

"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."

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## INTERNATIONAL OBTAINS TEMPORARY INJUNCTION AGAINST PROTECTIVE ASS'N

**Untermeyer and Hillquit Act for the Union—Association Forbidden to Be Active in Pending Strike—Justice Guy Refuses to Vacate Injunction—Schlesinger Replies to Federal Department of Labor—Dramatic Clashes at Hearing of N. Y. State Industrial Commission—Morris Sigman in Chicago to Aid Manage the Strike—Reuben Sadowsky Settles With Union.**

### GENERAL CLOAK STRIKE DECLARED IN PHILADELPHIA AND CHICAGO

Well, the application for an injunction against the Protective Association to forbid it directing strike activities in the pending struggle, is not any more a "vague threat," as the Protective Association had tried to convince the public. The injunction is already a fact! Our International is not in the habit of making threatening gestures without achieving results. The Protective Association should have known that by this time.

On Tuesday, November 29th, Justice Guy, of the Supreme Court, had granted the Union a temporary injunction against the Protective Association which makes the latter an unlawful organization. At the writ stated, the Association is being charged with conspiracy. It is alleged that the meeting which the Association had held on October 25th, and at which a resolution was passed to break the agreement and to force upon the workers piece work and longer hours, was a conspiracy against the Union with which the Association was at that time in contractual relations.

The order of the court states definitely that neither the Association, nor any of its officers, collectively or individually, nor their managers, agents and directors, collectively or individually, may order, direct, influence, advise, or encourage any member of the Association to violate the agreement. The Association must not aid with money any of its members to go on with the strike, which means to continue violating the agreement.

The injunction is granted until Monday, December 5, when the Association will have to come to Court to show cause why the injunction should not be made permanent, that is until the fight between the Association and the Union has come to an end. The fight in the courts is conducted by Samuel Untermeyer and Morris Hillquit and the case for the Union was prepared carefully. It is confidently expected that the Protective Association will be defeated in its attempts to oppose the restraining order next Monday.

This court fight is a new phenomenon and will be watched with the greatest interest by the entire labor movement. This is the first time in history that a great labor union takes advantage of the law which employers have utilized until now against unions. The action of our International is already receiving unanimous approval from the entire American labor movement.

#### JUSTICE GUY REFUSES TO VACATE INJUNCTION

The Association, however, through its attorney, Max B. Steuer, attempted last Wednesday, to have the injunction vacated or amended, pending the hearing of the case on December 5. They failed completely in this attempt.

Justice Guy declared that the manufacturers must stand restrained from setting collectively to violate a contract, though individual members are free to act for themselves. The effect of this is to leave individual manufacturers, who may wish to do so, free to make settlements with the Union.

"Justice Guy very clearly and definitely stated he would not vacate or amend the injunction," said Mr. Hillquit after the hearing. He thought, he said, that a perfect prima facie case had been presented and that the courts which had issued similar injunctions against unions of

workers would welcome the opportunity to show that the same rule of law and justice apply to unions of manufacturers.

#### GENERAL STRIKE IN PHILADELPHIA AND CHICAGO

The fighting front of the International is becoming wider and wider. New battalions of cloakmakers are marching to the front and in addition to the general strikes in New York and Montreal, the last few days have seen the declaration of general strikes in Philadelphia and Chicago against the "skane" of the cloak houses all over the country to bring back to life piece work and the sweatshop of hygienic days.

Monday morning, November 29, 1921, will live long in the memory of those workers in the Philadelphia cloak trade who in the future will consider themselves "old-timers." They will recall that the day was cold and dismal and rainy, the sort of day which tends to depress the most optimistic. Yet they will recall that even were the day a glorious, sunny spring day, the spirit of the men and women who started the strike on that morning could not have been more buoyant. They left their shops with a song on their lips, a song that augured for achievement and victory.

The Philadelphia cloakmaker, like

his New York brother, is a born fighter. He has a clear grasp of the needs of his class as well as of the needs of his industry. Moreover he thinks. And thinking, he remembers the sweatshop days of the industry, the days of chaos, of broken health, of inhuman hours. He remembers the struggles and sacrifices entailed in the many efforts to improve the standards of the industry, the countless strikes, the frozen pickets on wintry mornings, the attacks of scabs and armed strike-breakers.

The following telegram was received by President Schlesinger on Monday noon, at the outbreak of the strike:

"A general strike in the Philadelphia cloak and suit shops was declared today, Monday morning. The suspension of work was complete, covering 100 per cent of the industry. Great enthusiasm pervades the masses. Victory is certain. The workers are determined never to return to piece work."

On Sunday last, the Philadelphia cloakmakers had a great mass meeting at Arch Street Theatre, which was addressed by President Schlesinger, Max Amdur, the Manager of the Philadelphia Joint Board, H. Weinberg, the well-known labor speaker, and Abraham Tovin of New York. The meeting was a very enthusiastic one and foreshadowed the unanimous

response to the general strike call the following morning.

The Philadelphia waistmakers' strike continues with the same undiminished vigor. The remarkable walkout of the cloakmakers has added spirit and courage to the waist and dress strikers who are now determined more than ever to "see it through."

#### GENERAL CLOAK STRIKE IN CHICAGO

And now comes Chicago. After President Schlesinger had made a number of endeavors to have the Chicago Cloak Manufacturers' Association continue peace for another ten days, efforts which were rejected by the Association, the strike became inevitable. The employers would not think of peace, and as a result, on Thursday, December 1, the entire Chicago cloak industry came to a standstill.

At the writing of these lines, the details of the strike are not yet fully known. First Vice-President Sigman left on Tuesday, November 29, for Chicago to aid in the conduct of the strike. It is certain that the cloakmakers of Chicago will rise to the same level of loyalty to themselves and to their fellow workers in the International as have risen their sisters and brothers of New York, Philadelphia, and Montreal.

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## International Clothing Workers' Federation Greet's Cloak Strikers

The following telegram was received from Theodore Van Der Heeg, the Secretary of the International Clothing Workers Federation, with which our International is affiliated and the congress of which President Schlesinger attended last year at Copenhagen:

"NEWS HAS REACHED THE EUROPEAN GARMENT WORKERS OF THE GREAT STRIKES WAGED BY THE WORKERS IN THE CLOAK INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED STATES AGAINST THEIR EMPLOYERS. HOPE YOU ARE VICTORIOUS. FRATERNAL

#### GREETINGS TO YOUR BRAVE STRIKERS.

(Signed) VAN DER HEEG

President Schlesinger replied to this cablegram on behalf of the cloak strikers of New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and Montreal as follows:

"THANKS FOR YOUR FRATERNAL GREETINGS. STRIKE IN EXCELLENT CONDITION. SEVENTY THOUSAND WORKERS OUT IN NEW YORK, PHILADELPHIA AND CHICAGO. STRIKE IS FOR THE CONTINUATION OF WEEK WORK SYSTEM, FORTY-FOUR HOUR WORKING WEEK AND PRESENT SCALE OF WAGES.

## TOPICS OF THE WEEK

By MAX D. DANISH

### MARTIAL LAW IN COLORADO MINES

THE bloody shades of Ludlow are again appearing on the horizon of Colorado.

The Colorado Fuel and Iron Company, the Rockefeller principality that owns the State government of Colorado—whether that be under the guise of a Republican or a Democratic administration—has decreed a 30 per cent reduction in the wages of the miners employed by them. In retaliation the miners of Las Animas and Herfane counties walked out into a protest strike. Immediately the Fuel and Iron Company gave the signal and the Governor declared martial law in the mine counties and dispatched the State Rangers, a Colorado edition of the black constabularies in the East—to enforce the martial law courts and, incidentally, to carry out the slash in wages that will bring hunger into the homes of the miners.

If past experience is a gauge, the Rangers will seek and will probably succeed in provoking rioting and violence. In fact, that's what they are there for. The press agents of the Fuel and Iron lords are confidently awaiting now the exploits of their mercenaries, while the leaders of the miners are addressing the strikers and cautioning them against any violence or provocation on the part of the Cossacks.

"It is not the intention of the miners to create any disturbance whatever," say the leaders of the men. "All we ask is justice."

Justice—in the mine fields of Colorado?

### A SHOWDOWN FIGHT IN GERMANY?

FOLLOWING the refusal of German Big Business—headed by Stinnes and his group of industrial magnates—to aid the Government with credits to meet the new huge installment of French indemnities, a great battle between capital and labor has formally begun. Socially and economically the result of this fight will be epoch making in Germany. Organized labor has launched a counter-offensive against Germany's industrial interests which proposed getting control of Germany's State railways and demanded the private ownership of all other State enterprises in return for credit.

The Executive Committee of the General German Federation of Labor together with all other workers' organizations in the country has served ten "minimum demands" on the Wirth Government threatening to back them up with the entire force of the workers' organizations. These demands include nationalization of the coal mines, increase in government exports, more energetic collection of the income tax, control of private monopolies, additional surplus profit taxes, etc. The Federation of Labor motivates this program by stating that "in view of the progressive depreciation of German money, the labor unions consider national reorganization from the ground up as inevitably imperative. The stoppage of the paper note presses can only be attained if, in conjunction with the impending tax reform, industry and business are placed at the service of the State."

The lines between Big Business and labor in Germany have thus been sharply drawn. On the one hand, the great industrialists under the command of Stinnes refuse to give the Wirth Cabinet any reprieve credit unless it surrenders them the railroads and give up plans for greater taxation of profits and capital; and

on the other, the workers of Germany insist on greater taxing of capital and the acquisition by the Government of all monopolies and public utilities. The issue will be fought out in the Reichstag and will result either in the fall of the Wirth cabinet or its alignment on the side of the organized workers, the only political and economic force in Germany that really counts and that can cope as successfully with the industrial magnates as it had dealt with the monarchist cliques.

### CLUBBING THEM TO DEATH

THERE is nothing novel about a strike being broken in New York City with the direct or indirect aid of the courts and police. The way, however, they have been handling the milk strike in this city makes it stand out all by itself as a classic and a notable achievement.

They have just gone and turned over the entire police department to the milk companies, a blueprint to each wagon manned by a strikebreaker, and the business of soliciting milk orders, ringing door bells, collecting money and supervising the entire unsavory business by police captains and inspectors, was started in grim earnestness. As the strike progressed, the brutality of the clubbers, supplemented by injunctions issued in wholesale, it would seem, by Judges Keith, Gay and Kapper, grew in intensity and volume.

So much so that after having placed the entire department at the disposal of the Milk Trust—the so-called Milk Conference Board—New York City found itself short of policemen for regular duty. And for the first time since the end of the war the Women Police Reserve—5,500 strong—were called into action to do regular police duty in the city while the cops are busy attending to the routine business of the Milk Trust.

And when early last week a group of strikers' wives, headed by a woman physician, came to complain against the police beatings to a precinct commander, they were roughly man-handled and shoved out of headquarters. They ran to the Mayor and to the Police Commissioner crying about the treatment they had received. They were promised an investigation.

That's about all they'll get. A promise, we mean.

### STEEL TRUST DEFYING THE GOVERNMENT

WHEN it quits them, the Steel Trust has as much compunction about defying the agencies of the Government as it has about, let us say, issuing an order for an additional wage cut to its workers, or about starving a few thousand of them into submission in case of a strike.

The Federal Trade Commission, which, since the day of its formation, has been an eyewash and a thorn in the side of the steelmakers, has ordered, some time ago, that the corporations composing the Steel Trust, some twenty-two in number, make monthly reports concerning the steel, iron and coke industry to the commission. This Federal commission has, in the course of its existence, rendered a few reports which exposed the Steel Trust as a merciless exploiter of labor and a dangerous monopoly in unopposed control of one of the nation's greatest and most essential industries.

The Steel Trust balked at this order for monthly reports and began injunction proceedings to the the

hands of the commission and to prevent it from carrying out its "abuse of discretionary powers." The commission retaliated by filing a petition asking the Federal District Court to compel the Steel Trust and its subsidiary corporations to produce all their books and records, especially sales records, income statements and all other data relating to profit and loss and output, not only in connection with steel, iron and coke, but by-products as well, covering a turnover of billions of dollars. By these records the commission desires to prove to the whole country that its demand for monthly reports is not "an abuse of power," but that the public is entitled to know how much the poor Steel Trust is earning in actual profits, how much it is paying in wages and what prohibitive prices it is still charging for steel and rails.

This fight between the commission and the Steel Trust is almost three years old. Until now the trust has succeeded in defying the Government. The decision, which is expected daily, will now determine definitely who is stronger: The Steel Trust or the Federal Trade Commission.

### THE OUSTING OF HOWAT

THE ousting of Alexander Howat, the leader of the Kansas miners, now in jail for defying an order by the Industrial Court of Kansas, from membership in the United Mine Workers of America by the international officers of the Miners' Union

for insubordination and failure to carry out the orders of their last convention, is a big event.

It brings to a head the bitter animosity that has existed between the Lewis faction, now in control, and the faction of Farrington, the Illinois leader, who in recent years has been supported by Howat and a few other districts. It is a fight to the hilt, and it threatens dire results to the unity of the big organization in the mine fields of the country.

The bitterness of feeling and the depth of the rift between the opposition factions can be gauged by the statements made recently by John W. Steiner, President of the Illinois Federation of Labor, that Lewis and his co-executives of the Miners' Union are working directly in the interests of the steel and coal trusts. Such a state of mind leads inevitably to a split, and regrettably enough, there is not sufficient authority or power in the A. F. of L. to prevent such a split within its largest affiliated union.

Meanwhile, the strike of the several thousand miners in the Kanab mines, who struck as a protest against the incarceration of their leaders, Howat and Dorchy, is proceeding with undiminished vigor. The Illinois miners are sending them food and supplies through the Central States Co-operative Association. It is quite likely that these striking miners will also be suspended from the parent organization for having failed to obey the order to go back to work.

## News from Cloak Strike

(Continued from Page 1)

### NEW YORK IS ADAMANT

There were no startling developments in the New York strike situation within last week. The fight is in full swing and runs along smoothly, giving daily more and more confidence to the workers.

There was one event of importance which indicates the way the wind blows in this conflict—namely, the settlement with the big cloak firm of Ruben Sadovsky, which employs over 700 workers. The settlement with this shop has made a substantial hole in the lines of the cloak manufacturers.

On Monday afternoon, last, the workers of the Sadovsky shop returned to their factory with music and flags. They arrived at the shop in a militia of sight-seeing cars which were decorated with fitting inscriptions and slogans. This automobile demonstration had created a stir on Broadway and Fifth Avenue, through which it passed, and the cloakmakers were greeted by outbursts of applause from the throngs that crowded the sidewalks.

### PROTECTIVE ADOPTS NEW METHODS

What has become of Mr. Lefcourt and his merry statements!

The press does not seem to miss the disappearance of Mr. Lefcourt from its columns very badly. The spokesman for the Protective Association now is Mr. Max D. Steiner, and Mr. Steiner's statements in the press are "messages of peace," obviously for the purpose of winning some sympathy from the public.

Mr. Steiner continues to say "that there is nothing to fight about," that "peace must be made immediately," and he calls upon Washington to come to his aid and make peace in the industry.

To which the Union replies: "Why bother the Secretaries in Washington? Restore the agreement which the Protective Association had broken and we shall have peace!" But the Protective does not want the old agreement, it wants a new one and it prays that the Washington authorities come and help make a new agreement in the industry. A week ago, the in-

ternational had received a letter from the Department of Labor in which both sides were called to attend a conference. Mr. Steiner replied to it that they were ready, but that "they would not discuss the existence of an agreement in the industry." President Schlesinger, thereupon, sent the following reply to Secretary Davis, of the Department of Labor:

November 22, 1921.

Dear Sir:—

I have your kind letter of the 22nd inst. with reference to the pending strike of the New York cloak workers and note that the Manufacturers' Association expresses its willingness to participate in a joint conference on condition that the sole questions shall be:

"1. What, under present conditions, is a fair wage to be paid by the employer and to be received by the worker."

"2. What, in the way of protection, is a fair return from the industry to the employer for the wage paid."

"3. What is the proper method or machinery by which it shall be decided, if a dispute arises on the question as to whether the employer is receiving an adequate production return for the wage paid."

Much as our Union would like to bring the present conflict in the industry to a speedy close, we are compelled to reject the above proposal of the Manufacturers' Association, because it is, in our opinion, a deliberate and studied attempt to evade the paramount issue of the pending dispute, and cannot possibly lead to an understanding.

The Association's formulation of the problem assumes that the manufacturers and workers in the cloak industry of New York are facing each other as free parties unencumbered by existing contractual obligations and devoid of existing contractual rights.

This is not the case. There is still a written agreement between the industry and formally executed by the Cloak, Suit and Shirt Manufacturers' Protective Association in behalf of its members and by the International Union of United Workers' Union and the Joint Board of Cloakmakers' Unions of New York, in behalf of their members. This contract states in express terms what the parties thereto have decided shall be "a fair wage to be paid by the employer and to be received by the worker" and what the other terms and conditions of the contract shall be until the first day of June, 1922, and we cannot allow our employers to cast off at will the solemn obligations assumed by them toward their workers.

The Cloak, Suit and Shirt Manufac-

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# Statement by Samuel Untermyer

## Special Counsel for the International in Injunction Proceedings

The suit of the Ladies' Garment Workers' Union against the Cloak, Suit and Skirt Manufacturers' Protective Association and its officers to enforce its contract was begun today in the Supreme Court of the County of New York by the issuance of an injunction by Judge Guy of that court. The injunction order was granted on the application of Mr. Samuel Untermyer, who appeared with Mr. Morris Hillquit as counsel for the Union.

The injunction is very sweeping in character, and is a novelty in judicial procedure. It is the first time, so far as known, that a labor union has invoked the conspiracy law against its employers, although many employers have enjoined the unions under that law. The injunction is directed against not only the Association, but against all its membership and against the Executive Committee and all the officers of the Association. It enjoins them from doing any act or holding any meeting or proceeding under any resolution looking to the abrogation or violation of the existing agreement with the Union and the Association that has until June 1st next to run.

Each member of the Association, and every officer, director, manager, agent and employee is in express terms restrained from combining or conspiring with the other members or with any other person

"To order, direct, instigate, counsel, advise or encourage the members of the Association to cease, performing or to violate the agreement and from doing or sanctioning any act in furtherance or support of such conspiracy, or from ordering, directing, instigating, counseling, assisting, advising or encouraging the members of the Association or any of them to abrogate, repudiate, violate or discontinue the provision of the agreement for week-work or to increase the hours of labor or from making any effort to abrogate the week-work system or to increase the labor hours prior to June 1st next or from failing or otherwise neglecting, disciplining or discriminating against such members of the Association as may agree with the Union to resume work in their establishments under the existing agreement, or from attempting or threatening any such discrimination, or

from taking any step to put into execution or continuing to execute the resolution of the Association of October 25th, 1921, or from holding or attending meetings of members of the Association for that purpose."

The order is returnable at Special Term Part 1 on Monday next, at which time the Association is required to show cause why the injunction should not be continued during the pendency of the action. Attached to the order is a voluminous complaint of over sixty-eight folios, in addition to which there are affidavits verified by the President, Mr. Schlesinger, and the First Vice-President, Morris Sigman, containing voluminous correspondence between the Union and the Association, and an affidavit by Israel Feinberg, Manager of the Union, setting forth the circumstances under which the Association broke off negotiations with the Union and repudiated the agreement.

The complaint goes in great detail into the history of the various contracts between the Union and the Association, in which it is sought to show that the Association has broken every contract made with the Union since its organization in 1910, except one, and that throughout the past ten years it has been a chronic contract-breaker. The first of such agreements set forth is that known as the "Protocol of Peace" in the garment industry. This agreement is alleged to have been willfully abrogated in 1915 by the Association without cause after having been in successful operation for five years.

It is next charged that in order to avert a new industrial conflict, the then Mayor of New York appointed a Council of Conciliation, which in July, 1915, formulated a new agreement which was accepted by the parties, but that in the summer of 1916 the Association again repudiated and broke the new agreement, and thus caused a general lockout and strike in the industry that lasted about three months. The agreement made between the Union and the Association at the conclusion of the strike continued in force until the spring of

1919, and was superseded by the present agreement of May 29th, 1919, which, by its terms, was to continue until June 1st, 1922.

Then follows a history of the dealings under the present agreement, and the charge that the Association has again willfully repudiated and broken this agreement without cause or justification. In that connection, the complaint alleges that on June 3d, 1921, the parties entered into a supplemental agreement under which they established a Joint Commission, to be composed of three members of the Association and three members of the Union; that this commission was to study shop and labor production records and other data; that it was to report once a month; and on November 1st, 1921, was to make a final report before a joint committee of the representatives of the Association and the Union, accompanied by appropriate recommendations; that in the meantime and until November 1st, 1921, the Commission was also to act as a Joint Appeal Committee, and to pass upon all complaints on the part of employers and workers.

The complaint proceeds to recite that this Joint Commission entered upon the discharge of its functions, but that whilst it was so engaged, and prior to November 1st, when it was to submit its final report to the Association and the Union, the Association on October 25th

"unlawfully and maliciously and in violation of the common law and of the Statutes of the State of New York agreed together, combined and conspired to cause and induce the members of the Association to break their agreements with the Union and with their employees."

The employers are charged with having abruptly broken off the work of the Joint Commission, having prevented it from making its final report, and of having then and there repudiated the agreement that has until June 1st next to run, and of having insisted upon different hours and conditions of labor than those provided

for by the agreement. The employers' resolution of October 24th is set forth in full in substantiation of this charge, and it is then alleged as follows:

"Therefore, and as a further step in the said conspiracy, the Association ordered and directed all its members to increase the labor time of their employees to forty-nine hours per week, although the Agreement provides for a forty-four hour working week until the 1st of June, 1922."

It is charged that the duty of the violation of the agreement was willfully and deliberately fixed at the close of a working season when the employers could afford to have their factories remain idle, and thus practically starve the workers into submission to their unreasonable demands, as the Association had done or attempted to do under similar conditions in the past when they abrogated and repudiated existing contracts with the Unions and their employees.

The Court is asked to prevent the members of the Association from further confederating together to carry out their resolution of October 25th, 1921, looking to the abrogation of the agreement, and to prevent them from contributing money to any such purpose, and from penalizing or discriminating against members who may desire to keep their agreement with the Union.

When asked to comment on the action taken, Mr. Untermyer said:

"The sweeping scope of the order and the detailed facts on which it is based speak for themselves. The documents expose this Association and its members as persistent and chronic contract-breakers. Any labor union with such an unbroken record of violated pledges would rightly be regarded as an outlaw, and would be denounced from one end of the country to another."

"This case squarely presents the issue of whether the law, which has proven itself strong enough to curb and punish unlawful activities of labor unions, will also prove strong enough to protect the unions against unlawful acts of the employers. It is high time that the test be made in the wide public interest. I am confident that the response of the Courts will be such as to lend added respect to the administration of justice."

## News from Cloak Strike

(Continued from Page 2)

turers' Protective Association has established a record as a chronic and incorrigible contract-breaker. With one solitary exception, all collective agreements entered into between the Union and the Association during the entire existence of the latter, have been abruptly and prematurely terminated by its arbitrary action and unless the Association, at this time, is definitely held to the performance of its contract, it would be a wholly idle proceeding for the Union to confer about new contracts with it.

For these reasons, our Union must adhere to the determination that the Manufacturers' Association, as a preliminary to any further negotiations, rescind its resolution and direct its members to resume work under the terms of the existing contract.

If this is done, our Union will be glad to enter into a conference with the employers on the question of perfecting and improving the existing methods for determining in each specific case what is a fair return from the employee to the employer for the wage paid and for the discipline of any and all other matters not inconsistent with the provisions of the present agreement.

The answer speaks for itself. We have an agreement in the cloak industry of New York and we do not want a new one. Let the old agree-

ment run its course and then we shall take a new one.

### STATE INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION ORDERS A HEARING

Meanwhile, the State Industrial Commissioner, Henry D. Sawyer, has intervened and ordered a hearing on the strike for the purpose of ascertaining the facts which brought about this conflict.

The Commissioner has appointed the following persons to take part in the hearing: John D. Higgins, Chairman of the State Industrial Board; Marcus N. Marks, former Borough President and clothing manufacturer, and Hugh Frayne, General Organizer of the A. F. of L. The examination of the witnesses for the hearing was given over to former Judge S. P. Northrup.

The Committee appointed by Commissioner Sawyer has only the power to investigate industrial conflicts and to state its opinion regarding the causes that provoked them. It may also recommend methods of settlement. This committee has no powers of an arbitration board and its recommendations are not binding on either side except that they may have an

important moral influence upon the future conduct of a strike.

### DRAMATIC CLASHES AT THE HEARING

The first hearing before the Commission took place last Friday, November 25, in the offices of the State Commission, at 124 East 28th Street. The room was packed with newspaper reporters and persons interested in the fight on both sides. Immediately after the opening of the session, Commissioner Sawyer delivered a speech stating the prerogatives of the Commission in this situation. He was followed by Morris Hillquit for the Union, who pointed out that according to the law, the Commissioner himself should conduct the investigation. The Union, however, is willing to waive this technical point as it is principally interested in making clear to the public the issues of the strike. He emphasized from the very beginning that the Union will not negotiate with the Protective Association unless it rescinds the order which broke the agreement and restores the trade conditions which were guaranteed by the agreement.

Hillquit's speech was a model of clarity and precision and he brought out the point of view of the Union with remarkable firmness and fullness. After Hillquit, Mr. Steuer, the lawyer of the Association, took the

floor. Mr. Steuer is a prominent lawyer and he sought no clashes with Hillquit in the speech, but tried to circumvent the sharp angles of the fight which Hillquit emphasized. Nevertheless, a clash between the two could not be averted entirely and at times it seemed that it might grow very hot. Mr. Steuer insisted that the Union waive the point of the breach of the agreement. He spoke with respect of the International and its leaders and even remarked that he would not dare to assert that the Union is altogether wrong, but he, nevertheless, persisted that the old agreement be abandoned and that they begin the discussion of conditions of a new agreement.

After Mr. Steuer, Mr. Hillquit spoke again. He was followed again by Mr. Steuer who protested against the words "slavery" which Mr. Hillquit had used. "The action of the manufacturers shows clearly," retorted Mr. Hillquit, "that they have no respect for the workers and regard them as cattle. The Union will never tolerate such attitude and such treatment."

The hearing continued for over three hours and the next hearing was announced to take place on Saturday, December 3, at the same place and hour.

# The Close of a Glorious Epoch

By NATHANIEL BUCHWALD

A recent illustrated issue of our contemporary, the "Subway Sun," marks the close of a glorious epoch in the history of that journal and its fellow creature the "Elevated Express"—the two most widely read periodicals in Greater New York.

The "Feather-Weight Pressure Gate," with a nickel slot in it to be installed in quantities in every subway and elevated station of the valiant Interboro Rapid Transit Company, is the last act of a stirring drama that held the New Yorkers spellbound for the last three years. The Feather-Weight Pressure Gate constitutes the white flag hoisted by the Interboro as a sign of surrender; the realistic and apparently clever illustration of "how the thing works" is in reality the picture of the Sepulchre where the fond hopes of the company have been laid in eternal rest. The curse of the nickel fare is to remain with us and upon us!

Tears came to our eyes when we first caught a glimpse of that illustrated issue of the "Subway Sun." For one who followed the vicissitudes of the great struggle, the crests and troughs of the mighty episode; whose heart throbbed with high hopes and contracted with black misgivings, the tragic finale as portrayed by the pressure gate was overwhelming beyond description and painful beyond endurance. We could not reconcile ourselves to the thought that all hope was gone, that the great citizenry of our great metropolis remained deaf to the eloquent and impassioned pleas of the "Subway Sun" to save the city, to redeem our honor, to avert a manifold disaster—in a word, to let the company raise the fare. The people remained unmoved, as if their hearts were of stone and their minds in a state of paralysis. The people

read the irrefutable, plain arguments of the "Subway Sun" and the "Elevated Express" and remained strangely indifferent, callously unresponsive.

Nay, the illogical, irrational popular mind was affected quite the other way by the pleas for "higher fare." The more passion and reason and threat and entreaty there was in the pleas of the Subterranean Sun and the Lefty Express, the more the people persisted in their dogged determination to pay a nickel and no more. The companies coaxed and demanded, threatened and pleaded, flattered the people and rallied at them—all to no avail: five cents and not a fraction of a cent more. The company tried disciplinary measures; curtailed the service, reduced the lights in the cars to the aching point, left the cars uncleaned and unkempt, did everything in its power to multiply and aggravate the ordeals of the strap-hanger, but the strap-hanger, instead of reforming and yielding to reason, cursed the company the more and became ever more confirmed in his belief that the fare must stay at five cents.

In desperation, the companies had "unions" of their employees organized for them, and these "unions" were kind enough to lend the I and the B strikes a helping hand and call "strikes" at the psychological moments to demand higher pay. But also this device didn't work. Somebody "spilled the beans" about the collusion—or in plain United States—the put-up job between the Artes and their hand-made "unions" and the higher fare cause once more suffered a severe setback.

They tried their luck at law, but the ways of legislation are devious and strewn with thorns. After having overcome great obstacles, the

companies succeeded in electing a traction governor and the traction governor subsequently succeeded in jamming through a traction bill which at first bid fair to end the trials and tribulations of the Artes by raising the fare over the heads of the strap-hanging people.

But something happened to the Traction Commission created by the traction bill, and the well-oiled and nicely set machinery for raising the fare was thrown out of gear. The Commission, harassed by political campaign issues, and perhaps smitten by pang of conscience, made public a report on the traction situation and told the people the truth, the bitter truth, about the financial and organizational affairs of the companies. And, as luck would have it, the truth about the companies was obviously incompatible with the demand for a higher fare in the immediate future.

And when election came round the people spoke. In their crude, inarticulate, pathetically helpless way the people registered their determination to have none of higher fare. The people reelected the present city administration not by an act of wisdom but of protest and disgust. When accounts are cur up and totals struck it will become evident that, for all the reputed wisdom of the people, the election was a fool's bargain. The people were sold a gold brick for the price of additional four years of municipal mismanagement and inefficiency. They burned the house to get rid of the vermin, but they demonstrated thereby their disgust with the vermin.

President Hedley of the Interboro threw up the sponge when he said the other day that evidently the people want the 5-cent fare to stay and that he would, therefore, try to make the nickel go round. He said a number of other sweet things at the hearing of the Transit Commission; in fact, he was disposed to be surprisingly and well—surprisingly frank about the financial jugglings of his company. The gentlemen more than earned the thanks of the chairman of

the commission, for he was as frank, as unbiassing and as willing to "tell on" his company as a professional mendicant is about his sore straits and faithless wife who "broke up his home." Mr. Hedley denied none of the charges of financial—er—inefficiency on the part of the Interboro directors. In a charming chatty manner he admitted that he, as president of the Interboro, signed his name to documents that all but depleted the finances of the company and fattened the incomes of the large stockholders. Asked why he did not refrain from this orgy of spoliation, he answered in sweet innocence that he had been "within the law!"

With people who are so delightfully candid, you simply can't pick a quarrel. Mr. Hedley just refuses to quarrel with the public; he simply evades with the significant remark that he was within the law. One must be an out and out secessionist, a wild-eyed Red to blame a man for keeping within the law, and you may be sure that the gentlemen of the Transit Commission will be the last ones to chide him for obedience to law.

The main thing, however, is that Mr. Hedley is willing to put up with the nickel fare. Proof? Mr. Hedley's statement to that effect and the feather-weight pressure gate with the nickel slot in it. In installing these gates the president of I. R. T. is burning the bridges behind him and cutting off his retreat to the regions of Higher Fare.

But—oh, yes, there is a but in it! Mr. Hedley is not going to give you something for nothing. The service will continue to be as wretched as it is, or even worse, if such a condition be possible. If the people are silly enough to cling to the nickel fare they'll get a nickel's worth of service. At this point Mr. Hedley is emphatic. The pressure gate may mark the closing of a great epoch in the subterranean journalism of the Interboro, but it may also open a new era of public-be-damnedness, a new chapter in the martyrdom of the strap-hanger. And while we mourn the loss of the higher-fare-journalism, we dread the new regime that Mr. Hedley has in store for us strap-hanging folk. For one thing, what will now take the place of the thrilling bits of fiction that used to be posted on the car windows?

Board are as good as Local No. 19 secured for its members.

Upon motion made, the report of the Board of Directors was approved.

In a communication, Local No. 22 informed the Joint Board that the Executive Board of Local No. 22 highly appreciates the action of the Joint Board in reducing the quota of Business Agents. However, Local No. 22 feels that if the staff is to be reduced, the reduction should be distributed proportionately and, therefore, requested the Joint Board to make arrangements accordingly and they requested that we notify the Executive Board of Local No. 22 as to their proportion of the reduction.

Brother N. Schechter tendered his resignation as Business Agent owing to his acceptance of the Management of Local No. 60. Brother Schechter assured the Joint Board that his resignation does not mean that he is severing connections with our organization, but he felt it was his duty to accept the position in Local No. 60, and assured the Joint Board that he was always ready to do all he can in order to assist in the task of our Union.

Upon motion, his resignation was accepted with regret.

PATRONEZE  
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ADVERTISERS

## With the Waist and Dress Joint Board

By M. K. MACKOFF, Secretary

(Meeting Wednesday, November 23, 1921)

Nathan Riesel in the chair.

A communication was received from Brother Harry Berlin, Chairman of the Joint Board, in which he requested the granting of a leave of absence owing to illness, saying that he felt the situation very keenly, particularly in view of the critical situation the Union was passing through right now. It was decided to grant Brother Berlin's request and to send him a letter conveying wishes for speedy recovery.

Local No. 10 sent in a communication in which it declined to attend a joint conference of all locals in regard to the Unity House, on the basis of a former decision by this local not to participate in the Unity House undertaking.

Upon the question, whether the Joint Board has the right to expel a member of any of its affiliated locals, or whether this right is confined exclusively to each local—it was ruled that in view of the fact that the Grievance Board of the Joint Board has a right to take up an appeal from a member of any local expelled or suspended or otherwise fined by the local, and may decide that such member be reinstated to membership or that his fine be rescinded, it is only logical that this Grievance Board should have the right to expel upon evidence a member of any local affiliated with the Joint Board.

Local 66, in a communication

urged the Joint Board that the committee appointed for the purpose of bringing about the proper affiliation of Local 66 with the Joint Board, should appear before their next Board meeting on November 29. This motion was granted. Local 66 also approved the running of the Unity House by the Joint Board, but on condition that the Joint Board take over title to Unity House immediately, and that each and every local of the Joint Board should share in its ownership and investment.

It was decided that all local secretaries make arrangements to bring their records to the General Office so that the Record Department of the International be enabled to take a census of the membership of the Joint Board locals in the nearest future.

The officers of the Joint Board sent in a communication advising the Board of the difficulties they are encountering while visiting shops, owing to the great slowness prevailing in the industry. They recommended that letters be sent to all shop chairmen that workers keep always their Union cards with them and that all our members must secure within the next four weeks new working cards. Upon motion it was decided to concur in these recommendations and to give this matter publicity in the press. The Joint Executive Board's meeting reported the following recommendations:

First—That the Joint Board should

run the Unity House.

Second—That all Locals, with the exception of Local No. 89, for the reason that they have a Unity House of their own, shall become responsible for the Unity House institution.

Third—That all Locals which have not been previously connected with the original Local No. 25, that have a financial investment in the Unity House, shall recognize same investment of the original Local No. 25; and in the case of disposition of the Unity House in any other way, the original Local No. 25 shall have the preference in getting its investment paid to them.

Fourth—That a committee of two shall be elected by each Executive Board to come together and, with the above mentioned paragraphs as basis, work out a detailed understanding as to the new arrangements for the Unity House, and submit their report to the Joint Board for approval.

The Secretary was instructed to communicate to the International the sentiment of our Joint Board re the expected decision about delinquent Local No. 19 in connection with the Unity House.

Upon motion, same was accepted.

Brother Julius Levine, delegate from Local No. 10, made an inquiry through the Chairman of Brother Shenker, whether in his, Brother Shenker's opinion, the number of cases and their disposition which are a part of Brother Hochman's report, are not satisfactory, to which Brother Shenker replied that he believes that the results the cutters are getting through the adjustments made by the Joint

# The Mines Must Be Nationalized

By JOHN BROPHY, President Miners' District No. 2, Central Pennsylvania

**THE COAL INDUSTRY IS SICK.** The coal industry is sick. But it refuses to let the doctor make an examination. You are asked to give an opinion about coal, and when the miners ask that all the facts be put at your disposal, the operators start a publicity campaign against facts through paid advertisements in the newspapers.

**WASTE IN TRANSPORTATION** The waste in transportation is appalling. Coal violates every principle of transportation and there is no solution of the problem until coal is wisely organized. The sudden dumping of enormous consignments of coal upon a staggering railroad system, at one short period in the year, is not the way to bring order either to the railroads or to the coal industry.

**WASTE IN DISTRIBUTION** And with distribution it is just the same. The La-Follette committee found that "no cause constituted either justification or legitimate excuse for the great advance in prices which occurred, most largely in the spot markets, the evidence clearly shows was participated in by operators, wholesalers, and retailers, aggravated by the entrance into this field of quick and easy profits of a horde of speculators, who have had no defenders before the committee."

**COAL IS NOT MINED FOR USE—COAL IS MINED FOR THE STOCK MARKET**

Instead of a constructive economic coal policy, Wall Street's conception of coal is profits. Here is what Albert G. Wilson & Co., Stocks & Bonds, of 198 Broadway, New York City, understand by a coal policy: "Coal Miners—mine owners—mine coal only for profits." It is common knowledge that one West Virginia coal corporation operating with a capital of

\$178,000 made a profit of \$478,000 for the first nine months of 1920.

In 1917 the Treasury Department issued a report on "Corporate Earnings and Government Revenue," published as a Senate Document. That document is not available for public distribution. You all understand why. It deals with profits. The report lists 464 bituminous coal companies and 6 anthracite companies and shows instances of scandalous profits. The companies are referred to by numbers. Divulging of names is considered a breach of business ethics. Truth about exploiting the public and charging higher rates has no chance at all when it comes to business secrets.

But the facts are not available to the public. We miners demand that they be made available. The operators, as you see, have good reason for secrecy. Coal is not mined today for use—coal is mined with an eye to profits and the stock market. An representatives of the public you will come to realize this more and more. It is not the need of the public for coal that the operators are considering. It is how much profit they can make per ton or how coal stocks and bonds will be sold in Wall Street that is their prime concern.

A comparison of the directors of the New York Banks with the directors of the Coal Mining Companies and the coal railroads show that the coal industry is largely controlled by New York Banks.

## HUMAN WASTE.

And now a word about human waste. The miner does not work under the safest circumstances. Our industry is one of the most dangerous. Each year, out of the men employed in the coal industry about 2,500 are killed; about 30,000 are injured; but

this is only an estimate. Exact figures are not available. The question "How many people are injured in the mines each year" can't be answered. Our statisticians seem to have the greatest ability in answering questions which nobody cares a rap about and the greatest inability in answering questions of prime importance. But approximately, with every 267,000 tons of coal mined in the year 1918 a human life was sacrificed. Think of the loss the country suffers in losing so many citizens every year! Think of our immigrant citizens who come here to secure and enjoy a better life and meet their death in the mines.

But there is human wastage other than loss of life or bodily injuries. There is enormous waste—to the injury both of the industry and the miners' lives—the energies and abilities of the mine workers. The most obvious is slack work, underemployment and unemployment. During a period of thirty years the average working year of a miner was 215 days. Some years there were far less than this. This year, during the first six months the bituminous miners had opportunity to work less than half time. The mental effect of this is fear, reduced efficiency.

This wrecks morale. It is bad for the mines, bad for the miners, bad for the public. There is nothing being done by the employers as a group to remedy this instability of employment.

## A MINER'S WAGES

When the price of coal rises you will hear about the high wages the miners receive. The papers flash big headlines: HIGH WAGES RESPONSIBLE FOR HIGH PRICE OF COAL. Do you know what these high wages are? Under the present wage scale this year's average annual income for a miner in the United States will probably be less than \$1,000. How many of you could live on such wages. The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics has given \$2,226.47 as the minimum amount necessary to maintain a normal family in health

and decency. The miners get less than half that much and still they are held responsible for the high price of coal.

## NATIONALIZATION THE ONLY REMEDY

Our remedy against this criminal waste of our coal deposits and of our human resources is Nationalization of the mines.

The miners stand for nationalization and democratic management of the mines.

Because the mines nationalized will be worked more economically.

Because nationalization will mean coal to the people at a reasonable price.

Because only in this way can the coal resources of the nation be conserved for the future.

Because only under nationalization freed from the profit motive, can the industry call out to the full the skill, the interest and experience of the mine workers.

Because only in this way can the miner feel that he has a share in the industry and only in this way can he feel that his work is for the service of the people.

The operators oppose nationalization. In order to discover who is advocating the right remedy for the ills of the coal industry, we ask all to stop theoretical squabbling and co-operate with us in making all facts about the industry available to the public. We ask immediate legislation for centralized, continuous and compulsory fact-finding in the coal industry. If nationalization would be detrimental to the public interest, as the operators maintain, we do not see why they should fear to give the public all the statistics at their disposal.

We believe in intelligently planned industry. We believe the only method for the intelligent organization of this industry is nationalization. The employers disagree. In order to arrive at a decision we ask them to submit the facts to the American people, the only jury that has a right to pass judgment on the case. Only in this way can a sound judgment be given.

# World Trade Unions Would Cancel War Debts

The International Federation of Trade Unions has long since taken up a position with regard to the economic chaos prevailing all over the world, and has made positive proposals for its remedy.

At its Congress in London, in November, 1920, the International Federation of Trade Unions recommended the universal and mutual cancellation of war debts, as well as the establishment of an international organization for the division and distribution of raw materials.

"National and, where possible, international measures, shall be taken against unrestricted circulation of fiduciary issues, and to limit present-day currencies to national proportions; a necessary step hereto is the withdrawal of unnecessary issues, particularly for military purposes, and the levying of a comprehensive tax on capital."

The Congress regards these international measures as being of paramount importance. International measures must proceed on lines other than the mere concession of fresh commercial credits. This can only be accomplished if and when the League of Nations, or an organization attached thereto, promotes an international loan on the security of the assets and resources of all nations without exception. The amount should be placed at the disposal of the various countries in accordance with their needs and under the control of the League of Nations, for the sole and exclusive betterment of their

financial position and for the restoration and advancement of production.

This Congress declares "that the measures should be accomplished within a given period; that they are uniform with the other demands of the working class affecting international production, distribution of raw materials, and the control of transport."

After the break-down of the negotiations at the conference of ambassadors in London in March, 1921, the International Federation of Trade Unions pointed out again and again that the restoration of the economic situation could only be effected by a policy of reconciliation. It protested "against demands which will condemn the workers of Central Europe to slavery for a generation; which will impede the reconstruction of Europe and foster hatred among the nations and annihilate civilization."

In a decision taken on March 14th, 1921, the Bureau of the International Federation of Trade Unions suggested "that an impartial investigation be instituted which may effect a rapprochement between the various countries—it needs be by having recourse to arbitration—both as regards the damage to be repaired as well as the capabilities of the debtor country; and that, pending a final settlement, an international loan to be loaned by the latter country, should furnish the sums necessary to assure the rapid execution of the work of reparation."

In the resolution adopted by the

International Trade Union Conference (March 21 and April 1, 1921) it was declared that "it is a mistaken policy of the governments to attempt a solution of the problems of reparation by exclusively financial measures, which cannot lead to any real settlement in the present world economic situation."

The International Federation of Trade Unions declared, therefore, that it was the duty of the allied governments "to admit Germany without delay to the League of Nations and to institute an international reconstruction office for the technical organization, the general and financial administration of the work of reconstruction."

The general trend of Churchill's suggestions is along the same lines as the demands of the international organized working classes as briefly set forth above. With regard to the workers, however, they have not followed during four years an unsuccessful, not to say disastrous reparations policy before realizing the fact that the world crisis could be overcome only by international solidarity and by renouncing force as a remedy. It

is not sufficient, of course, that now and again some minister or other of one of the victorious countries should adopt a conciliatory tone.

If the present crisis is to be ended these ideas must convince not only English statesmen, but also the governments of the other states which emerged victorious from the war. Instead of being an international association of governments, the League of Nations must become an international association of peoples.

The world must begin to realize that "the universal and mutual cancellation of international war debts" is really "one of the best means of counteracting the effects of the crisis in exchange at the present time." The statements who have the courage to adopt this radical policy will then be in a position to come nearer a solution of the unemployment problem, for this is a problem before which the governments, particularly of the victorious countries, will necessarily be powerless so long as the economic life of the peoples is controlled—and crippled—by purely capitalist and imperialist interests.

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# JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

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## EDITORIALS

### THE STATUS OF THE STRIKE

In order to grasp fully and appraise the exact situation of the cloak strike at the present moment, it would be well to refresh the mind of the reader with some very interesting and pertinent details.

First, we would like to recall to the mind of the reader the assertions made by the Protective Association that there will be no strike in the cloak industry; that the only ones indulging in strike talk are the leaders of the Union and that the workers are heart and soul for the reintroduction of piece work. They have made this statement in the press not only immediately after they had issued their ultimatum, but even after almost the entire membership of the Union had voted the agreement which the manufacturers had entered into with the workers must run its full term until June next, the employers were brazen enough to declare that this vote meant nothing and that if it should ever come to a strike, the workers would remain in the factories. It is worth while mentioning that even when the strike was in full swing and not a single worker remained at work, their spokesman, Mr. Lefcourt, had the temerity to state in the press that 60 per cent (which he later modified to 40 per cent) of the workers remained in the shops.

The true situation, however, could not be lied about very long. The remarkable outpouring of the cloak workers on November 14th has made it clear to everybody that the general strike was an indisputable fact, and the fabrications of the employers were quickly exploded. The irrefutable fact remains that to this very day every cloak shop in New York, with the exception of the few hundred firms that had settled with the Union, is totally empty of workers.

There is another point that we wish to remind our readers of. The employers, feeling in the saddle, have obviously forgotten that they live in a world in which they must at least keep up appearances of outward decency. Instead of that, they have come out with brazen statements to the effect that they were the "masters" of the hour and that they are in a position to issue decrees and give orders that must be obeyed. Piece work must return, work hours must be lengthened and wages must be cut, they said, or else the workers will be starved into submission. To add insult to injury, they did not even notify the Union officially of their nefarious designs, ignoring it as if it had never existed.

Well, the strike is less than three weeks old, and the new spokesman for the Protective Association, is already using different language. He no more insists on piece work, or longer work hours, or smaller wages, he says. Far from it. All they want is "productivity," and this is a matter on which "an understanding can be easily reached." So why keep up the strike? If this is not a full retreat; from the former position of the cloak manufacturers, we do not know what a retreat is. The cloak employers would now negotiate with the Union. They complain to the Industrial Commission of New York and implore the Secretary of Labor to mediate for peace. They thus declare themselves publicly as beaten. Their eyes have obviously been opened to the fact that the entire public opinion is against them, and that the work conditions which they had planned to reintroduce into their factories will never materialize. And what is the principal thing, they will again have to confer and negotiate with the representatives of the Union—whose graves they have dug rather prematurely—if they want to remain in the cloak manufacturing business. If this is not a great moral victory for the Union and a splendid great defeat for the Protective Association, the words "victory" and "defeat" have lost their meaning.

Let us analyze the situation a little further.

When the manufacturers came out with their ultimatum for week-work, longer work hours and smaller wages, they had other and more important objectives in view. They, perhaps, could not have united their entire membership upon the above enumerated three points only. They had other objects in view, chief among them, the complete elimination of the Union. Upon this "noble" aspiration they succeeded in uniting all their members and it was this ultimate hope that had made them feel so strong and invincible.

It did not take very long, however, before it became clear that this objective, the destruction of the Union, was an impossibility and sheer lunacy. The Union displayed the strength of Gibraltar and this wonderful vitality of our organization made the much vaunted Protective Association look sick and wobbly in short order. The Association is on its hind legs today, and many of its members are ready to break away from its hopelessly tactless leadership. We are fairly certain that large numbers of them are gnashing their teeth in despair over the swamps of denunciation and condemnation that are engulfing them on all sides for the faithless and dishonorable breaking of the agreement in the industry.

Such is the situation. The Union has earned universal respect and admiration for its tact, steadfastness and wonderful hold upon its membership. The Protective Association instead of "pro-

tecting" its members has proved to be a source of misery and woe to them. Is it a wonder that in its endeavor to prolong its existence the Association has now changed its tone and has assumed, through the mouth of its new spokesman, Mr. Steuer, a lamb-like attitude?

The picture of the satisfactory situation of the strike would not be complete, were we to omit the fact that today, with the strike back on the terms of the old agreement, the strikers are already back at work under the terms of the old agreement. We are proud to say that until Monday last the Union had already settled with 380 firms employing no less than 11,200 workers. Among those who have settled is the firm of R. Sadowsky, one of the biggest cloak manufacturers in the country. This proves beyond cavil, that our victory is not only a moral one but a material one as well. 12,000 workers are already back at work under week work, 44 hours and the standing scale of wages. These men and women have already won their strike. And if we are to forecast future developments by the standard of leadership and the manner in which the cloakmakers are defending themselves against the aggression of their employers, we can safely say that the day of ultimate victory is not very distant.

### SOME ARGUMENTS OF THE EMPLOYERS

We do not know upon whose initiative—certainly not upon the Union's—the State Industrial Commission of New York had invited the Union and the Protective Association to a hearing regarding the strike. The first hearing took place last Saturday and another will occur next Saturday. After that, the Commission will render its opinion on the merits of the strike.

After the first hearing, the Union, represented, of course, by President Schlesinger and Morris Hillquit, insisted that the principal point in the pending strike is the contract broken by the Association. The Protective Association, speaking through Mr. Steuer, has practically admitted that the manufacturers had broken the contract, but argued that it was a matter of the past and must therefore stay broken. If the employers were to act today in accordance with the terms of the agreement, it would mean "the signing of their own death sentence."

Of course, we are not so brutal that we would like to see a few hundred men take their own lives, no matter how meanly and reprehensibly they may have acted. It is true, they have already committed moral suicide by having forced the strike upon the Union, but this they have done without consulting us and we plead total lack of complicity. We, therefore, would like to say a few words about Mr. Steuer's argument, which has probably not failed to make some impression upon the members of the Commission.

We would like to know, from Mr. Steuer, what is there in this contract which is to expire on June next, the observance of which might lead the employers to suicide? Had Mr. Steuer believed that week-work is such a dangerous thing, as some manufacturers had asserted in the beginning; had Mr. Steuer really believed that workers must work long hours, lest the industry be ruined; had he really believed that the workers must receive starvation wages that the cloak industry might prosper,—we could have understood him and his argument about the menace of the agreement. But Mr. Steuer is, fortunately, quite a liberal man. He says himself that he is a true friend of the workers. He declares that piece work and long hours and smaller wages are not the issues in the present strike. It is ready to drop these and all he asks an "honest measure of work." So we ask. If Mr. Steuer is sincere about all this, why should the observance of the 1919 agreement spell the "death sentence" of the manufacturers? What is there in that agreement except week work, the 44 hours and a definite scale of wages? Either of the two: If Mr. Steuer is earnest when he asserts that he does not aim at piece work, longer work hours and smaller wages, he himself should insist upon the continuation of the 1919 agreement. If, on the other hand, he believes that the restoration of the 1919 agreement means the "death" of his clients, what he may have in mind except piece-work, longer work hours and smaller wages?

Besides that, we can hardly understand how a clever man like Mr. Steuer can make such an unfounded assertion, one so totally in contradiction with reality? In the course of the last two weeks, 360 cloak firms have already settled with the Union. Their workers have returned to the shops under the terms of the 1919 agreement. The firm of the well-known manufacturer, Mr. Ruben Sadowsky, is among those which have settled. Will Mr. Steuer say that these several hundred manufacturers have signed their "death sentence" when they had chosen to do so honorably and in accordance with their agreement? And let us disclose the fact to Mr. Steuer that these men have signed their agreements without any coercion on the part of the Union, that they have done so with their eyes open and eagerly waiting for their "next" in the Settlement Committee's rooms. Within the next few days several hundred more firms will settle under the 1919 terms. Will Mr. Steuer still insist upon the "suicide" argument in the face of these facts, and risk the wholesome and general laughter of the community?

Let us bear in mind that Mr. Steuer is a very able man, one of New York's best lawyers. The fact that he even has not found a better plea for his clients, the cloak manufacturers, than this argument of a "death sentence" is an excellent commentary upon the poverty of their cause and the inexcusable position in which they have placed themselves.

There is another argument which Mr. Steuer had used and which shows that he simply does not know the situation in the cloak industry. President Schlesinger had declared, in his short speech before the Commission, that the cry that there are no more sweatshops in the industry is a false one. It is true, there are no more sweatshops on Fifth and Madison Avenues. Cloaks, however, are not being made in those show shops. The Fifth Avenue shops are used largely as show rooms, but there still exists a great number of genuine sweatshops in Brownsville and on the East Side, where the major part of the work of the members of the Protective Association is being done. To this statement Mr. Steuer replied that if

# In the Land of "The Dictatorship of the Proletariat"

By BEN AUGUST

## IV. HOW THE RUSSIAN WORKERS FIGHT THE COMMUNIST GOVERNMENT

In my last article I have shown that the Russian workers are not the masters of even their own organization, just because in Russia the so-called Communist Government, the genuine "representative of the proletariat," is in the saddle. Are the Russian workers fighting the Communist Government? Are they striking against the proletarian regime? Are they making demands upon the government of the proletariat?

The answer to these questions is a most emphatic Yes.

I can see your astonishment, dear reader. You may not be inclined to believe it. Is it possible, indeed, that Russian workers would fight their own government, would strike against their own regime? It sounds strange enough, but these are facts, incontestable facts from the life of the workers under the iron dictatorship of the Communists.

I would not have formerly believed that myself. I had also thought that all these statements about the opposition of the Russian workers to the Communists was malign propaganda of counter-revolutionists and of the bourgeoisie. I would not have believed it had I not seen it with my own eyes. I had to take a trip to Communist Russia and be an eyewitness of all that transpires there in order that I could form a true opinion of how the workers, the proletarians, live under the domination of the Communists.

Last Winter, in February, the entire proletariat of Petrograd was on strike against the Communist Government. It was a general strike like the one you have in the cloak industry just at present, with one difference: While the cloakmakers are striking against their employers, the workers of Petrograd were on strike against the entire Communist Government. This took place before the Kronstadt uprising.

The Petrograd general strike was suppressed. Petrograd was flooded with Red Army men, and the strikers were compelled to return to work in the factories. What did they strike for? For a larger slice of bread, for a few more grains of barley, for a log of wood so that they might not freeze.

"Let it be stated here that the Kronstadt uprising was not an uprising of counter-revolutionists. It was in fact with the Kronstadt sailors have fought Socialists-Mensheviks, Socialists-Revolutionists and Anarchists-Syndicalists. It was a fight for principles, and the Kronstadt uprising came as a result of the general strike of the Petrograd workers."

and they also struck for some measure of authority in the factories. They, however, gained nothing from the Communist Government.

Last May the trolley workers of Petrograd went out on strike. They left their shops just on the first of May. You won't believe that. Well, it was in Petrograd on the first of May, and the proletarian holiday was, for some reason, converted by the authorities into a children's "festival." A few hundred half-famished children have marched through the streets of the revolutionary city of Petrograd. Well, what did the trolley workers want? An additional slice of black bread, a little more "kasha," a herring, and such other formidable demands.

Did they win the strike? No, they did not. And they lost badly, too, for the Communists have gone out and scabbled on them. You may not wish to believe that, but this is the truth, the unvarnished truth. A Russian Communist must do everything he is hidden to do. He will scab, he will become a member of the Cheka (the dreaded secret service), in a word, he will do everything to safeguard the "Government of the Proletariat."

Last Spring there arrived in Petrograd some American Communists. When the strike of the trolley men broke out they were mobilized to go scabbing. Some of them refused to do it, and were thrown out of the Communist party for that.

So you may take it for a fact that the workers in Russia strike against their oppressors, and it does not matter who these oppressors are, whether they are capitalist employers or Communist experimentalists. To the workers this matters very little, except that their grievance is even more accentuated when those who undertake to break their strike by scabbing are faithful Communists, the saviors of the international proletariat, for sooth!

The workers of Russia are combating the rule of the Communists by various other methods, such as, for instance, failure to report to work, sabotage (overt and covert), violating labor laws, misappropriation and plain stealing.

In Russia all these things are an open secret. Everybody knows this; the Government are aware of it, and it is at the beginning and the end of a great deal of misery. In no country is sabotage practiced on such a scale as it is indulged in by the workers of Russia. They are causing the Government every possible damage they can, and do it with a will and zest.

The Communists know this, and they complain about it. At the Con-

gress we mentioned in our last article this subject was discussed under the head of "Productivity Propaganda." Here is what they say about it:

"The nearest practical aims of the propaganda for productivity must be: (1) To interest the great masses of the workers in productivity of individual industries as well as industry in general; (2) To raise and to fortify the discipline of labor, and to combat labor desertion in all its forms, such as abstaining from work, sabotage, embezzlement, or common stealing."

These are the words of the Communists themselves about the workers. Have they found any effective methods against it? Well, discipline, this is the first thing they would employ against the sabotage of the workers. The workers are destroying everything they can lay their hands on. They take screws out of machines, and sell these; the machine, thus crippled, becomes useless, and the workers then get a chance to go home. The American capitalists used to say that the I. W. W. are dangerous saboteurs. I do not know whether this is true or not; I never belonged to their organization. But if this was ever true, I am certain that they "could not hold a candle" to the Russian workers. The latter are real artists in this respect, and they have become sly because they regard sabotage as one of their fighting methods against the Communist regime.

They are employing both open and secret sabotage. Very often they do not report to work at all, trusting to luck. They just refuse to work for a Communist Government, and to starve at the same time. Can they be blamed? They are not idealists, and are just plain working folk. And they say: "Whether we work or shirk, we starve anyway. We'd rather not work." And they do not work.

It is difficult to organize a Communist society with men of that frame of mind, and the Communists are recognizing this already. That's why they have taken such a long step backwards and have decided to turn over the factories to the capitalists. The word sabotage has a lot of meanings, and it can be interpreted in various forms. There are in Russia, for instance, thousands, hundreds of thousands of workers who work in factories, but their work is hopelessly unproductive. They "strike on the job." And this is but another form of sabotage. I wonder if they had learned this method from the Americans.

As one enters a Russian factory

and sees how the workers move about, how they work, one is really astonished. And one immediately asks the question: "Are these fellows supposed to reconstruct a ruined land?" After a moment of hesitancy one is bound to answer it in a most emphatic negative. No, these men cannot and will not rebuild the land that is lying in ruins.

I had a good friend, a Communist, who was deported from America last year. This Communist is a weaver, and being a skilled worker he went to work in a Petrograd factory. For a while he worked there, and every time we would meet he invariably would cry to me: "Comrade, what can we do with these Russian workers, they just refuse to work? A worker here will not produce in a month what I used to produce in a day in America. I myself have become an idler through them."

This Communist friend of mine is now so steeped in despair that he has given up his weaving entirely and is tramping the streets of Moscow these days. I asked him one day: "Why, comrade, did you leave Petrograd and come to Moscow, the streets of Moscow?" To which he replied: "The workers in Russia have made me thoroughly disgusted with everything. Whatever they fail to get by labor, they steal from the factory. Beside, all that I could ever get in the shop was a half-pound of bread a day. So I decided that I might as well try and get along without that half a pound. I'd rather go around idle in the hope that I might strike something better."

Yes, the workers are "taking" out from the factories everything they can lay their hands upon. They must exist, and if they were to rely upon the "payak" (the ration), they would all have been reposing long since in their graves. So they "take" and sell and get enough bread and other food-stuffs to exist somehow or other.

The social revolution has converted the workers of Russia into a pitifully ugly lot. Of course, it is hardly their fault. The circumstances were responsible for this. But those are bad and true facts, and if there are among us some who would want us to follow the example of Russia, let them go and see for themselves. That is the best thing they could do. And I am certain that they'll get their cure in record time.

Before I left America for Russia I was a firm believer in Bolshevism. I am through with it now and for good. It has converted practically the entire proletariat of Russia into a class of "takers," or to use simpler language, into a class of thieves. Bitter war had driven them to it, but they are using it too as a method of combat against their government. They fight this government by every device possible; they strike against it, they sabotage it, they steal from it, and when they think of it they produce next to nothing.

it were so, it was the blame of President Schlesinger and the Union whose duty it is to oversee and prevent such a state of affairs. On the face of it the argument sounds plausible enough. The truth of the matter, however, is that the only party guilty for this condition is the manufacturer who gives out his work to such sweatshops. New York is immense in size and the fixing up of a cloak shop does not require any huge machinery or capital. Small shops of this type are springing up in New York overnight by the score, and the Union is not always able to discover them at once. It takes months, sometimes, until they are located. The Union, therefore, cannot be held responsible for such sweatshops nor can the blame be placed upon the Joint Sanitary Board. It is the big cloak manufacturers who are directly responsible for this evil, they who have sumptuous show rooms on Fifth Avenue and dozens of tiny shops on the East side where their garments are manufactured a few pennies cheaper than uptown.

### THE PHILADELPHIA CLOAK STRIKE

Last Monday the cloakmakers of Philadelphia have gone out in a general strike for the same causes that provoked the strike in New York. The Philadelphia manufacturers, too, displayed a

desire for piece-work, longer work hours and small wages. Of course, the cloakmakers retaliated with a general strike.

Nevertheless, we are surprised at the Philadelphia employers. The few weeks of striking in New York should have taught them a different lesson. They have seen how their "all powerful" brethren have been all but beaten. They have seen the outward change of attitude. Yet these observations have not stopped them from forcing a strike upon their workers. Verily, whom the Gods would destroy they first make blind.

We do not doubt for a moment that our Philadelphia cloakmakers will take full care of themselves. They will not be left an inch behind their New York fellow workers in fighting spirit, endurance and tact. What else could one expect? The Philadelphia cloakmakers have learned their fighting lesson in the same school, from the same teachers and under the same leadership. There will not be a single scab found in Philadelphia as there wasn't in New York. Philadelphia will repeat the same scene of employers crowding the rooms of the Settlement Committee that we have witnessed in New York. Like in New York the chances are that the Philadelphia employers' association will fall to pieces as the New York Protective Association is promising to do.



# The Modern Novel And the Class Struggle

By DAVID P. BERENBERG

## II. THE NOVELS OF H. G. WELLS

H. G. Wells is on everybody's lips. As these words are being written Wells is in America, reporting the Armament Conference for the New York "World." His opinions are sought after and cherished,—perhaps far beyond their value. He seems, to some people, to be one of those many-sided individuals called geniuses,—a man like Da Vinci or Goethe. That is a matter for the future to settle.

Wells is a creature of the conflict. He has been seized by it and whirled about, a bit too much, some think. It has made him dizzy, and has perhaps confused his work. He seems to tackle everything,—every problem. It cannot be said that he settles anything. In this earlier work the class conflict seems to obsess him. It overshadows every other motive. It is the dominant theme.

It is only recently that Wells began to attract the attention of the world. Years ago he was a writer of romance of a sort that seemed so far-fetched that people could not take them seriously. And they weren't taken seriously. It is only in the light of the later Wells that people are beginning to wake up to the fact that these earlier romances were symbolic,—that Wells was dealing with a problem so delicate that he had to clothe it in fanciful garb in order to get readers for it. The pity is,—as it always is in allegories of this sort,—that the very readers whom he tried to reach saw in the stories before them only a charming romance.

There are few books that tell the story of the social conflict so clearly, so convincingly, and so honestly as that series of wonder stories beginning with "The First Men in the Moon" and going through "The Time Machine," "When the Sleeper Wakes" to the "Food of the Gods." In these stories Wells, a pupil of the great biologist Huxley, is absorbed by the theory of evolution. Environment determines the course along which mankind shall travel. Part of the environment is the conflict of the classes that takes up so much of the average human being's time. Can evolution proceed without being affected by the conflict? And if the course of human develop-

ment is affected,—what is the effect,—and how far-reaching?

The idea is fascinating. Wells plays with it. But it will not do to play with the evolution of human beings openly. They might not like it,—and Wells wanted them to like his story. He wanted them to read it,—and if possible,—he wanted them to dig up the message that he conveyed in his pages. So he invented dwellers of the moon,—Selenites,—and let evolution play with them. On the moon,—Wells' moon,—the classes have become specialized, fixed, not merely socially, but biologically as well. The moon is a vast beehive. The vast mass of the inhabitants are like the worker bees in every respect. They are born to work,—for a purpose which they do not try to understand; they are sexless; they work endlessly,—and get in return simply a living. They are born of Queen Selenites, specialized for the purpose of reproduction as are the queens of our earthly bee-hives. The males are drones,—parasites. What a terrible prospect for the world! And yet,—without telling you in so many words that this is the logical outcome of the class struggle on earth, Wells makes you shudder with fear that it may happen!

The same thought obsesses him in the next book, "The Time Machine." The idea has grown more concrete here. This book, apart entirely from its social value, is a truly magnificent piece of work. An inventor discovers a method of travelling in time as we now travel through space. (And this before Einstein was ever thought of.) On this machine he proceeds to investigate the future. And again the class struggle, with its pitiless consequences trails his path. He finds the moderns down the ages to the London of 8,000 A. D. He finds himself in a seven-decked vessel, in the lowest deck of which dwell the workers, forever in darkness, living lives of unalterable and horrible labor. On top dwell the rulers, living a life of golden ease.

The time machine goes on, stopping at various places, but making no prolonged stop until we reach a period of hundreds of thousands of years in the future. London is gone! In its place by the Thames is a meadow, on which play a group of children. All day long they play there, but when the sun sets they scurry wildly for shelter,—out of the dark. These children are all the visible people on the earth, frail, futile and pretty as China dolls.

In the bowels of the earth lives a new animal, related to these dolls, but so far removed biologically that the relationship is not recognized. These are the descendants of the workers. They are powerful physically and intellectually, but like subterranean fishes they are absolutely sightless. They are the Morlocks, the inevitable outcome of the struggle if it is allowed to go on logically: The Morlocks eat the children of the upper world. They feed them, fatten them, and then slaughter them like cattle. The whole has turned out. The oppressed have become the oppressors. There is the fate that the futile rulers are preparing for their children.

"When the Sleeper Wakes," "The Food of the Gods," "The War of the Worlds"—all more or less fanciful, yet all tell the same story. They were widely read; they were talked about,—and after a while they were even understood by some. Then suddenly, Wells dropped stories of this sort. Instead of allegories thru which the discerning could read his purpose, and thru which he spread the-

## THE STAGE

### DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL NOTES

The Shuberts' revival of "The Chocolate Soldier" is announced to open at the Century Theatre on Monday night, Dec. 12. The leading roles will be sung by Tessa Kosta and Donald Brian, and the cast will also include Virginia O'Brien, Mildred Rogers, John Danmure, John Duffy and Detmar Poppen.

"The Fair Circasian," a play by Gladys Ungar, will succeed "The Man's Name" at the Republic Theatre next Monday night. The cast will be headed by Claude King, John H. Brewer, Margaret Mower, Ethel Dane, Ekelin Gayer and Robert Fischer. Gertrude Newell is the producer.

"The Verge" will be continued another week at the Provincetown Theatre.

Frank Reicher will continue in the cast of "Ambush" when the play is moved to the Belmont on Monday. Ernest Cosart will play Mr. Reicher's roles in the Theatre Guild's forthcoming double program.

"Our Mutual Friend," an adaptation of Dickens's story, opens at the Lyric tonight.

"Sir Arne's Treasure," a motion picture version of Selma Lagerlof's novel, produced by the Swedish Biograph Company, was presented under the auspices of the Commonwealth Centre at Town Hall.

eries dangerous to the ruling classes, he began a work more useful, but more immediately important. He turned the searchlight on the workings of the system as it exists now. He began writing an extraordinary series of novels that stripped the shams from many sacred cows. "Tono-Bungay," the story of a patent medicine, is far more than that. It is the other side of the shield. Most novelists are content when writing of the rulers of society, to skim the surface. They take wealth for granted and try to tell of love and its struggles as something apart from the rest of life. Wells is not so absurd. Here is wealth—and the struggle to get. After it is attained, there is the struggle to hold it. Here wealth is shown in its realization to love. It must not be understood that Wells takes the shallow stand that wealth does not bring happiness, with its implied corollary that poverty does! But here the persistence of the struggle after its end is apparently gained—the constant fear of the abyss that lies ahead—the effect of the cut-throat game upon every phase of life—these are the things that hold the novelist's attention.

Other novels followed—"Tono-Bungay," "Marriage" is a bold study that ends nowhere. The "Research Magnificent" and "Passionate Friends" are frank criticisms of that governmental system that tries to "muddle thru," besides being also open-eyed discussions of the relation of the sexes. "The Land of the Living" is a proletarian viewpoint somewhat dimmed. Wells shows us the outlines of the struggle. We are tied up in it. It owns us. It is foolish for us to try to solve life's problems without taking it into account.

Many people find Wells' work disappointing. It seems to them that if Wells sees the struggle so clearly, he ought to see the cure so clearly. They want him to come out flat-footedly for this or that program of change. They are wrong and Wells is right. Wells' politics are well known. He has published enough

Gilbert Miller will sail for London to be present at the premiere of "Blood and Sand," which Matheson Lang will act at the New Theatre on Dec. 12. While abroad Mr. Miller will also secure designs for the scenes and costumes of "The Czarina," which Doris Keane will play here. They will be the work of the Russian artist, Seodskine.

Clare Kummer's new comedy, "The Mountain Man," was produced in Atlantic City Thursday night, and will come to New York on Dec. 12. It is being presented by Charles L. Wagner, who has been active hitherto only in the musical field. Sidney Blackmer heads the cast.

Emanuel Reicher expects to produce a number of plays at the Fifteenth Street Theatre in the near future.

Cosmo Hamilton's new play, "Danger," will open at the Thirty-ninth Street Theatre on Tuesday night, Dec. 6. H. B. Warner will head the cast.

Lee Simonson, scenic director of the Theatre Guild, is returning this week from a trip embracing the theatrical centres abroad.

Miss Sidney Thompson, after a season in London and the provinces, is returning for a series of New York appearances. She will be heard on Dec. 8 and 9 at the MacDowell Gallery in aid of the Vassar College Salary Endowment Fund.

tracts, without turning his novels into tracts as well. Each novel presents a different problem to him. In each case he is trying to show us how the struggle affects this type or the other. He is nowhere so happy as he is in delineating the middle class. Mr. Polly will remain for many years the type of the futile, stupid, and yet not entirely dead person—the kind of person, like the clerk in "Ambush," who abounds in the middle class.

Much could be written about each of Mr. Wells' books—"The Undying Fire" and "Peter and Joan" alone merit articles as long as this and longer. In them the vexed question of education is discussed, not as among teachers, but as among plain people. And here, too, the class question obtrudes itself. It is everlasting on the horizon with Wells, he could not keep it out of his books even if he wanted to.

What makes the books of Wells so valuable, beyond their content is that they are readable. At times he sweeps the reader along until he seems himself to become part of the action. He has dull moments—his indecision becomes irritating at times—but whenever a new Wells book comes out there is a rush to the bookstores and to the libraries. Can any author ask more?

Nothing that Wells says leads anywhere. He is a photographer, but photographers have their uses. He is a photographer who uses a powerful lens. He turns it on good subjects. He prints splendid pictures. Greater philosophers than Wells will use his prints to better purpose.

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# LABOR THE WORLD OVER

## DOMESTIC ITEMS

### MATERNITY BILL PASSED BY HOUSE

The House passed the Sheppard-Towner maternity bill by the surprisingly large vote of 279 to 39. The bill was approved by the Senate last June.

Advocates of the bill show that thousands of mothers and babies die annually through lack of maternity education and knowledge of the care of babies. The bill provides for the government to stimulate and aid the several states in promoting the welfare and hygiene of maternity and infancy. The government will appropriate approximately \$1,500,000 the first year, to be divided among the states according to population, providing the states themselves appropriate an equal amount. The plan of education used by the states must be indorsed by the government. This puts the movement on a solid basis, and removes it from any danger of being controlled by faddists.

There is nothing compulsory about this education, which will be conducted through visiting nurses, clinics for pre-natal cases and consultation centers, where mothers may bring their babies for advice. If a state accepts the law, it is optional with mothers to take advantage of it.

### AMERICAN SHIPS IDLE

Only 40 per cent of our exports during September were carried in American ships, said Albert D. Lasker, chairman of the United States Shipping Board, in a speech before naval architects.

"For a nation with 10,000,000 tons of shipping idle, this is not a record to be proud of," said the speaker, who made no mention of recent exposures which show American railroads have entered into iron-bound contracts with foreign-owned shipping companies to furnish them freight.

### "INCOMPETENT BOURBOIS"

"Incompetent bourbons" is the stinging epitaph applied to railroad managers by Rev. John A. Ryan in discussing the near-railroad strike in a social magazine.

"Now that the strike is called off," he says, "it is in order to congratulate the officers of the unions on their moderation, their public spirit and their capacity for sacrifice."

"To the railway heads, no praise nor credit is due, for they showed themselves unyielding and as inconsiderate of the public as of their employees. They are flagrant types of incompetent bourbons."

The clergyman called attention to the insistence of some newspapers that a strike against an order of the Railroad Labor Board is a violation of law.

"A few of the papers positively answered in the affirmative, while others used language to suggest the same conclusion," he said. "This is wrong; for the Commins. Each act merely requires the two parties to submit a dispute to the Railroad Labor Board; it does not command them to accept the board's decision."

### SIX CENTS A QUART PROFIT

Milk dealers who forced their teamsters on strike because of wage differences are making six cents' profit on each quart of milk, instead of one-half cent, as advertised, says President Sterbinsky, president of the Milk Drivers' Union, in an affidavit.

The strikers demand court action against the milk dealers, who are charged with monopolizing the delivery of milk. The affidavit says milk dealers not only admit they have a monopoly of milk distribution in this city, but boast that "85 per cent of all milk distributed in the five boroughs is distributed by them."

### ONE MILLION A MONTH

Receipts of the International Typographical Union for the month of September 20 to October 20 totaled \$1,047,526.61. Of this vast amount \$883,467.47 was for the 44-hour week assessment, \$54,345.80 for the mortuary fund and \$50,718.42 for the old-age assessment.

With more than a million a month pouring into the treasury of this union employers believe they can "get away" with their contract-breaking policy.

Two years ago these employers agreed with the union to install the 44-hour week on May 1, 1921. They have violated this agreement, and their action is approved by every anti-unionist in the country, who lectures organized labor on the sacredness of contracts.

### EMPLOYMENT FIGURES

In comparing employment figures of October, 1921, with those for 14 identical establishments in October, 1920, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that in eight of the industries employment increased, and in the remaining six less employment was recorded. The largest increase, 52.5 per cent, is in the woolen industry. Men's ready-made clothing increased 30.5 per cent. The iron and steel industry shows the largest decrease in employment, 37.8 per cent.

### HALIFAX PRINTERS SCORE

The Typographical Union of Halifax, N. S., has again scored in its fight to enforce the 44-hour week agreement between employers and the International Typographical Union. The local union is slowly beating down opposition of anti-union employers.

### IS THE RECALL ELECTION OF N. D. VALID?

Validity of the recall election of North Dakota, October 28, will be attacked in court by a group of tax payers affiliated with the Non-Partisan League, it was indicated when appeals for funds to finance the contest action were sent out from Bismark, N. D.

### FOREIGN TRADE SHOWS SLIGHT INCREASE

The foreign trade of the United States, although still below that of last year, is showing a steady increase. Exports for October were \$346,000,000, as compared with \$761,000,000 last year, and imports were \$183,000,000, as against \$33,000,000.

### HELPING A HELPER

Eight thousand mine workers of the Penna. Coal Co., at Pittston, went on strike today when the superintendent of a colliery refused to promote a blacksmith's helper to the position of blacksmith.

## FOREIGN ITEMS

### GERMANY

#### POTATO PRICES RISE

Abolition of Government control and the falling value of the mark have combined to bring about a crisis in the problem of supplying the working people of Germany with their winter crop of potatoes. Instead of price reduction promised when the war-time restriction in potatoes was lifted last year, consumers are being compelled to pay more for their potatoes.

#### WORKERS RIOT FOR FOOD

Prediction by economic experts that there would be serious rioting this winter in consequence of the increase in the prices of all food stuffs was verified this morning, when a crowd of thousands invaded and plundered the groceries and butcher shops in Neukolln, a workmen's suburb of Berlin.

### ENGLAND

#### BISHOPS BECOMING PROLETARIANS

Several bishops of the church of England are refusing to continue to live in large mansions owing to the enormous expense involved in the upkeep and ecclesiastical seats for centuries are being closed one by one.

#### UNEMPLOYMENT GROWING

Latest reports indicate that England's unemployment problem is as serious as it has been at any time during the year. Official figures show 1,750,000 workers wholly unemployed and 305,000 on part time work. Thousands of additional unemployed have not registered, so that the number without jobs must exceed 3,000,000, without counting those on part time.

#### WHAT IS "CAPITAL?"

Recent speeches in favor of settling industrial disputes on the basis of a fixed rate of interest on capital and a minimum wage for labor causes the Cotton Factory Times, of Manchester, England, to ask: "What are we to regard as capital?"

"It is impossible that employers can be allowed to bring in a great amount of watered capital to rank for dividend and thus deprive the workers of their true share of legitimate profits. There would have to be some understanding as to what is fair capital, as well as what constitutes a fair return on that capital."

"Merely to say that because a firm has a certain amount of capital down on its books it is, therefore, entitled to a certain dividend on it, is to beg the whole question. Labor could never accept such a position."

In commenting on pleas for "forbearance" between the two interests, the editor says that the tendency toward trusts rapidly disposes whatever humanitarian link there might have been between employer and employed under the old system, and that the only interest stockholders now have in a business is to secure a satisfactory dividend.

"The need for forbearance is great, but the signs of the times declare it to be a diminishing quantity."

"The only way in which to overcome difficulties of this description is by a removal of the suspicion that one class is seeking to obtain an advantage over the other, and this can only be done when all are convinced that the basis on which agreement is to be reached is a superstructure is an absolutely fair and sound one and we are building on the rock and not on shifting sand."

#### ENGLISH MEAT MARKET GLUTTED

The London meat market is glutted, according to a cable to the American agricultural commissioner at London. Prices have slumped and cold storages are filled. Approximately 1,000,000 carcasses of lamb and mutton are being held in refrigerator ships. The widespread drop in prices is said to be due to poverty. The government is holding approximately 2,240,000 pounds of mutton.

#### WANTS CAPITAL DEFLATED

Capitalists must wipe out their watered stock, says S. T. Goggins, secretary of the District Weavers' Association, Ashton, England, in his quarterly report.

"The exploiters in their scramble to get rich quick omitted to take into consideration the fact that they have to rely on foreign markets to keep their machinery going. The purchasing power of the foreigner not having increased in the same ratio as ours, prices got too high and he ceased to buy our own. Concessions obtained by the workers under the boom are now being seized from them and industrial discontent and semi-starvation are the outcome of artificial post-war prosperity."

"Unemployment insurance has been tried, but without success. Reductions in wages have taken place with similar results and the workers are now at the end of their resources."

"The deflation of over capitalization may appear drastic, but the disease is serious and calls for strong measures. If the slump in trade continues much longer, some of the undertakings may lose all their capital."

### HAWAII

#### DEFEAT COOLIE PLAN

George W. Wright, of the Central Labor Council, has returned from Washington, where he assisted in labor's fight against coolie importation to these islands. Writing in the Labor Review of Hawaii, he says:

"The persistent opposition of Mr. Gompers and the A. F. of L. to any modification of the Chinese exclusion laws proved effective in blocking the attempt of the Hawaiian sugar planters to orientalize still further a territory of the United States."

The Labor Review calls attention to declarations by the sugar planters that they must continue the sugar industry under decreased acreage.

"This," says the Labor Review, "is a practical admission that the planters have met defeat in their lobbying campaign in Washington, and that labor's fight in the national capital for the preservation of American standards of living has turned out to be a complete success. The defeat of the bill is certain unless some shady politics are introduced by the advocates of the bill."

"The statement by George W. Wright, special delegate to Washington, from the Central Labor Council of this city, proved such a conclusive refutation of the sugar-coated conspiracy which was being instituted for the passage of the bill that no other course was open to Congress."

## Educational Comment and Notes

### THE OPENING OF THE WORKERS' UNIVERSITY IN THE WASHINGTON IRVING HIGH SCHOOL. LAST SATURDAY

Last Saturday, November 26th, our Workers' University opened its sessions. In spite of the disagreeable weather, a large number of our members, larger than ever before, filled our classrooms in the Washington Irving High School. The number of new students was very large, showing that the desire for education among our members has increased, and that the propaganda carried on by the Educational Department has borne fruit.

The attention and interest displayed by the students in the various classes on Saturday and Sunday promise continued successful classes for the entire season.

Now that so many more of our members know what the International is trying to do for them, now that so many of them realize the importance of the educational work for themselves, for the International, and for the entire Labor Movement, we hope that during the coming season we shall reach many more of our members who will in turn inspire their fellow workers to further efforts along the same direction.

## Courses in Trade Unionism and Economics in Our Unity Centers

East Side Unity Center, P. S. 63, Fourth St., near First Ave.

On Monday evening, Dec. 5, Mr. Solon De Leon will continue his course in Economics at the East Side Unity Center, at 8:30. He will take up "Wages and the Cost of Living." Among the topics to be discussed will be the bargaining power of employers, workers', bargaining power, prices and the cost of living, the minimum wage necessary to establish a bottom level of health and decency below which a family cannot live, workers' purchasing power, etc.

On Tuesday evening, Dec. 6, at 8 o'clock, Miss Eva Cohen will conduct her gymnasium class as usual.

These classes are free to our members. Those who cannot avail themselves of the opportunity to study English in the Unity Centers are urged to spend one hour each week to take up the courses in Trade Unionism or Economics.

Waistmakers' Unity Center, P. S. 40, 320 East 20th St.

On Tuesday evening, Dec. 6, Mr. Max Levin will take up in his class in the History of the Labor Movement the formative period of the American Labor Movement from 1826-1860, in which the aims of the workers became more articulate and unified, and began to be expressed in definite demands.

On Mondays, at 5:30, Miss Mary Ruth Cohen conducts her weekly class in gymnasium practice.

Harlem Unity Center, P. S. 171, 103d St., near Madison Ave.

On Tuesday, Dec. 6, Mr. A. L. Wilbert will take up in his class in Economics, "How Man Makes a Living." He will discuss with the class what is meant by working for wages. The invention of steam-propelled machinery brought the wage system into full bloom. Making a living by working for wages became a question of supply and demand.

On Thursdays, at 7:30, Miss Mary Ruth Cohen has her weekly gymnasium class.

Bronx Unity Center, P. S. 54, Intervale Ave. and Freeman St.

On Tuesday, Dec. 6, Mr. Solon De Leon will give the same lesson as he gives the previous evening in the East Side Unity Center.

On Thursdays, at 8 o'clock, Miss Eva Cohen will conduct her class in gymnasium.

Second Bronx Unity Center, P. S. 42, Washington Ave. and Claremont Parkway.

On Monday, Dec. 5, Mr. Max Levin will give the same lesson in the History of the Labor Movement as he gives in the Waistmakers' Unity Center on Tuesday, Dec. 6.

Lower Bronx Unity Center, P. S. 43, Brown Place and 135th St.

On Tuesday, Dec. 6, Miss Theresa Wolfson will discuss in her course in the Development of Industry in the United States the awakening of labor and the development of industry after the American Revolution. She will discuss the introduction of new machines and the development of factories, and the conditions which brought about the increase of trade unions at this time.

Brownsville Unity Center, P. S. 84, Stone and Glenmore Aves., Brooklyn.

Dr. Margaret Daniels will continue her course in the History of Industry and Trade Unionism in the United States on Monday night, Dec. 5, at this center. She will take up the rise and growth of the American Federation of Labor, the nature and aims, principles and tactics, form of organization and functions of the A. F. of L.

Thursdays, at 7:30, Miss Loretta Ritter will continue her class in gymnasium.

English Classes.

In all of these centers there are classes in English of all grades, from the beginners' to high school. Members can register for these classes at once at the unity centers.

## The Garment Workers' University

(The following editorial appeared in the "New York Call" Sunday, Nov. 27, when our classes were opened in the Workers' University, at the Washington Irving High School.)

The Workers' University of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, which began its season a week yesterday, is a splendid evidence of the potentialities of a modern, radical labor union. The International is passing through a very critical time in its history, fighting a terrific battle

against reactionary employers, who would tear down all the advantages which the workers in this industry have gained through years of struggle.

Yet, even while its members are fighting with all their might to defend their economic interests and to preserve their hard-won rights, they are mindful of their intellectual needs. They are studying the social and industrial history of the United States, they are investigating the policies

## Courses at Workers' University in Washington Irving High School, Saturdays and Sundays

The courses which started at our Workers' University last Saturday and Sunday, November 26th and 27th at the Washington Irving High School, will continue their sessions this Saturday and Sunday at the same hours.

At the first session last week, the teachers gave an introduction to their courses. This week they will give the first lesson.

**The Class in Tendencies in Modern Literature**  
(Saturday, at 1:30 P. M.)

Last Saturday, at 1:30 P. M., Mr. Stolper discussed with the students the life, character and the general literary work of the great German writer, Gerhard Hauptmann, who has been mentioned as a possible candidate for the presidency of the German-republic.

Mr. Stolper outlined the plots of a number of Hauptmann's plays. Next Saturday, December 3rd, at 1:30 sharp, Mr. Stolper will take up with his class a careful study of Hauptmann's greatest drama, "The Weavers." This drama, as is well known, deals with the labor problem and describes with intense vividness the uprising of a group of weavers in a German town.

It has been played countless times in the theatres of the civilized world and should appeal primarily to the intelligent working-class men and women who attend our University.

**Policies of American Trade Unions**  
(Saturdays, at 2:30 P. M.)

Last Saturday, November 26th, at 2:30 P. M., Dr. Leo Wolman commenced his course on Policies of American Trade Unions. He showed to the class how the various laboring groups in America have had to develop a definite policy upon which they could base their organization and methods.

Dr. Wolman's long connection with our educational work, makes his discussion practical as well as theoretic. It is perhaps one every worker concerned with the future of his organization should make it his business to attend regularly.

Next Saturday, December 3rd, at 2:30 P. M., Dr. Wolman will continue with his course and will begin with a detailed study of certain industrial groups, showing how each particular one has evolved.

**Current Economic Literature**  
(Saturdays, at 2:30 P. M.)

On Saturday, November 26th, at 2:30 P. M., Mr. A. L. Wilbert began his course in Current Economic literature by discussing with his class the famous book of Keynes, "Economic Consequences of the War."

As our members probably remember, this book was written immediately after the Treaty of Peace was signed. Mr. Keynes showed conclusively that the treaty was impossible of realization, and that unless

that has been used in building up the American trade unions in basic industries, they are looking into the great co-operative movement, they are learning psychology and logic, and they are training themselves in public speaking and enjoying lectures on modern literature.

Hundreds of these workers, during the next few months, will spend many of their scant leisure hours in broadening their mental and spiritual culture and in fitting themselves for greater service to their organization and to the labor movement. They should be an inspiration to all other workers.

changed, it would bring havoc to Europe.

The class discussed with Mr. Wilbert some of Keynes' principal conclusions and received a very clear idea of the present economic and financial chaos in which Europe has been plunged as a result of the terms of the Treaty of Peace.

During the next few weeks, Mr. Wilbert will take up with his class the discussion of several highly important books, one of which will be Thorstein Veblen's "The Engineers and the Price System."

This book is a strong and scientific criticism of the present system of production, written by perhaps the greatest living modern economist. Professor Veblen, it should be remembered, is at present lecturing at the New School for Social Research.

Another book to be taken up by this class will be Frederick C. Howe's, "Denmark, A Cooperative Commonwealth."

Mr. Howe was formerly Commissioner of Immigration for New York, and is well known for his liberal views. He published a number of books on economic problems and his study of Denmark is particularly important, because it shows how the application of the cooperative system of Denmark has made that country one of the most prosperous and happy in Europe.

Another book will be Leonard Woolf's, "Economic Imperialism." Mr. Woolf is one of the most prominent modern English writers and an authority on present-day conditions. This book is very stimulating as a criticism of policies followed by the great nations of today.

**Applied Psychology and Logic**  
(Sundays, at 10:30 A. M.)

This course commenced on Sunday mornings, November 27th, at 10:30. Mr. A. Fichtelner took up with the class a discussion of the problem of heredity and environment as an introduction to the entire course.

The class discussed the ever-important question as to what determines the character and behavior of the individual. The various findings of authorities in psychology and sociology were discussed, and an estimate was reached as to just how much the individual is born with, and to what extent his environment determines what he will be.

Next Sunday, at 10:30 sharp, this class will discuss the methods which might be outlined by society for improving the character of human beings, and will continue with a discussion of the question as to what extent does the individual make decisions because of his own free will or because of factors which he cannot control.

In other words, the class will take up the problem of free will or determinism in human conduct.

### HIGH SCHOOL CLASS IN ENGLISH AT HARLEM UNITY CENTER

The high school class in English at the Harlem Unity Center, P. S. 171, 103d Street, near Madison Avenue, opened last week with an experienced teacher in charge. Owing to some difficulty, this class was not opened sooner, but it is now definitely open for work, and will continue throughout the season.

Members who reside in this section and who are interested in taking up advanced English can register at once for this class, which meets in Room 205, at the Unity Center.

## NEW ITALIAN BRANCH OF CLOAKMAKERS IN CLEVELAND

A NEW branch, composed exclusively of Italian workers, has been formed in Cleveland as an autonomous organization, with representation in the Joint Board.

Prior to the organization of the branch, the Italian workers did not attend the business meetings of the union very diligently. They would pay their dues, and with that all their responsibility as union members would cease. The Joint Board of Cleveland came to the conclusion that a language branch, if organized, would perhaps alter the situation for the better.

As a result, an Italian Branch was formed in May, 1921. Since then the Italian members of Cleveland have their own executive committee, which is assisting in the organization work among the Italians. The branch is also represented on the Joint Board by seven of its members, who help in the directing of the policy of the whole organization.

Lately the Joint Board has decided that the Italian Branch should have a sick benefit fund of its own, so that they may be able to take care of their sick members who are entitled to benefits from the union. The Joint Board has also appointed an Italian organizer, who is attending to the business of the branch, and who is also doing some important work around the shops where Italian workers are employed.

## RED CROSS SENDS MILLION DOLLAR SHIPMENT TO RUSSIA

Nearly a million dollars worth of medical supplies have been sent into Soviet Russia by the American Red Cross in the past two months, according to an official report from the national headquarters of the organization in Washington.

This relief has been sent through the American Relief Administration, at whose disposal the Red Cross has placed its resources. The million dollar shipment included 40 tons of medicines and drugs and 35 carloads of hospital clothing valued at \$630,000. There were also \$50,000 worth of towels and blankets for hospital use and 75 cases of surgical dressings.

Dr. Henry W. Beeuwkes is directing medical operations in Russia. Through him requisitions are being made on the Red Cross stocks in Europe whenever necessary. To continue its work both in Europe and in this country next year, the Red Cross is now conducting its annual Roll Call, seeking seven million one dollar members. New York's share of this is \$600,000.

The activities of the organization include the care of the ex-service men, improving the health of the people and giving assistance to the foreign-born whenever possible. This last activity has embraced, during the past year, service to hundreds of Russians in New York City, locating their lost relatives in Russia and Constantinople, sending money for their relief, or helping to bring them to this country.



## Your Boy's Future!

Your boy's future, well being and position in life may depend upon the attention you pay to his eyes now.

Eye-strain is the cause of headaches, poor memory, ill temper, dullness, etc. This usually causes indifference in your child's studies and his school attendance, which in turn has its effects later in life.

Take no chances. Bring your boy to one of our offices, where a scientific test applied by our highly skilled optometrist will determine whether he needs glasses or not. If he does, our well equipped optical department will fit them properly.

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A splendid opportunity to learn the English language.

### ENGLISH B2—

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 8:40 to 10 p. m., beginning Nov. 15.

### ENGLISH C2—

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 7:30 to 8:30 p. m., beginning Nov. 15.

Fee \$3 per month—\$7.50 for 3 months.

### SPECIAL ENGLISH CLASS—

(For persons who cannot attend three evenings a week)  
Monday, 8-10 p. m., beginning Nov. 21, by Marius Hansome

Fee, \$2 per month—\$5 for three months

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If you want a pair of glasses, remember that the only place where you can examine your eyes with a state-of-the-art perfect safety in the office of Dr. Mermelstein, 392 Grand St.

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# The Weeks News in Cutters Union Local 10

By SAM B. SHENKER

## GENERAL

Despite the very nasty weather and the very heated discussion on matters affecting the administration for the coming year, one of the best attended General Membership Meetings, and one of the most interesting of the year, took place on Monday evening, November 28th, at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Marks Place. That a good time "was had by one and all" goes without saying.

There were many important things to be taken up, but due to the special order of business for the evening nomination of candidates for the various offices for the coming year, only two recommendations of the Executive Board were taken up. One of them was the appearance of a committee before the Executive Board on November 22nd, and its appeal against the ruling of the chairman made at the last dress and waist meeting. At that meeting, the chairman ruled that because one of the candidates had requested and had been granted the right to participate in the voting at the cloak meeting, therefore, should be denied this right at the dress meeting. The members upheld the chair in this ruling. It so turned out later that the ruling was rather too sweeping. The Executive Board, therefore, recommended to uphold the previous decision of the organization to the effect that all cutters voting on a dress, or regular, as to whether the shops in which they work are controlled by the dress or cloak joint boards, should participate in the balloting of the dress division. All members who work on coats and hold books of that division should vote in the cloak branch. The recommendation of the Executive Board was adopted unanimously.

The proposition which led to a very heated and partisan discussion related to the election of a business agent. Under the constitution as amended, it is provided that the Executive Board should recommend the appointment of as many business agents as it deems necessary, with the approval of the membership, of course. Due, however, to the fact that the organization is on the eve of an election, the Board thought it best to recommend the election of a business agent, rather than the appointment of one.

Of course, there were many who were against this proposition. They pointed out that in view of the change that will be effected next year, it would be advisable that this matter should not be acted upon, and the membership should leave to the judgment of the future executive board and manager the question as to when and how many business agents should be appointed. The opponents declared that they do not doubt the necessity of an additional man, but felt that actual experience could tell better.

Those who defended the proposition held that so long as it was unanimous that an extra man was needed, it is not logical to leave the matter for future consideration. They said that as Local 10 is constituted it cannot do without one more man. And since that is the case, it was pointed out, why wait until three or four weeks after election? Members of the executive board who spoke on the question said that the recommendation was prompted by the fact that Local 10 will have to deal, in the coming year, with three joint boards and two unaffiliated crafts, a condition not faced by any other local in the International. The proposal of the Board was carried.

The officers to be voted upon in this election are: a president, vice-president, inner guard, delegate to the Central Trades and Labor Council,

etc. But instead of two secretaries and three department managers, the members will be called upon to vote for one manager, one business agent and one secretary. The secretary will be corresponding, recording and financial secretary. Thus the coming year sees the elimination of two offices. Due to the lateness of the evening, the membership decided to dispense with further business and proceed with the nominations.

Those who have been nominated and accepted follow:

**For President:**

Samuel Perlmutter

Joseph R. Scheffelt

**For Vice-President:**

Max Stoller

Jacob Lukin

**Inner Guard:**

Samuel Masnover

Henry Robbins

**Central Trades and Labor Council:**

(3 to be elected)

Meyer Zacksheim

Louis Pankin

Harry Shapiro

Isidore Nagler

Philip Oretsky

Jacob Lukin

Max Beckerman

Benjamin Sachs

**For General Secretary:**

Joseph Fish

Julius Samuels

**For Manager:**

David Dubinsky

Max Gorenstein

**For Business Agent:**

Sam B. Shenker

Isidore Nagler

Of course it is understood that the candidates will have to comply with all the regulations governing eligibility. Candidates are again reminded that in accordance with the new rule they will have to sign blank registrations 10 days in advance of the date of election otherwise their names will not go on the ballot.

## Cloaks and Suits

All indications of the strike situation in this trade point to a very successful conclusion. Up to the present time there are more than 500 cutters who have returned to work in settled shops. This, of course, means thousands of workers, since the proportion of operators to cutters is far greater. The shops affected are the largest in the trade. The workers who are out at the present time are those who have been working for, and are out on strike against, the Protective houses as well as against some of the small shops whose applications for settlement have been turned down, due to the fact that they have been found to be working for struck shops.

The spirit of the strikers has not only not waned, but is increasing daily in proportion as the arrogance of the advocates for the sweat-shop system continues. David Dubinsky, Hall Chairman of the hall where the cutters congregate, says that great optimism prevails and that the unity prevailing between the cutters and other crafts is unprecedented. He cannot help but speak of the congratulations that are being showered on Local No. 10 on the splendid system of control instituted. Never before have the cutters been so strong on the picket line and so prompt. The fact that the cutters who fail to picket are told that they will not be given a working card upon the settlement of their shops has a great deal to do with this. However, such instructions were only needed in the first few days of the strike. The need for it now is gradually diminishing. The strike is picking up on the part of the cutters is now largely due to the important issues involved in the strike. As evidence of the complete tie up

it is not necessary to point out that during the first two or three days of the strike a few head cutters of some of the important shops such as Beller and Gershel stayed in. As soon as these men were approached by officers of Local No. 10 they immediately went out on strike and are staying out now.

Enthusiastic meetings are being held daily in Arlington Hall. Last week the International President Benjamin Schlesinger, addressed an overflow meeting. He was received with great enthusiasm and was heard very attentively when he dealt with the strikes and the issues involved. That Brother Schlesinger is idolized by the cutters was evidenced at that meeting. Meetings were also addressed by Alderman Abe Beckerman, Ex-Assemblyman Waldman and Ex-Assemblyman and Ex-Officer of Local No. 10, Elmer Rosenberg. Meetings this week will be addressed by Elmer Rosenberg, Samuel Perlmutter, Manager of the Cloak Division and Israel Lewin, Secretary of the Organization. David Dubinsky presided at all meetings.

Upon the announcement that a settlement was effected with R. Sandowky, the biggest cloak shop in the industry, a meeting was at once arranged with the cutters of this firm and officers of Local No. 10, later participated in the parade which terminated in front of the shop in the heart of the theatrical district.

Chairman Dubinsky desires once more to call the attention of the cutters to the fact that they are required to remain in attendance at the hall and be ready to respond to a call for picketing. He says that mere registration does not absolve the men from further duties.

## Waists and Dresses

The last two weeks in this trade have seen slackness repeat again. It is hard to state for how long. The war clouds that were raised a few weeks ago by the unreasonable attitude on the part of the Association of Dress Manufacturers are still in the air. Newspaper reports of the membership meeting of this organization has left the situation somewhat muddled. This does not mean, of

course, that conferences have been discontinued. The Manager of the Dress Division expects daily a call to attend a conference. The one held two weeks ago at the McAlpin Hotel has increased the tension in the trade. For the present, the only thing that can be said is that the Union is by no means asleep and is not hilling itself into a sense of false security because of the fact that no conferences have been held again. At the meeting of the Dress Division a report of what took place at the first conference will be rendered.

## Miscellaneous

At the meeting of the Miscellaneous Branch which was held on Sunday evening, November 21st, the very important matter of the formation of the Joint Board in these trades was discussed and favorably acted upon by the membership. Some time ago the General Executive Board of the International communicated to the Executive Board of Local No. 10 its decision approving the formation of the Joint Board. In compliance with this, the Executive Board called for a special meeting of this branch, which was well attended. A very thorough and lengthy discussion took place which terminated in the approval of this project.

At a subsequent meeting of the Executive Board the decision of the membership was taken up and it was decided that a committee of five be appointed which is to take up with like committees of the Children's Dress and Wrapper and Kimono Local Unions the formation of the new organization. A report of this will be submitted to the membership at its next meeting by the Executive Board.

Nominations for candidates for the various offices was also taken up at the meeting of this branch. Under the new constitution no manager or business agent was nominated, only Executive Board members were put up for balloting. The members also elected 2 poll clerks. They are: Jacob Fleisher and Isaac Fendler.

There were only 3 candidates nominated for the Executive Board to represent this division. Their names are: Morris Alovies, Herman Weinstein, Meyer Zacksheim.

## CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10 ATTENTION!

## ELECTION

OF OFFICERS FOR THE TERM BEGINNING  
JANUARY 2nd, 1922

**Saturday, December 17th,  
12:30 to 6 P.M.**

**at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Marks Place**

## NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETINGS

CLOAK AND SUIT: - - - Monday, December 5th  
WAIST AND DRESS: - - - Monday, December 12th  
MISCELLANEOUS: - - - Monday, December 19th  
GENERAL: - - - Monday, December 26th

**Meetings Begin at 7:30 P. M.  
AT ARLINGTON HALL, 23 St. Marks Place  
Cutters of All Branches**

should secure a card when going in to work and return it when laid off. They must also change their cards when securing an increase.