they demand, or that it disingenuously attempts to smuggle through a plan that usurps union control under a mask of an auxiliary agency to the union.

The tangle of the shop committee plan, as advanced by Local No. 9, becomes still more pronounced by the declaration that the "shop committee movement and the shop steward movement is one and the same thing." Whoever has the slightest idea of the English shop steward movement (of which, by the way, we do not trace the flow in the English labor movement) knows that it was started in war-time as an expedient method for averting jurisdictional disputes and collisions in the big shops where workers of various crafts belonging to distinctly different unions were working, and that it was at the same time a protest against the duplication of control by the workers. Such a situation has never existed and does not exist in our cloak shops. Steward movement, Local No. 9 obscures and only harms its own proposition.

And now, after we have made clear, as we hope we did, which shop committees are necessary and important for the union and which are not, we wish to say that we side fully and unqualifiedly with the standpoint of Local No. 1, namely that the introduction of shop committees is not a novelty and a reform, least of all a radical reform; that such shop committees are to be aid the Union fully within the shops are an urgent necessity; that such shop committees, under one name or another, we have always had; and that if in some shops this work has been neglected, it is the duty of the union to see that it be forthwith corrected and that the power and influence of the organization be felt one hundred percent in each shop where union members are employed.

Miscellaneous from Cleveland (Continued from page 3)

PREPARATION FOR THE NEW AGREEMENT

Our agreement will end in December, and three months before its expiration, we shall begin negotiations for a new agreement. Naturally, our workers will have certain demands to present to the employers, and in order to be prepared financially, our members are now discussing the question of a tax.

The Joint Board is proposing a tax of \$20 for men and \$15 for women for a reserve fund. Just as soon as work begins in earnest, the question will be definitely decided and the tax speedily collected.

In the next few weeks, President Schlesinger is expected in Cleveland. It has been a long time since President Schlesinger has visited our city. His coming will be acclaimed by the Cleveland cloakmakers as a real event and he will, certainly, receive a hearty welcome.



**Designing
Grading
Sketching and
Draping
of
Ladies', Misses and Children's
Garments—Fashion
Illustration**

EVENINGS SATURDAY
THE MODERN FASHION ACADEMY
314 W. 44th Street
Opp. Belmont Theatre
Suite 701

of New York. Is it a gospel commandment that 48 or 44 hours be the minimum work-hours in the shops of this city? Why not introduce a 36-hour work-week and give a chance to all who are able to earn a living? Even if this can not be carried out at present, we are sure that a concerted and strong movement for such a reform is bound to produce nothing but good.

Yes, this is the immediate duty of the New York labor movement. As soon as possible, a big meeting of the Central Trades and Labor Council of Greater New York should be called, at which this problem be thoroughly discussed and practical work immediately decided upon. Only through quick and firm action will the New York labor movement rise to the height of the demands of the present situation and will point the way for the labor movement of the whole country. It will add strength and substance to organized labor; it will clarify its aims, enhance its conscience and make it ready to meet any other crisis that it might be called upon, and will be called upon, to face in the future.

Educational Comment and Notes

RAIN POSTPONES OUTING — NEXT OUTING TO BE HELD SUNDAY, # JULY 10, AT BREEZY POINT, L. I.

Despite the threatening rain last Sunday, thirty of our members assembled at the 177th Street subway station to go to City Island. The committee decided, however, to postpone the outing and hike until Sunday, July 10, when an outing to Breezy Point, Long Island, will be held.

This is a most enjoyable trip. The members will take the B. R. T. subway (Brighton Beach line) and get off at Sheepshead Bay station. Here the party will meet at nine o'clock sharp.

From this station they will take a few blocks to the pier and take a boat to Breezy Point. The boat ride takes about 45 minutes and is very delightful.

At Breezy Point there is a splendid beach for bathing. It is not crowded and therefore will give our members a great deal of opportunity to enjoy the day.

All members and their friends are invited. Those who have bathing suits are asked to bring them, also lunch. A bonfire will be built and potatoes will be baked. Each person is asked to bring two potatoes for himself. Don't forget Sunday, July 10.

A MESSAGE FROM ENGLAND

The Educational Department was visited a few days ago by Mr. Henry Clay, of England. Mr. Clay is the author of a well-known book on economics, a prominent member of the British Labor Party and for some time a teacher in the Workingmen's Educational Association classes of England.

Mr. Clay spent several hours in the office inquiring as to the educational work accomplished by the International. He expressed himself

as greatly pleased with the aims of our work and agreed thoroughly that at present the workers' educational movement in America will succeed best if arranged within the Trade Union Movement.

THE LESSONS ON THE LABOR MOVEMENT

The Educational Department is gratified at the manner in which the outline published last week was received by our readers. Many expressed their pleasure and commented very favorably on its possible usefulness.

To avoid misunderstanding, it is necessary to repeat that these are not complete lessons—i.e., they are merely topics or suggestions. Each point requires much additional discussion before this could be called a real lesson. The reader must remember that the outline should not be considered as giving full information on the subject. It does nothing of the kind. These outlines are reproductions of those which were given to the students in the various classes last season and will be repeated next season. They help the students to follow the discussion of the instructor and the class.

Last week we suggested Mary Beard's "Short History of American Labor" for reading and study. Some of our readers inquired whether a more complete work on this subject is available. To such we recommended very strongly Hoxie's "Trade Unionism in the U. S.," as one of the best books on the subject. It covers not only the history, but also the theory and practice of trade unionism and is very valuable to those who wish to become thoroughly acquainted with the subject.

Copies of both books can be obtained at the office of our Educational Department at wholesale prices.

History of the American Labor Movement

By MAX LEVIN

HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN LABOR MOVEMENT

By MAX LEVIN

Outlines of lessons given in the Unity Centers of the I. L. G. W. U.

Lesson II

Beginning to 1825

I. Discovery of America

1. Economic and materialistic conditions caused discovery of America.
2. The routes to India were blocked in the fifteenth century, when Constantinople fell into the hands of the Turks.
3. Columbus was one of many navigators who sought a new route to India; incidentally, he discovered America.

II. Need and Supply of Labor

1. The newly discovered continent was full of natural resources. The land became property of the King who claimed ownership through discovery and parceled out large tracts to his court favorites.
2. Labor supply came from impoverished farmers and laborers of Europe. Upon arrival to America, they became chattel slaves.
3. Later the bulk of labor was supplied by black slaves from Africa. They were brought to the colonies for the first time in 1619.

III. No Labor Unions Until 1800

1. Unions of workers do not appear until there is a large and distinct laboring class gathered in industrial centers.
2. The census of 1790 reports only one city with 50,000 population. The few free workers of that period were all artisans who hoped to become ultimately masters themselves.

IV. Appearance of Unionism

1. Unionism first appeared in America in the beginning of the nineteenth century.
2. The most primitive form of labor organization, is the Union of one class of employees in one place, having no connection with workers in other trades or other localities. Such Unions developed from 1800-1825.
3. Unions did not arise as a result of any theory of Unionism or any social theory. As the apprenticeship regulations were breaking down because of industrial development, the employers attempted to lower wages and increase hours of labor.
4. Workers were compelled to combine to resist the lowering of wages and increase of hours.

V. First Unions and First Strike

1. Philadelphia carpenters organized in a local craft union in 1791.
2. The sailors' strike in New York harbor in 1802 demanded \$14 per month.
3. New York Typographical Union incorporated by act of legislature in 1817.

VI. Functions of Early Unionism

The main functions of the first Unions were:

1. Mutual insurance against unemployment, sickness and death.
2. Regulation of hours of work.
3. Defense against prosecution by government and employers.

Caution! This is not a complete lesson. It is merely a suggestive outline.

Happy Days at Unity

By FANNIA M. COHN

Friday evening, June 17, a long train of cars on the Lackawanna left for Stroudsburg. Two coaches especially attracted the attention of passengers. Happy voices and laughter came through the open windows.

"Who are these jolly folks?"

"Who—under the sun—are they?"

"My! They certainly seem to be having a good time!"

The conductor was put to it to answer the many similar questions that were asked.

High spirited? No wonder. Were not they all on their way to the Unity Home of the Joint Board of the Dress and Waistmakers' Union? Aren't they all on their way to attend the opening celebration at Forest Park?

Happy as they were, many of the passengers had never seen the Unity House before, in spite of the fact that the party looked like a convention of our International. There were representatives of almost every Local Union of our organization from the City of New York, and it was pleasant to hear those who had already seen the Unity Village try to describe to the others its beauty and grandeur.

When upon arrival at Stroudsburg we had left the train and had entered the bus, I found a young woman sitting next to me. She was a member of the Union, visiting Unity House for the first time. She kept craning her neck and looking out.

"Where is it?" she asked me.

"Where is what?"

"Why, the Unity House."

I pointed to the expanse ahead of us.

"Here it is," I said, not trying to conceal my pride.

"O, is this it?" She pointed to the smallest cottage. "What are the other buildings?"

I smiled.

"The entire estate, my dear, is the Unity House."

"Please don't fool me," she said. There were almost tears in her eyes. "I'm really serious. I mean our Unity House."

And I had no easy time of it convincing her that everything she saw, as far as her eyes could reach, forest, lake, village, buildings, 750 acres of land, was all, all, the Unity House, and that she was one of its owners!

Finally the bus brought us to our destination. In the twinkling of an eye we were impressed, and profoundly, that here was an undertaking unique and of far reaching significance in the labor movement. For the Unity House is a labor enterprise. It is a protest, and a brave one, against the economic conditions which turn life into a sordid business of machine-tending—a protest uttered by women who dream of a new life in the midst of a deadening existence.

And, indeed, it does not take long to find oneself changed, after one has reached the Unity House. Are you serious? Are you grave? Are you downcast? Are you toll-worn?

A new lease of life, joyous, care-free, is immediately given to you. Grow-ups at once realize the wistful dreams we all have at some time or other—they become happy children.

The Unity House!

You see before you a mountain, set in a stretchless impenetrable forest that stretches for miles in every direction. In the dense trees a large tract of land has been cleared; and here there rise a number of proud looking cottages, equipped with everything that civilization has prepared for the pleasure of the leisured rich, when those seek refuge on their country estates, from the welter of the working city.

To-day these proud cottages are not set in this place for the leisured rich. They are ours. They are mine. They are yours to enjoy and to do with as we see fit.

Here are ample opportunities for seclusion, or for sociability and gaiety. There you can be alone, or you can find pleasant companionship. The more one examines the thousand details of the Unity House, the more one is astonished. Here are the covered walks connecting all the cottages, so that when it rains, one can reach the most distant building untouched by the downpour. You walk a distance down the hill and there stretches before you a wonderful, mirror-like lake, luring and calling you to its cool, refreshing bosom.

Not the idle rich, the rulers of the world, are the owners of this land, this lake. It is the treasured and proud possession of the 30,000 members of the Joint Board of the

Dress and Waistmakers' Union of our International.

It is amazing, indeed, to see how quickly our members adapt themselves to their new environment; how our dressmakers, embroidery workers, cloakmakers, and other members of the International fit easily and comfortably into these surroundings.

What especially attracted me was how capably our girls manage this new commonwealth of theirs. For instance, our good sister Bessie Switsky, as chairlady of the Unity House Committee, is the manager of Unity House. She is in charge of the administration of the entire establishment. Judging from the arrangements made for the opening celebration, it is obvious that the Unity House is in good hands. Certainly it will be efficiently supervised and looked after with painstaking love and tenderness.

Our sister Rebecca Silver has, perhaps, one of the most important functions in the House—looking after the "eats." She buys the food and sees that it is of the best quality. From evidence in the past, everyone expects the best of the best.

The newcomers are invited to inspect the grounds and buildings. In the main building, we saw the dining room, looking out upon the cool lake. Its white, snowy table-cloths, the vases of flowers on the tables, its immaculate walls, all add to the pleasure of eating good wholesome food in cool, delightful air.

From the dining room, on the way to the front of the house, we pass the parlor, with its imposing fireplace, its many windows looking out on the

porch, its walls hung with paintings, its floors covered with soft Turkish rugs. Opening out from the porch is the writing room. A place to write, indeed,—love letters, friendly letters, or just plain letters. Its easy armchairs, its long table, littered with writing material were all but hidden on that day by the many comrades who sat writing enthusiastic descriptions of Unity House. Across the lane is the library and reading room, with files of the leading papers, stacks of magazines, hundreds of books. Two hundred volumes were recently added, including the latest works, both on social and political questions as well as fiction. The reading room with its wicker chairs, pretty rugs, and oak reading table makes a most attractive picture.

The general office, the kitchen, telephone booths and post office are all in the main building. The post mistress, Rose Harriet, is not a Washington appointee. She is a graduate of the Dress and Waist-makers' Union.

The cottages contain the bedrooms, many of them with running hot and cold water, and all of them with fine, snow-white bedding. The bathrooms with their porcelain tubs have running water furnished by our own central water system. Many of the rooms have outside doors or French windows, so that one can step out on one's own balcony, and enjoy contact with the beautiful outdoors while reading or meditating, face to face with the cool and restful pine groves.

O, but it is great to be carefree! Even the thermometer has little effect on the spirit of Unity House. Wet days or hot days do not disturb the joy of the vacationists. During the worst spells of heat, the lake, that delightful haven, becomes the refuge, and many make for the swimming pool. This is the part of the lake which has been walled off and lined with concrete in order to make it perfectly safe. There are some 70 bathhouses hidden among the trees on the bank. On warm days pleasure

seekers sit in the small pavilions on piers extending into the lake itself. The water is covered with canoes and boats. From the strong branches of the trees hang swings, in which the more indolent keep rocking and creating their own breeze. Those who prefer their rest in solitude, put up a hammock on their balcony, or saunter off in the woods with a book or magazine.

Recreation activities are under the supervision of a competent instructor, Miss Mollie Benson. They are delightful, and crowds come to enjoy them. As I passed, I saw our members learning to play tennis and basketball, learning to bowl and to dance. Not only a pleasant but a noble aim, to teach our members how to keep well and be happy.

In the evening the Unity House glows with electric lights supplied by our own lighting system. The terrace is cool and shady enough during the day; in the evening it is still cooler, due to the ice-cream served in the open. And delicious ice-cream, too—how could one expect it otherwise? You see, Sarah Shapiro, our good comrade, is the delectable little manager of this department.

Since we are talking about eating, we may as well continue in the pleasant strain. After enjoying a delicious supper among so many good friends, we strolled into the concert and dance-hall. This had been a day of surprises; but we were most exceptionally and pleasantly surprised to find a program of instrumental and vocal music arranged for us. The audience quickly assembled, relaxing in convenient chairs, facing the stage from which they could easily see the artists, as they were being introduced to us, one after the other, by our eloquent sister, Jennie Matyas.

The evenings at Unity House are especially beautiful. The twilight plays upon the lake, and the moon steals out from behind the clouds tinting everything with silver. The lake becomes a fairyland at this magic touch. A lovely scene, colored by the moonlit sky overhead, and the

stretching grass underfoot massed all around and everywhere.

Members and guests trooped down to the lake. We sat down on the shore. We built a fire on the beach. Some one struck up a Russian melody on a mandolin, and soon there came songs of all nations. Spontaneously, now this one and now that contributed to the general pleasure a recitation, a song. The round jolly face of Brother Baroff wrathed in its best fatherly affection upon the assembled number of youthful faces about him, and the place rang with laughter, song, and joy. The Unity spirit moved softly into the hearts of all. I heard behind me the voice of a girl:

"It is still hard to believe," she

said quietly, "that all this belongs to us. And when I think that this is ours, I feel like saying with enthusiasm:

"Fellow workers! Let us all combine in a strong determination to make this enterprise a success. This will be the best proof to the world that we, the workers of the world, too, appreciate beauty, and that we can manage our own affairs without the kindly aid of private capital, and the profit that goes to private capital!"

She turned to me and grasped my hands.

"I feel so rested," she said, "so contented and so happy."

And it seemed to me that a thousand voices echoed her sentiments.

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STATEMENT BY LOCAL No. 9

(Continued from page 2)

sible, and of placing our movement upon the foundation of the preponderant majority of the workers in our industry who cannot be forced, even through injunctions, to make seab work.

A few more words about a labor bureau. As known, we have had in our union, for a short time, such a bureau and we were compelled to abolish it as the time was not propitious and the subject was a new one to our members. It was also due to the fact that the management of the bureau was inexperienced and has caused a great deal of dissatisfaction among those who came in contact with the bureau. The idea of a labor bureau, however, is a sound one and there is no reason why our members should go around knocking at doors when in need of a job and seeking employers or foremen on Fifth Avenue. Why not make the office of the union the home for the unemployed worker and link the job with the man seeking the job closely to-

gether? When the proper time comes, we expect to come back to this problem and to see whether it is not possible to establish a labor bureau that would satisfy our members.

The above enumerated reforms—even though a great many of our members believe in them and have demanded their enactment upon many occasions—have not found heretofore solid organized backing that would work for their realization. The Executive Committee of Local No. 9 has now taken upon itself the duty of creating a strong movement for these demands and to make them so popular that the leaders of our union might reckon with the will of the people and aid in their realization.

Only when we organize in this manner can we hope to advance our demands and make our voices heard. Members of Local No. 9! It lies with you now to make our work a success. We are doing our best and with your aid we shall truly accomplish our aim, to make our union the strongest, the finest and most progressive labor organization in the country.

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The Weeks News in Cutters Union Local 10

By SAM B. SHENKER

It was to be expected that the intense heat would keep the members from attending the General Meeting that was scheduled to take place Monday, June 27th. The Constitution Committee that was appointed at the meeting in June had hoped to bring in its report on the important changes so that the organization can make preparations for the next year at as early an opportunity as possible.

However, the Executive Board had in mind just such drawbacks—the likelihood of there being no meetings owing to the weather. Fortunately, because of the foresight of the Board and because of the desire on the part of the Constitution Committee to have the necessary recommendations for the new year enacted in time, it will still be possible to give the amendments the necessary number of readings before final action.

It will not be amiss to make mention here of some of the changes, so that it will be possible to familiarize the members with them. One of the most important changes is the creation of two general officers in place of the five that exist now, the creation of an office of General Manager and General Secretary-Treasurer with one assistant to the Manager and as many other assistants as the Manager together with the Executive Board may see fit, depending, of course, on the trade conditions. It is hardly possible that more than one will be required since the work in the two important branches of Local No. 10, the adjustment of complaints and control of shops, are being carried on by the Joint Boards. And in due time it is very likely that some of the miscellaneous trades will also become members of the Joint Board.

Another important and very radical recommendation is the recall of officers. Up to the present time the contemplation of the removal of an officer from office has been fraught with a good deal of hot blood and factional fights. With the adoption of this recommendation, however, a good deal of this can be avoided. An officer once elected under this provision accepts a nomination conditionally and puts his resignation in, giving the Executive Board the right to withdraw him should he be found unfit for one reason or another, and then upon proper trial his resignation is invoked.

In view of the importance of the amendments outlined here to be recommended by the Constitution Committee at the general meeting which will take place on Monday, July 25th, it is hoped that the members will make it their business to attend and vote upon these in accordance with their belief.

The attention of the membership is directed to the fact that Monday, July 4th is a legal holiday. Members are instructed to refrain from working on that day. They are to receive pay for a full week if they start on Tuesday morning, July 5th. Cutters who secure a job on any other day of that week should receive a pro rata share of pay for the holiday.

The fact that members should secure working cards after working one day on a new job or on a job to which they have been recalled after having been laid off, cannot be too often repeated. Many members hold the erroneous view that they do not have to secure a working card until they have made sure of the job. It is also important to call the attention

of the members who hold or who have the opportunity to hold jobs in open shops to the fact that the rule concerning working cards also applies to them, in fact, more so than to cutters who have jobs in union shops. Now that the season is approaching, it is very important for the union to know all men who have secured employment in non-union shops. Very often cutters can be of great help in organizing them. Another reason why members should secure a working card on the first day of employment is because there are some shops which are scab houses and into which no union man is allowed to go.

WAIST AND DRESS DIVISION

It will have to be a very, very hot night that will keep away a large number of members from the Dress and Waist meeting on Monday, July 11th, at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Marks Place. Enough discussion has already been aroused by the withdrawal by the members of Brother Julius Levine, No. 7663, as delegate to the Joint Board to warrant an unusual attendance.

The members are, no doubt, familiar with the history preceding the withdrawal and the final action taken by them. In accordance with this decision the Executive Board informed the Joint Board of the action of the members and also informed them that the members had appointed two delegates to fill the vacancy created by the withdrawal and another vacancy created by the acceptance of the office of business agent by Oretsky who, up to that time, was a delegate. When this communication was read to the Joint Board there were some delegates who questioned the right of the members to recall their representative. However, the Joint Board acted upon the suggestion of General Manager Halprin and appointed a committee of five to investigate the entire matter.

At the subsequent meeting of the Joint Board a report was brought in by the committee, in which it was recommended that a local had the right to withdraw its delegate. The committee, however, felt that Local 10's constitutional clause governing the removal from office of officers was somewhat too drastic and requested that it be modified. Meantime Brothers Sid. Rothenberg and Morris Feller who were appointed to fill the vacancies were obligated at the meeting of the Joint Board on Wednesday, June 29th.

At the Executive Board meeting on June 28th a report of the Dress and Waist Division dealing with the relations and methods of control of the cutters' problems for the past six months with the Joint Board of the Dress and Waist Industry was taken up. The action and findings will be reported to the membership meeting on July 11th. For this reason also it is hoped that the members will not fail to attend as the office very much desires to hear the opinions of the members on this matter.

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ATTENTION of DRESS and WAISTMAKERS

In view of the fact that some manufacturers are attempting to use this slack period as an opportunity for not employing cutters and also for settling prices for piece workers in an improper way, in violation of our agreement, you are requested, specially the chairmen,

FIRST---To report to the officers of our Union whether your firm is employing a cutter or not:

SECOND---Before settling any prices for piece workers, come to the office of the Union for advice.

Fraternally yours,
**JOINT BOARD DRESS AND
WAISTMAKERS' UNION**

J. HA'PERIN, General Manager
M. K. MACKOFF, General Secretary

CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10 ATTENTION!

On or about August 1, the office of the Cutters' Union will move to

231 E. 14th Street

(Between Second and Third Avenues)

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETINGS

WAIST AND DRESS:	Monday, July 11th
CLOAK AND SUIT:	Monday, July 18th
GENERAL & SPECIAL:	Monday, July 25th

SPECIAL

Meetings begin at 7:30 P.M.

AT ARLINGTON HALL, 23 St. Marks Place

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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.