

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

—Job. 27.6

# JUSTICE

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

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

Vol. IV. No. 6

New York, Friday, February 3, 1922

Price, 2 Cents

## Chicago Dress Trade Agreement Extended for Another Year

**President Schlesinger Succeeds in Negotiating Extension—Same Standards Remain in Force Until January 1, 1923**

President Schlesinger was called out this week specially to Chicago to conduct negotiations with the Dress Manufacturers' Association of that city, regarding a new agreement in the trade.

As readers of JUSTICE remember, the agreement in the dress trade of Chicago expired at the time our International was busy fighting the cloak employers of New York. President Schlesinger obtained the consent of the Dress Association of Chicago, at that time, to postpone negotiations for thirty days. After a month ex-

pired, President Schlesinger went to Chicago to begin negotiations for the prolongation of the agreement.

We are glad to report that these negotiations have resulted in the extension of the collective agreement in the Chicago dress industry for another year, until January 1, 1923. A motion was also adopted that one month prior to the expiration of the agreement, both sides meet to negotiate the terms of a new agreement. The extended agreement calls for a forty-four-hour week, six and a half legal holidays, a preferential Union

shop and other Union standards. The agreement also provides for arbitration in case of inability to reach an agreement in any given dispute.

The conference which took place at the Morrison Hotel was conducted in a friendly spirit. The Union was represented through President Schlesinger, Vice-President Schoolman, J. Ginsberg, M. Brodsky, while the employers were represented by Mr. Herman Spivack, the President of the Dress Association, and Leo Lebovsky and S. N. Leventhal, lawyers for the Association.

## Our First Food Transport Already in Russia

Last Monday morning, the General Office of the International received a cablegram that the B. S. Orla, with the first transport of foodstuffs for the famine-sufferers of Soviet Russia has already reached Hamburg.

The cablegram adds that the vessel is being unloaded and the cargo is being put on cars that will leave immediately for Russia under the auspices of the American Society of Friends, the Quakers. It can, therefore, be reasonably expected that when these lines are read by the members of our International, the German cars will be already in Russia with the gift of foodstuffs sent by our organization to the unfortunate workers and peasants of Soviet Russia. It is, perhaps, worth while adding that our International has sent its first transport of foodstuffs to Russia at a time when it was engaged in strikes all over the country. Our Russian friends will, perhaps, appreciate this contribution even better when they learn under what circumstances it was forwarded to them.

## New York Cloakmakers Vigorous Campaign in Decide to Raise New New York Waist and Defense Fund Dress Industry

The last cloak strike in New York City, which was financed exclusively by the funds of the local organization, has cost the Union a huge sum of money. In benefits and strike relief alone the Union has paid out about \$800,000. Other large items of expenses were hall-rentals, out-of-town organization work, and settlement investigation.

Quite naturally, these expenditures have drained, to a considerable extent, the treasury of the Cloakmakers' Union. That the strikers were aware of this themselves is evident from the fact that on the same day when victory was being celebrated in the strike halls, the workers have pledged themselves in resolutions, to raise a

new defense fund of \$2,000,000 for their organization.

At the final meeting of the General Strike Committee this plan was endorsed and left over for practical attainment by the Joint Board. Last Saturday, the Joint Board endorsed the raising of a \$2,000,000 fund, but on Monday the Shop Chairmen's meeting of all the cloak shops in the city, at Cooper Union, decided to recommend a fund of \$1,000,000 only. The question now will go before the section meetings of the various locals for final decision. The Shop Chairmen, in deciding to recommend the smaller figure, motivated their opinion that the time between now and June is too short for the successful raising of the larger sum.

The organization campaign started by the Joint Board in the waist and dress industry recently is being conducted with energy. The campaign is directed against the non-Union shops which have been multiplying in the industry and have become a menace to the working standards in the Union shops.

As announced in JUSTICE, last Saturday afternoon there was a meeting of all the Executive Boards of the locals, affiliated with the Waist and Dress Joint Board. This meeting gave full sanction to the plans inaugurated by the Board, and individual members of the local Executives obligated themselves to aid personally in the work to the best of their ability. Last Monday morning,

the Union workers approached a large number of non-Union shops and several of them were called out on strike. The same was continued on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. The plan of tackling streets and districts one after another will be carried out systematically day after day.

According to Vice-President Halperin, the response of the workers in the non-Union shops is very, very fine. Several hundreds of them joined the Union on the first day of the drive and thousands of others are expected to follow shortly. The Union has engaged the Labor Temple, Second Avenue and 14th Street, as the headquarters for the strikers.

Several firms whose shops were

(Continued on Page 2.)

## International Forum Meets This Friday in Harlem

The second discussion meeting of the "International Open Forum" will meet this Friday evening, February 3, at the Harlem Socialist Center, 52 East 106th Street.

At this meeting, as at the first meeting of the Forum, last Friday night in the Bronx, the problems in the cloak industry that are engaging the attention of our workers will be discussed. The discussion will be led by President Schlesinger. These meetings are being arranged under the auspices of our Educational Department. It was impossible to obtain a larger hall than the Harlem Socialist Center for Friday evening. This assembly hall has a capacity of six hundred persons, and we wish to inform all those who might come too late to be accommodated that such discussion-meetings are expected to be

held in every district more than once and they will surely have the opportunity to participate in them.

The first meeting in the Bronx, at the London Casino, proved to be a remarkable success. The "International Open Forum" is a new feature in our Union, though President Schlesinger had planned it long ago. The basic idea is to have open discussion with the members of our Union on trade problems, giving every man and woman an opportunity to be heard and answered on the vital questions of the day.

The Chairman of the Bronx meeting was Brother Israel Feinberg, the General Manager of the Joint Board, who introduced President Schlesinger. President Schlesinger spoke on "Wage Scales and Productivity," talking about an hour for presenting the

subject to the workers. He outlined the problem of the above-the-minimum scales and the difficulty of controlling them. He dwelt on the claims of the employers for "adequate production" and the hardships of gauging the adequacy of production in such a trade as the cloak trade, which is so varied and different that it would require practically a separate gauge and standard for each shop. President Schlesinger spoke definitely against the attempt to introduce a so-called "standard of production" in the cloak trade, and said that it was an impracticable and unworkable proposition in our industry.

President Schlesinger's lead was followed by a number of speakers from the floor who debated these questions with varied success and ability. The great mass of listeners, however, expressed keen intelligence as shown by their attitude and readiness to applaud sensible and practical remarks and greet with derision and laughter phrase-fencing and vis-

ionary proposals. At the end of the discussion, President Schlesinger answered several participants in the debate.

### HALF-PRICE TICKETS FOR "ANNA CHRISTIE" AND THE "THE DELUGE" MAY BE SECURED BY MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL

By special arrangement with Mr. Arthur Hopkins, Manager of the Vanderbilt and Plymouth Theaters, members of our International Union, on presenting their union cards, can secure two half-price tickets for Wednesday evening performances of "Anna Christie" at the Vanderbilt Theater, and Tuesday evening performances of "The Deluge" at the Plymouth Theater.

Tickets must be secured at least one day before the performance.

## TOPICS OF THE WEEK

By MAX D. DANISH

### SEVEN MILLION TO BE FED

**N**OTWITHSTANDING the disorganization of the Russian railroads, millions of tons of foodstuffs and seeds, purchased through the congressional appropriation, will reach the famine-stricken districts on schedule time, as the American supplies constitute almost the sole freight moving over the roads, other traffic being at a standstill.

This comes from an authoritative statement, issued by the men in charge of the great American relief enterprise in Soviet Russia. The statement adds that the movement of grain from the ports to the interior would be 150,000 tons monthly, which would enable the American relief workers to initiate an adult feeding program for 5,000,000 persons before the end of February, and to bring the child-feeding program up to 2,000,000 by the middle of February. The bulk of the shipping will be done through the Black Sea ports.

This is great and heartening news. It is obvious, of course, that unless private resources in America and Europe will rush forward to the assistance of the starved Russians, even this remarkable single endeavor of the Americans will not stave off completely the deadly hand of Famine. The lives of millions are still hanging by a hair, and tens of thousands are dying weekly.

Nevertheless, the experience of the last four months in connection with the work of the Hoover Commission in Russia has brought forth some very illuminating sidelights. It seems that whatever suspicion, real and artificial, both here and abroad, there may have existed between the food recipients and the hand that stretched out to feed them, has disappeared, and both are acting "on the level." American relief has the "right of way" in Russia today over and above everything else. It is a remarkable and thrilling investment in humanity.

### DOUBTS ABOUT GENOA

**T**HE pendulum registering doubts and reascendances about the Genoa Conference has swung back and forth during last week. It was all but lost seven days ago, when positive information "leaked out" from Washington that the United States has set its face sternly against participating at Genoa. Then the news came that Washington is reconsidering its decision, and that its opposition was aroused chiefly because Lloyd George had rushed the plan and did not consult Washington in advance. America's financial interests across the Atlantic are so immense and are likely to be even greater in the future, that it cannot risk staying away from this all-important meeting.

We are inclined to accept the last version. Divesting the aims of the conference of all superfluous verbiage, its purpose is to make Europe "breathe again through both lungs" by bringing Russia and Germany back into the great European economic scheme. The chief obstacle in the way is France on the one hand, with its blind fear—genuine and inflexible—of Germany, and the determined attitude not to recognize politically the Soviet Government by both the United States and France.

The prospects are that both these obstacles can be overcome. If America will enter the Genoa meeting it is certain that a compromise can be reached with the French "fire-eaters" on the subject of German reparations. In fact, they will be compelled to take what they are given. On the other hand, the Genoa conference is not compelled to recognize, on behalf of all its participants, the Soviet Regime—all propaganda and gratuitous interpretations to the contrary notwithstanding. Russia wants economic reconstruction and will give for it guarantee that will prove acceptable in the world's financial market.

To give a glimpse of the set of economic and financial reforms with which Russia intends to come to Genoa, we quote the following official outline of the Soviet economic policy, as announced the other day:

1. Complete liquidation of gratuitous service by utilities, state controlled or supported by the state itself.
2. Rigid economy and limitation of the budgets of the different Ministries.
3. Development of the State Bank, with large and small credits.
4. Admission of foreign and private native capital in banks of industry, commerce, agriculture, etc., will be permitted, and even in "key" industries like mines, railroads, etc., retained in the Government's hands in principle.
5. Development of the taxation and tariff systems on a gold basis. This will imply considerable modification of the present Government monopoly of foreign trade.

Removal of the financial burden of private enterprises from the shoulders of the state. This is already being done. Enterprises started by state capital are being required either to show they can run at a profit and pay state interest and a sinking fund to liquidate the original capital or cease business unless they find private support.

This is only a beginning, and on the basis of such a program, supplemented by tangible and material guarantees, and without the requirement of official recognition, it doesn't seem likely that America will sabotage the Genoa Conference.

### EGYPT MAKING GAINS

**O**N the heels of the news of bloody encounters between the Egyptian Nationalists and British troops and the deportation of the Egyptian leaders to far-away islands in the Pacific, there comes the announcement of a "liberal" British offer to Egypt.

Great Britain is prepared, in principle, to grant the Egyptians full independence. It is willing to recognize Egypt as a sovereign state, and to agree to the establishment of an Egyptian Parliament under certain guarantees and with the recognition of special British interests. Next week the House of Commons will meet to discuss the terms of a new constitution for Egypt. Quite naturally, it is too early to foretell what the Egyptians themselves might think of the liberality of the English offer. The Egyptians have been putting up a brave and stubborn fight for their independence, and they probably can tell a genuine victory when they examine it. That they have made splendid strides, in that direction in the old home of the Pharaohs there

seems to be no doubt. Sooner or later, very soon, perhaps, they will have a sovereign state, in the sense in which all states are "sovereign" nowadays.

The most interesting thing about this offer, oddly, is the captivating remark that it is made without "willingness to cede to disorder or violence." Bless the agile and nimble pen of the note writers! They had given Ireland a Free State, if we recall it rightly, a short while ago, also without "willingness to cede to disorder or violence," and it does not require any particular sagacity to foretell that the Egyptians, if they are only willing to fight for it, will get a free state "without such cession."

### CHILD LABOR STILL RAMPANT

**T**HE child-labor problem in the United States is still a very serious and burning question. In an appeal sent throughout the country by the National Child Labor Committee, urging nation-wide observance of Child Labor Day in the present week, it is pointed out that the millions of boys and girls from the age of ten to fifteen are prematurely leaving school and going to work each year, because the child labor laws of the country are inadequate to deal with the problem.

The appeal draws a dark and touching picture. The yearly influx of children into child labor, continued, say, over a ten-year period, makes ten million children prematurely leaving school and going to work. The Federal Child Labor law at present protects only 15 per cent of the children engaged in gainful occupations. It leaves unprotected those who work on the farm, in domestic service, stores, tenement home work, restaurants, hotels, etc. A great many of them work under the most unsanitary conditions, with poor lights, long hours, all of which endanger their health and morals. The startling fact is revealed that almost 18 per cent of children of school age in the United States are not enrolled in any schools.

The committee's appeal demands new and more drastic child labor legislation. As a matter of fact, the present Federal law has been practically destroyed by the recent decision of a Southern Court, and is now before the Supreme Court at Washington for final adjudication.

Come to think of it, we only recently had a very much advertised national conference on unemployment. At that conference dignitaries from far and near had suggested various schemes and proposals for the amelioration of the curse of unemployment. It would seem strange that with two million children between the ages of ten and fifteen, working in factory, mine and store, that it did not occur to these gentlemen that it would be an effective plan to send these children back to school, to declare a "moratorium" on child labor, at least during the critical times of unemployment, and turn most of their jobs over to grown-up folks at living wages.

At any rate, the appeal of the National Child Labor Committee must not go unheeded. This is Child Labor Week, and every labor organization in the country should make it its business to register a protest in unmitigated terms against the continuation of this, one of the ugliest sores of our economic life—child labor.

## THE WAIST AND DRESS DRIVE

(Continued from Page 1)

called out on strike have already made applications for settlement and there is no doubt that the other affected firms will follow suit. This organization drive has created a sensation in the waist and dress trades and it has given the Union an excellent

stimulus to continue its successful campaign. In addition to Vice-President Halperin, the organization campaign is supervised by Brothers Hochman, Guzman, and Shapiro, who are working in full co-operation with the members of the Executive Boards of the locals.

## "The Nervous Worker and His Problems"

So many of the difficulties in our trade arise from the nervous worker, the neurotic worker, who is unable to adjust himself to his fellow-workers or to his working conditions. Not because these conditions are primarily bad, or because his fellow-workers are primarily annoying, but because there is something inherent in him which does not permit of adjustment. This is one of the most serious problems that the industry has to face. One of the leaders in the movement for the solution of the mental problems of the worker was Mr. Carlton Parker, professor of economics at the University of California. Since his time many

physicians and scientists have studied the question.

The Union Health Center, recognizing the many problems which arise in the life of the worker and which he cannot solve because of his lack of will-power or some nervous affliction, has organized a neurological clinic, of which Dr. J. Smith, formerly of the State Hospital, is physician. Dr. Smith will lecture this Friday night, February 3, at the Union Health Center, 131 East 17th Street, on "The Nervous Worker and His Problems." Members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union are cordially invited to attend this lecture. All other workers interested in the question are also invited.

### HOLMES vs. NEARING

John Haynes Holmes and Scott Nearing will meet at the Lexington Theater on February 12, at 2:30 P. M., to debate a question which is interesting to almost every one and vital to many. This question is: "Can the Church Be Radical?" Dr. Holmes believes that it can, and Dr. Nearing believes that it cannot. Dr. Judah L. Magnes will preside as Chairman.

PATRONIZE  
"JUSTICE"  
ADVERTISERS

### THE CLOTHING CUTTERS' BALL

There is an evening in store for friends and sympathizers of the labor movement that they can hardly afford to miss.

This year, this annual affair will take place at the 71st Regiment Armory, 34th Street and Park Avenue, on Saturday evening, February 4. In addition to dancing under the strains of a double jazz band, there will be staged in the course of the evening an all-star vaudeville show from the best that the B. F. Keith circuit can show.

Ladies' garment cutters are, of course, cordially invited.

# A BOOK OF THE SOIL

## GROWTH OF THE SOIL

By KNUT HAMSUN, Translated from the Norwegian by W. W. Worster.  
(Alfred A. Knopf, 2 Volumes.)

By BERT TOULENS.

As a literary masterpiece "Growth of the Soil" satisfies the fundamental condition that every enduring work of art must fulfill:

It dwells on a theme that is universal in its appeal and elemental in its import. What, indeed, is more of eternity (humanly conceived), more of humanity, more of primal significance than the soil, which has ever been the nourishing mother of man? Not even Mars can compete with Mother Earth in its sway over the soul of man. Wars have had a powerful grip upon man's spirit, enhancing the primitive instinct to the sublime heights of an ideal and making it into a cult; but peace has ever shared with war the soul of man. Even if he had spasms of delirium about the glories of war, man has ever loved peace. The cult of the soil is the basic religion of man; it is in the name of the soil and all it generates that wars have been fought, that humanity has gone through the writer of history and survived the destructive chaos of its processes. The home, the friends, the fatherland, the place where the fathers tilled and sowed and toiled and reaped,—this has been the beacon of warning humanity, the vision that made man brave death and suffering.

Knut Hamsun does not glorify war in the name of the soil—he chants a hymn to the soil itself. His "Growth of the Soil" has in it something of a religious depth and solemnity that sets upon the city man, the industrial factotum, at once as an indictment and a solace. The serene peace in the soul of the tiller, the rugged happiness he sucks from the soil rekindle in the city dweller, the unnatural man, a yearning after the soil from which he has become estranged, and render the more poignant his sense of insecurity upon the precarious foothold that is industrial civilization.

In its slow and calm cadence "Growth of the Soil" more like an epic poem than a realistic tale about the simple lives of simple folks; a poem with the succession of seasons for rhythm, with crops and cowbells for stanzas, with the felling of heavy

timber for accents; a poem written in the language of the plow, the axe, the crowbar, the spade, made articulate and eloquent by the hrawn of the tiller. At no time during the reading is one unaware of the epic sweep of the story; every sentence, every episode is subordinated to the main theme, every incident is employed so as to sustain the atmosphere, to maintain the rich flow of strength-giving poetry, to carry the story to its goal—the glory of the soil.

Isak, the principal figure against the rugged background of virgin soil and rocks, and moorlands, and snow that the primitive tiller, a pioneer who came into the wilds with a few simple implements, a few days' provisions and a wealth of physical strength, and by sheer toil has made the place into a prosperous farm, the envy, or rather the inspiration of other settlers who followed in his footsteps.

In his symbolic significance Isak is almost a mythical being an Erd-Gott who has in him the supernatural power of making the earth bring forth her hidden riches. But Hamsun treats of Isak not as of a supernatural being. Quite the contrary. Isak's strength, his very symbolic significance consists in the fact that he is a natural man, following the calling that is normal to a natural man—tilling the soil and tending the cattle. The relation between him and the soil is simple, frank, honest. He puts in labor and the soil brings forth crops. He measures the results of his labor in an immediate, palpable way. A day's labor at felling results in so much timber; a season's spare-time work at building produces a barn or a saw-mill; a winter's caring of wood to the village will buy the necessary farm implements and household articles and probably leave a residue.

The relation is simple and satisfying: the soil is provided for and in turn she provides; the animals are cared for and they furnish food and clothing in return. It's a good life, built on a solid foundation. Isak fills a man's job in the world. He makes his cash bring forth, so that he and his may live and work and grow and reproduce. He is the mainstay of life, a pillar of society, indeed. Money? Ay, he uses it, he

gives it and receives it, but he takes so great stock in it. He is somewhat conscious of its potential value among town-folk, but for his livelihood he depends upon the soil and his brawn. He cannot accept the job of caretaker of the telephone line even if there is a big piece of money in it, for he has his farm and his animals to mind. Matters little whether the farm pays as much as the job of caretaker or not,—he belongs to the farm as much as the farm belongs to him. Somebody has to take care of the animals and all.

All this is, of course, familiar ideology, and Hamsun's is but a variation upon an age-old theme. Isak is one of the numerous versions of the man of the soil, one of the numerous idealizations of the ploughman, ranging all the way from the Slavic myth, Mikula Šellanišovich, to the pot-bellied portrait of the ruddy farmer operating an agricultural machine. Wherein, then, lies the peculiar appeal of Hamsun's Isak? What has Hamsun done to his ideal ploughman that made him into the compelling figure that he is? What has he infused into the life of the farm folk to make it more like an epic of the soil and less like a sweet pastoral?

It is this. The author of "Growth of the Soil" has not tempered with the realities of the farm folk nor meddled in their ethics. Romantic though the story is, it has been made so by virtue of artistic selection and arrangement of raw materials rather than by sweetening and denaturing these materials. Even because he feels strongly for the natural life of the natural man, he has not tried not to overdo the picture, not to create a pastoral. He has created an overpowering illusion of reality and a towering figure of a real man, a real pioneer of the soil made of flesh and sinews and fundamental human inclinations. The strenuous life of the settler is not made to appear romantically attractive with a view of deceiving the reader into the author's bias. One's shoulders and muscles fairly ache with fatigue and strain—so vivid is the impression of the toil these men perform day in and day out. Isak and his son Sivert, and his neighbor Axel, are ever straining themselves to the breaking point, are ever taxing their physique, with not a moment to spare save for meals and sleep, with not an event to interrupt the routine save a calamity. It is a hard life, an exacting life, yet a good and satisfying life, such as it is.

Nor is the story an abstraction of the soil, an isolation of the elements favored by the author. Isak is not

only a brawny farmer, he is also a husband and father. And there is more than digging and rearing going on on the farm; it is also a place upon which grows the inner life of the man; where the soil rejoices and travels and is anxious; where love runs the whole gamut of marital tranquility to infatuation; where tragedy and comedy are inextricably interwoven, even as in the world that is beyond Isak's farm. Yet the emotional and spiritual life of the farm, such as it is, is derived directly from the soil, is inseparable from the soil. It is itself a growth of the soil. And taken by and large, it is a good and satisfying life, such as it is.

But for all the realistic truth, for all the objectiveness of portrayal, for all the conscientious aloofness on the part of the author, one is ever conscious of his bias, his great bias in favor of the soil and of the man of the soil. And it is, indeed, this bias that is the amazing realistic story which transforms a mere realistic story into an epic and a masterpiece. You may, if you are so minded, discount or belittle the attractions that farm life has for the modern man; you may set at naught the social value of the gospel that preaches a return to the soil, but for all that you cannot help being overwhelmed, nay, overawed by the profound faith the author has in the soil, by his mute adoration of the growth of the soil. Socially speaking, it is neither better nor there to argue town versus country, but artistically one cannot help being infected with the spirit of Hamsun's great epic, one cannot help perceiving of his humble love of mother earth, and his distaste for all that is not of the soil and of human brawn. His cult of the soil is the more captivating since it is preached amidst an epoch that recedes more and more from the soil and draws nearer and nearer to the town and the factory. Besides its powerful epic sweep, "Growth of the Soil" gains added appeal by virtue of its being the swan's song of an era and cult that is doomed, that is destined to be superseded by the city civilization, where man has unlearned to live by the fruit of his labor, where money is a spurious substitute for toil and pleasures a spurious substitute for rest after toil.

A word about the translation: It is superb. Mr. Worster has bestowed a boon upon the English-speaking reader. Not for one moment is one jarred into feeling the translation. It is in such a performance as Mr. Worster's that translation rises to the height and dignity of an art.

## Attacks on the 8-Hour Day in France and Switzerland

The Deputy P. Messier has laid before the French Chamber a bill to amend the Eight-Hour Day Act of April 23, 1919.

The bill at present before Parliament proposes that the "Council of Labor" should draw up a list of those industries where the act could be applied without any restriction, as well as a list of those concerns which should be permitted to depart somewhat from the provisions of the act. After having been heard both employers and workers, the Minister of Labor should draw up definitely a list of those concerns in which a lengthening of the working day would have to be permitted.

According to the author of this bill, the serious condition of the economic life of France necessitates the lengthening of the hours of labor in certain industries. Here, therefore, we have the same arguments as are used by the employers in all coun-

tries, the object being to oppose the eight-hour day on the pretext of economic and national necessity.

The "People," which is the organ of the French trade union movement, has uttered a vigorous protest against this campaign against the eight-hour day, which has been started by a section of the French bourgeoisie both in Parliament and in the press.

As against the allegation that France is really the only country where the eight-hour day is enforced, and where, consequently, economic competition has become impossible, the "People" points to Germany, where not only a close watch is kept on the strict observance of the eight-hour day law, but where also shorter working hours have been obtained in various concerns as a result of special labor contracts.

"An attack against the French eight-hour day law is at the same

time an attack upon the international labor legislation which, after much trouble, is now elaborating and putting into operation an institution, the creation of which the working classes of the whole world has been demanding for many a long year."

### AN ATTACK UPON THE EIGHT-HOUR DAY IN SWITZERLAND

The Swiss Union of Master Cabinetmakers, which comprises only about one-fifth of the cabinetmaking industry of Switzerland, has requested the federal department for Economic Affairs to increase the normal working week to 52 hours for the whole of the Swiss cabinetmaking industry. The reduction in prices, they allege, demand that the workers should work longer, on the understanding, however, that the wages for the increased working week shall be the same as the wages received at present.

"An increase of four hours in the working week—the wages remaining the same as at present—would mean a wage cut amounting to 8 per cent."

By quoting three instances, the ac-

curacy of which cannot be tested, the Master Cabinetmakers estimate that for these three cases the cost of production would be reduced by 2.7–3.2 per cent.

As against this demand, the Swiss Woodworkers' Union has put forward a counter demand to the effect that "the request of the Swiss Union of Master Cabinetmakers be rejected as being entirely unfounded," especially in view of the fact that "the Master Cabinetmakers have not even enough employment for their workers for the present 48-hour week, not to speak of the fact that for months past there have been nearly 2,000 woodworkers who have been almost entirely or partially unemployed."

And in any case, it is urged, the 48-hour week has now been applied not only in the establishments which come under the provision of the Factory Act, but also in almost all the smaller concerns. The complaints of the Master Cabinetmakers, when they speak of the competition of the establishments which, they allege, are not bound by the provision of the eight-hour day law, are, therefore, untenable.

# Minimum Wages For Women Workers

By ALEXANDER TRACHTENBERG  
Director Department of Records and Research, I. L. G. W. U.

## WELFARE LAWS VS. EQUAL RIGHTS

An interesting debate is now raging between the advocates of equal rights for women and the promoters of social welfare legislation in this country. The politically minded women of the upper and middle classes who previously devoted their attention to the suffrage movement, are now directing their energies toward the securing of complete political and legal equality with men. They are causing the introduction of bills in various state legislatures aiming at the removal of all legal barriers against women, and declaring their right to claim the privileges guaranteed to men citizens.

The active among the women crusaders declare that they will not rest until all vestiges of legal and political disqualifications against women have been removed. Those who are not sufficiently optimistic about the outcome of the campaign are reminded of the tenacity with which the campaign for woman suffrage was conducted and the termination of that struggle with the adoption of the Susan B. Anthony Amendment.

The reform organizations, which, during the past twenty years, have been sponsoring and have, in many cases, succeeded in securing legislative measures for the protection of women workers, are quite disturbed about this new phase of the women's emancipation movement. They know that the Woman's Party, which has recently been reorganized for effective propaganda and legislative activity, is determined to carry this campaign to a successful conclusion. With women continually increasing their numbers in legislative halls, gaining influence in party councils, and generally evincing a greater interest in political affairs from day to day, the outcome of the new crusade leaves little room for conjecture.

The social welfare organizations which have risen in arms against the new move of the Woman's Party consist in the main of women. As women actively engaged in various fields of social endeavor, they are progressive enough to see the injustice of sex discrimination. They, surely, cannot be opposed in principle to the removal of all disqualifications from which women suffer in their political and social relations. Their active opposition to the proposed measures is caused by the fear that the entire fabric of social welfare legislation which has been established after many years of struggle against the vested interests, will be demolished, and the various guarantees and protective measures which have been thrown about women workers will be immediately wiped out.

The special legislation for women dealing with wages, hours of labor, sanitary and other working conditions in the factories were allowed to stand by our courts just because women occupied an inferior status. The courts have used the term "special legislation" and declared unconstitutional measures which guaranteed men workers the same privileges which were extended to women. The courts maintained that women, denied political equality with men, were wards of the state, and, therefore, deserved special protection. The attempts of employers in various states to counteract protective legislation for women workers failed in many cases because of the magnanimity of

the courts in recompensing women economically for their social and political losses.

## MINIMUM WAGE LEGISLATION

Minimum wage laws were the most conspicuous among the social welfare laws which have been placed on the statute books of the various states during the past ten years. The agitation begun by the National Consumers' League in 1910 has so far netted thirteen states, the District of Columbia and Porto Rico. Massachusetts was first to enact a minimum wage law in 1913, being followed by California, Minnesota, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wisconsin in 1913; Arkansas and Kansas in 1915; Arizona and Colorado in 1917; District of Columbia in 1918, and North Dakota, Porto Rico and Texas in 1919.

The Oregon law was tested in the state courts and carried to the United States Supreme Court, whose favorable decision in 1917 finally determined the status of this species of legislation in all the states. The court took the well-established judicial precedent of declaring constitutional laws which have arisen from the right of the state to legislate in behalf of public health and welfare inherent in their police powers. Regulation of wages for women workers, as pointed out above, were interpreted as being in the interest of public health and welfare.

Minimum wage legislation originated in New Zealand, where in 1894, under the provisions of the arbitration laws, the courts authorized minimum wage scales. The various Australian states followed the example of New Zealand and the Commonwealth of Australia established minimum wages in 1904.

## MAIN FEATURES OF AMERICAN LAWS

The American minimum wage laws have a great deal of uniformity about them. This is explained by the fact that the agitation for them in the various states has originated mostly from the same source. A detailed analysis of the existing laws was published last year by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in its Monthly Labor Review. The summary chart shows that while in Arizona, Arkansas, Porto Rico, and Utah the law applies only to women workers, the other states have extended the benefits of the law to minors under eighteen years of age.

With regard to industries and occupations which the laws cover, we find that California, Colorado, Kansas, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Oregon, Porto Rico, Utah, Washington and Wisconsin have extended the operation of the law to all gainful occupations, while Texas excepted agriculture, domestic service and nursing; North Dakota, agriculture and domestic service; Arkansas, cotton manufacturing and agriculture; and the District of Columbia, domestic service. Arizona's law covers stores, offices, shops, restaurants, dining rooms, hotels, rooming houses, laundries and manufacturing establishments.

In all states except Porto Rico, Arizona, and Utah, where the basis for determining wage rates is fixed by law, adequate maintenance of health and proper living is used as the determining factor in establishment of minimum wage rates.

The administration of the laws in vested in special commissions or the

State Bureau of Labor, and penalties are provided for non-compliance with the ruling of the commissions, except in Arizona, where the court enforces the law, and in Massachusetts, where no penalty is provided. In reaching an agreement on what should be the proper minimum wage rate in the various industries, the laws of California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Kansas, Massachusetts, Minnesota, North Dakota, Oregon, Washington, and Wisconsin provide for wage boards or conferences, consisting of representatives of the employers, the workers and the public. The laws of the other states have no

provisions regarding the method of establishing rates, leaving the administrative bodies to determine the mode of procedure.

The following table gives a summary of the minimum rates in operation in the various states by industries, with the date when the orders were issued. Since the promulgation of these rates some changes have been taken place. The decrease in the cost of living has given cause for an assault upon these rates. An example of the campaign for the reduction of the prevailing rates was given by the writer in a recent issue of JUSTICE.

## MONTHLY, WEEKLY, DAILY AND HOURLY MINIMUM WAGE RATES FOR EXPERIENCED AND INEXPERIENCED WORKERS AND LEARNERS

Industry		Reported workers	Rate for normal workers	Young workers	Year issued
All under law					
Arkansas					
General		12.50	\$1.00	\$1.00	1918
Mercantile establishments in Fort Smith, California		12.50	11.00	11.00	1920
California					
Fruit and vegetable canning, fruit and vegetable packing; unclassified		16.00	12.00	10.50	1920
Mercantile; office workers; manufacturing		16.00	12.00	10.00	1920
Fish canning; laundries and allied industries		16.00	12.00	11.00	1920
Hotels and restaurants		16.00	16.00	16.00	1920
Agricultural		16.00			1920
Colorado					
No orders ever issued					
District of Columbia					
Printing, Publishing, and allied industries		15.00	8.00	8.00	1920
Mercantile		16.00	13.00	10.00	1920
Hotels, restaurants, and allied industries		16.00	15.00	12.00	1920
Laundries		15.00	9.00	9.00	1921
Kansas					
Mercantile		8.50	6.00	6.00	1918
Laundries		8.50	6.50	6.50	1918
Office cleaners		9.00	8.00	6.50	1918
Manufacturing		11.00	7.00	7.00	1919
Massachusetts					
Brush making		15.50	10.00	10.00	1914
Laundries		8.00	6.00	6.00	1918
Retail stores		8.50	7.00	5.00	1918
Women's clothing		15.25	12.00	10.00	1920
Men's clothing and raincoats		15.00	10.00	7.00	1919
Men's and boys' clothing, furnishings, etc.		9.00	7.00	7.00	1917
Muslin underwear		9.00	6.00	6.00	1918
Retail millinery		10.00	2.00	2.00	1918
Wholesale millinery		15.40	15.40	15.40	1920
Office cleaners		13.00	6.00	6.00	1919
Candy making		12.50	8.00	8.00	1919
Canning and preserving		11.00	8.50	8.50	1919
Cornets		19.00	10.00	8.00	1919
Knit goods		13.75	8.50	8.50	1920
Paper boxes		15.00	11.00	9.00	1920
Minnesota					
General—in cities		12.00	9.12	7.60	1920
In places less than 5,000		10.25	7.50	6.40	1920
North Dakota					
Public housekeeping: (a) Waitresses		17.00	14.00	14.00	1920
(b) Chambermaids and kitchen help		13.00	12.00	12.00	1920
Public service		17.00	13.00	13.00	1920
Office occupation		20.00	14.00	14.00	1920
Manufacturing; laundries; telephone		16.00	12.00	12.00	1920
Student nurses		10.00	8.00	8.00	1920
Mercantile occupations		17.00	12.00	12.00	1920
Oregon					
Mercantile; Manufacturing; personal service; laundries; telephone; public housekeeping		12.00	9.00	6.00	1919
Office occupation		10.00	9.00	6.00	1919
Porto Rico					
All under law		6.00	6.00	4.00	1918
Texas					
Telephone, telegraph, mercantile, laundries, factories		12.00	15	15	1920
Utah					
General		12.50	9.00	7.50	1918
Washington					
Telephone		30.00			1918
General (war emergency)		13.00	12.00	9.00	1920
Public housekeeping		18.00	16.00	12.00	1920
Wisconsin					
General		22	20	19	1919

\* \$1, \$1.50, and \$3 in smaller localities; learners paid at 75% of the rates for experienced workers.  
\* For minors 16 years of age; if 15, \$7.25; if 14, \$5.50.  
\* Actual rates fixed by the courts.

## ATTITUDE OF ORGANIZED LABOR

The organized labor movement never warmed up to this specie of legislation, though it is at present defending the women workers wherever their minimum rates are being cut. Minimum wage scales, when imposed upon employers by a strong labor union, always remain minima. These scales represent the border line below which the average worker can never go. The prevailing wage scales are always above the minima, where the workers have back of them a union which is ready to use its organized strength in their behalf.

The women workers and miners in whose interest the minimum wage laws were enacted, are primarily unorganized. Their minimum rates are

apt to be their maximum rates. The wages having been fixed by law, the employer secures protection against increases at a time when workers in other industries are securing increases in their scales. Advocates of minimum wage legislation maintain that experience in the states where the laws have been in operation during the past few years, shows that the prevailing rates of wages among those who came under the laws, were higher than the established rates.

Since the laws were in operation during the war period, when all labor was scarce, the experience with the minimum rates cannot be considered conclusive. A comparison of the minimum rates with the prevailing rates during the next few years will

(Continued on Page 12)

## Women and Disarmament

By PIERRE RENAUD.

Millions of women in all nations of the world have watched the progress of the Washington Conference on the Limitation of Armaments with the hope that it will be the beginning of an international movement to end war. Women were the first to force this issue, at a time when the suggestion of disarmament was unpopular in a war-mad world, and they intend to keep up their agitation until the last battleship is scrapped and the last soldier has been demobilized and returned to a peaceful job.

The International Federation of Working Women is taking the lead in agitating for disarmament in European countries. The American Federation of Labor, through President Samuel Gompers and its other spokesmen, will continue agitation for disarmament in the United States.

The plea of the working women of the world for action in place of words was presented to the Washington Conference by Miss Kate Manicom, a member of the General Workers' Union of Great Britain. She came here as the representative of the International Federation of Working Women.

The main desire of the working women in the International Federation is the peace of the world. Miss Manicom said on her arrival at the Capital. Because the women of the Federation felt that their message would have more influence if carried in person, Miss Manicom was sent to Washington.

"Resolutions are all very well," said the women's envoy, "but when sent by mail they usually get no further than the Prime Minister's fifth secretary at home. We suppose it

might be the same game at Washington. When I got to Washington I asked Samuel Gompers to help me, but he said Mr. Hughes had stolen the women's thunder. I told him that it wouldn't be possible for a man to steal all of even one man's thunder."

Miss Manicom asked the conference at Washington not to give up the plan for disarmament, but to keep up the struggle for an understanding which will help to prevent war.

"If it takes all your time and energy; even if it kills you, your sufferings will not compare to those of the women of Europe during and since the war," she told the arms party delegates.

It is not generally known that the calling of the Washington conference was due in great part to the agitation conducted by American women. A member of President Harding's cabinet recently confided to an interviewer:

"If women had not had the vote, there would have been no conference."

Although women led in the agitation for the disarmament conference, and have taken a more conspicuous part than men in the demand for an end of war, they were forced into the background at the Washington parley. Only four women were appointed by President Harding to the Advisory Committee of the American delegation. They are: Mrs. Thomas G. Winters of Minnesota, President of the National Federation of Women's Clubs; Mrs. Charles Sumner Bird of Massachusetts, wife of a former Progressive candidate for Governor of Massachusetts; Mrs. Eleanor Franklin Egan of New York,

a writer on Asiatic problems, and Mrs. Katherine Phillips Edison, of California, a prominent club woman.

The Women's Committee for World Disarmament and the League of Women Voters are the most active women's organizations in the anti-war movement in this country. The Women's Committee was formed on March 12, under the chairmanship of Emma Wold, who had been prominent in the National Women's Party.

The Women's Committee supported Senator Borah of Idaho, in his fight to force through his Senate amendment calling for a three-Power conference to discuss naval reduction. Disarmament mass meetings were held on Easter Sunday. Senator Borah spoke at the Washington meeting and started the renewed agitation for reduction of armaments.

This sensational beginning was followed up by ever growing agitation. On April 18, the Women's Committee for World Disarmament sent a large delegation to call on President Harding at the White House with a plea that he do something in the movement for world peace. That the anti-war sentiment had reached the White House was indicated at this time when the President informed the delegates they "would not be disappointed."

Resolutions demanding limitation of armament, as the first move toward complete abolition of the army and navy, deluged Congress and the White House during the national disarmament week, conducted by the committee from May 22 to 29. Perhaps this deluge had some effect on the White House, for the President removed his objection to the Borah resolution and it was carried.

The League of Women Voters, formed by the reorganized National American Woman Suffrage Association after women won the vote, began its agitation for disarmament on

April 18, when a delegation came from the Cleveland convention of the league with a resolution calling for reduction of armaments by international agreement.

Women demanded places on the American delegation to the arms parley as soon as President Harding issued his invitation to the Conference on the Limitation of Armaments and the consideration of the problems of the Far East. On August 17, President Harding was visited by leaders of the League of Women Voters, who brought a request for appointment of women to the American delegation. In this group were: Mrs. Maud Wood Park, president; Mrs. Richard Edwards, vice-president; Mrs. Gifford Pinchot, finance chairman, and Mrs. Minnie Cunningham, executive secretary of the League.

That the women are in the movement to stay was shown by the organization of the National Council for the Limitation of Armaments at a meeting of delegates from twelve organizations in Washington on September 8. The Council rented a house two blocks from the Pan-American Union Building, to be near the scene of the arms parley at all times. Members of the Council watched over open sessions and did their best to get information of what took place at the secret sessions.

The headquarters of the Council are at Seventeenth and F Streets, opposite the State, War and Navy Building, a short distance from the White House, and near many other centers of government activities. A staff of able women is in charge of these headquarters. They hope to make it the center of a movement that will send all battleships to the bottom of the sea or to iron works where they will be transformed into material for automobiles, farm tractors and other accompaniments for plowhars.

## Supreme Court Hits Labor Laws

By ALBERT DE SILVER

The Supreme Court of the United States, on December 19th, handed down a decision which deals organized labor the most serious blow in a generation, by curtailing legislative protection for labor in industrial conflicts. The decision was 5 to 4, Justices Holmes, Brandeis, Clark and Pitney dissenting from the majority opinion written by chief Justice Taft.

"The case was called *Trux v. Curigan*, and the facts involved are simple. Trux was the proprietor of a restaurant in Bisbee, Arizona. His employees went on strike and the Bisbee local of the Cooks' and Waiters' Union boycotted his restaurant with such success that they cut his business to about twenty-five per cent of normal. Trux asked for an injunction, complaining that the boycotters were picketing the restaurant, announcing that he was unfair to his employees, circulating libelous statements about him and intimidating his patrons and his strike-breaking employees. Among other things, they held up a sign, he said, which read, 'Leave home behind, all ye who enter here.' The Union, in defense, relied upon an Arizona statute, patterned after the labor section of the Clayton Act, which purported to modify the use of injunctions in labor cases and to prohibit them against boycotts. The Arizona Supreme Court held that this defense was good and that the statute was constitutional. The Federal Supreme Court has just reversed this decision by a bare majority vote.

"The majority opinion holds that any statute which legalizes the conduct complained of must necessarily be unconstitutional because it allows malicious injury to the employer's property and his business, and therefore deprives him of it without due process of law. The people of Arizona, it says, have no right to change the law in that manner and they cannot constitutionally legalize such conduct. In other words, the Supreme Court claims the power of veto over any changes in the law of industrial relations which the people may make through the legislatures.

"Although this was enough to dispose of the case, the court went still further and held that the statute also denied the plaintiff the equal protection of the laws and was unconstitutional upon that ground as well. The statute, said the Court, made the Union's conduct lawful, at least by taking away the remedy of injunction against it, because it was done by strikers, whereas it could have been enjoined had it been done by anybody else. Any statute, said the Court, which makes conduct lawful for labor which would be unlawful for anybody else, is unconstitutional and void.

"There were three dissenting opinions, by Judges Brandeis, Pitney and Holmes. Mr. Justice Brandeis summed up the law of industrial disputes in the English speaking countries and affirmed his belief in the constitutional power of the American people to do likewise if they saw fit. Mr. Justice Pitney affirmed the constitu-

## "Central States Co-op" Feeds Kansas Strikers

The miners in Kansas who have been on strike for many months as a protest against their enslavement by the Kansas Industrial Court Law, will have received \$200,000 worth of foodstuffs from the Central States Co-operative Wholesale Society by the time this magazine is printed. Forty carloads of flour, beans, bacon and other foodstuffs have been shipped to the striking miners, and more are on their way.

At the November, 1921, convention of the United Mine Workers of District 12, in Illinois, the miners voted to assess themselves \$1 per month per member, for the purpose of providing food free of charge for the Kansas coal miners. There are 90,000 miners in Illinois contributing to this fund. The money thus collected is discharged through the Central States Co-operative Wholesale for food supplies. The Co-operative does not make a penny's profit on the transaction; the money being charged against the strikers' fund at the wholesale cost. It should be remembered that the Illinois miners who are now supporting the Kansas miners

are the backbone of the Co-operative Movement in Illinois, which is now acting as the commissary department of the labor movement.

The latest report to the Board of Directors of the Central States Co-operative Wholesale Society is a good one. Manager Robert McKeehan reported that in the three months ending October 16, the wholesale had sold \$746,682 worth of goods, or about \$2,000,000 a year. The overhead expenses of the wholesale were surprisingly low—1.1 per cent, and the overhead of the retail "union" stores affiliated with the society amounted to 10.3 per cent, which is a low overhead for retail stores. The society is \$60,000 richer than it was three months ago.

Educational work is going forward energetically. The Educational Director, E. D. MacDougall, is sending out study courses to local societies, literature is being distributed, and Mrs. Mabel W. Cheel, of the League, is being toured by the Educational Department of the "Central States," giving illustrated lectures among the societies.

tionality of the statute, basing his argument upon the decided cases and their legal implications. Mr. Justice Holmes deplored the extension of the Fourteenth Amendment "beyond the absolute compulsion" of the words to prevent the making of such social experiments as the people might desire.

"Those who oppose the tactics of organized labor have time and time again told the unions to go to the legislatures for relief if they feel that the law is unfair to them. The Su-

preme Court now says that this cannot be done, and that the legislatures cannot constitutionally put labor in a favored position—at least so far as strikers are concerned. Our power to solve the problems of industry through legislation is accordingly very seriously curtailed. If organized labor wants any substantial help from the legislative bodies, it must first get the constitution amended. The only other alternatives, as 'The Nation' editorially points out, are for labor to submit meekly or to use direct action."

# JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

Published every Friday by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.  
Office, 21 Union Square, New York, N. Y. Tel.: STUYVESANT 1122.  
B. SCHLESINGER, President S. YANOFKY, Editor  
A. BAROFF, Secretary-Treasurer ABRAHAM TUVIM, Business Manager  
MAX D. DANISH, Managing Editor  
Subscription price, paid in advance, \$1.00 per year.

Vol. IV. No. 6

Friday, February 3, 1922

Entered as Second Class matter, April 16, 1920, at the Postoffice at New York, N. Y., under the Act of August 24, 1912.

Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized on January 25, 1919.

## EDITORIALS

### PRESIDENT GOMPERS AMONG OUR CRITICS

Our "radicals," we fear, will have to consider a revision of their attitude towards the action of our International in having taken out an injunction against the Protective Association, after they learn that that "arch-reactionary," Samuel Gompers, he, who, in their opinion, has, for a generation, led astray the American labor movement, is practically of one opinion with them. Of course, Gompers is tactful enough not to attack the action of our International. He does not say that the International should not have done what it did. Samuel Gompers does not consider himself the dictator of the labor movement, and he does not prescribe rigid and fixed means and methods for all and every phase of the workers' struggle. As a veteran in the labor movement, he knows that only the participants in a conflict, they upon whom the responsibility for the outcome of the fight rests, have the right to decide what fighting methods they are to adopt in order to gain their objective.

Nevertheless, Gompers makes it quite definitely known that he does not believe in the use of injunctions as a fighting method against capital. Without mincing terms he says that such fighting tactics are of no significance. "This injunction determined nothing and means nothing in the struggle of workers against predatory employers!" And he adds: "That is perhaps a harsh note to sound in the chorus of delight. But it is true."

It would seem, therefore, that as far as the injunction obtained by our International against the Protective Association is concerned, Samuel Gompers, that "arch-reactionary," is an extreme radical; or, shall we say, our radicals in this respect are horrible reactionaries. We shall not halt to discuss this point, leaving it entirely to both parties immediately concerned, but we cannot somehow pass in silence over the opinion of the old chief of American labor towards whom we entertain a feeling of deep and genuine respect.

Let it be stated at the beginning that in applying the injunction weapon against the Protective Association our International has not receded a hair's breadth from its old attitude, the attitude of the entire labor movement, that the injunction, as it is being used against workers in times of strikes, is thoroughly wicked and must be fought with every means within the command of labor. If Samuel Gompers or anyone else thinks that we have sanctioned the use of injunction in labor disputes because we had used it on one occasion, he is badly in error. On the same day when Justice Wagner had issued the permanent injunction against the Protective Association, on the very day we had achieved this legal victory, our counsel, Morris Hillquit, who was the chief proponent of the injunction move against the employers in the cloak strike, had stated in clear terms that "he has by no means been converted to the opinion that court injunctions are the proper method of adjusting industrial disputes." It stands to reason that our Union and its leadership is surely of the same opinion. The injunction suit against the Protective Association, let it be stated here once again, was adopted only as one of the methods to fight the injunction evil.

In point of principle, therefore, we are all agreed that the injunction is an ugly creature that cannot be made pure even by immersion into "seven holy waters." We, however, disagree upon the methods of fighting the injunction. Gompers says that "until such injunctions are no longer issued, the workers would abide by the decision reached by them in convention to treat those unlawful orders as if they had no existence." These words sound attractive enough, but we must ask Brother Gompers: Have these beautiful words ever been converted into acts? When and where have the workers treated the injunction as if it had no existence? Have the miners, with President Lewis at their head, abided by the decisions reached in convention with regard to the injunction of Judge Anderson, of Indianapolis? Or can Brother Gompers point to one important labor union that has acted in accordance with that

decision in times of conflict? What labor leaders have chosen to go to jail when they were confronted with the question: To obey or not to obey an injunction? Can he point to one labor union that has not fought the injunction in the same court that has issued the order against it? Such acts could, certainly, not be interpreted as ignoring the very existence of injunctions!

We shall, indeed, regard ourselves as sincerely indebted to President Gompers if he can point out even a few such cases for our benefit. We confess we don't know of any such striking examples. On the other hand, we know of hundreds and hundreds of strikes that were lost on account of injunctions, where workers have found themselves too weak to continue their fight as their bosses had obtained restraining orders against them. We know that many labor unions have become impoverished fighting injunctions in the courts. But they have not ignored them in accordance with decisions reached in convention. It seems to us, therefore, that it is not quite wise to talk of methods which the workers are not as yet ready, and would not adopt. Of course, it would have been highly inspiring if the workers would carry out the decisions of their conventions. Of course, this would have brought a quick and a definite stop to the injunction evil. But what is the use of talking about something that would be very good, but is as yet impossible?

And since this method of ignoring the injunction, "as if it had no existence," is not being adopted by the masses of the workers and their leaders, what remains, then, to fight the injunction with? In the course of the last great cloak strike, a situation occurred when it became possible for the Union to make use of the injunction weapon against the employers, and we ask: Could the Union act differently? Should the Union have waited until the employers had taken out an injunction against the strikers and their leaders? President Gompers says nothing about it, but he makes little of the entire injunction suit. He says that this suit against the Protective Association "reveals nothing, proves nothing and means nothing for the labor movement." Raising his displeasure, we beg leave to say that he has not carefully thought this matter over. It is our firm opinion that this injunction suit is a new accomplishment, and is of great importance to the labor movement in general.

Let us consider it. Our entire trade union movement is based on the principle of collective bargaining, upon agreements entered into between labor organizations acting for the workers and employers' associations acting for the manufacturers. Agreements are made to be abided by and not to be broken at the whim and caprice of either side. Until now, every labor agreement was, nevertheless, considered as a scrap of paper. It is true, courts have issued injunctions when workers occasionally broke an agreement. Our International, however, was the first to obtain an injunction against employers when they broke an agreement. Isn't this a novel occurrence in the labor movement? Our International has braved the risk of being charged with inconsistency; it overcame the fear, lest the "New York Times" or other capitalist newspapers would endeavor to make capital out of this suit and try to prove that the law is equal for all, the rich and the poor, the workers and the capitalists. Our International knew very well that the "New York Times" and other capitalist journals say these things every day anyway. But it had the courage of being "inconsistent" because it grasped the idea that, in truth, this injunction suit against the employers meant a powerful blow against the injunction business in labor disputes in general. Isn't this a new thing? Is this such an ordinary occurrence in our labor movement?

As regards the statement by President Gompers that this suit is of no significance for the struggle of the workers in general,—it is even less carefully thought out than the first one. Let us assume that Judge Wagner's decision is upheld by the Court of Appeals, which would mean that agreements between unions and employers are of legal validity and cannot be violated by either side with impunity. Wouldn't this be of the greatest importance for the entire labor movement?

The effects of this decision will be palpable and far reaching. Either both sides will conclude that labor agreements cannot and will not be kept, which will make an end to the entire system of collective bargaining; or both sides will come to see that in the interests of peace in the industry and security for the workers agreements must be entered into with full foreknowledge of their importance and inviolability.

We are convinced, therefore, that the cloak conflict which has just ended has contributed something new to the fighting methods of the labor movement that will have an important bearing on future labor struggles in America. The chorus of delight among the cloak-makers over their victory can continue unabated even though President Gompers cannot understand what they are rejoicing about.

### HUNGRY FOR KNOWLEDGE

The hall rented for the first discussion of the problems in the cloak industry, to be led by President Schlesinger, proved to be too small for the audience. They expected a few hundred persons, and instead of that, there came thousands who had to be turned away.

This is an adequate register of that thirst for information which prevails in our ranks regarding the questions that agitate our industries. The deep attention paid to the remarks of President Schlesinger and the highly interesting discussion that followed them, tend to confirm it. It was an excellent idea to have introduced these discussion meetings, and we are certain that after a number of such meetings are held all over the Greater City, many of our members will see a "new light."

There are a great many poignant and burning problems in the

# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL STRIKE COMMITTEE IN THE CLOAK INDUSTRY OF NEW YORK, NOVEMBER 14, 1921—JANUARY 17, 1922



First Row, Standing—H. Slutsky, M. Schneid, J. Rubin, L. Pinofsky, H. Borenstein, J. Nagler, S. Praisant, B. Shane.  
Second Row, Sitting—M. D. Danish, J. Heller, S. Lefkowitz, M. Sigman, B. Schlesinger, I. Feinberg, J. Breslau, H. Wander, S. Metz.  
Bottom Row, Sitting—N. Yacobinsky, J. Schuster, B. Kaplowitz, S. Ninfo, H. Lang.

(Owing to his absence at Montreal, Canada, at the time the above picture was taken, General Secretary Baroff does not appear among the members of the Executive Committee.)

cloak industry that will have to be solved, sooner or later. The more substantial and thorough the discussion on these problems is at present, the greater are the chances for their satisfactory and adequate solution. These discussions are, no less than the raising of a reserve fund, part of a preparedness campaign, the spiritual side of it. Doubly prepared, materially and spiritually, the Cloakmakers' Union will be invincible in the fullest sense of the word, no matter how vicious and strong the attack against it might prove.

## "BARGAINING DOWN" A MILLION

The Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union has discussed at its last meeting the question of replenishing its coffers, emptied by the recent strike. After a thorough debate, it was decided that a fund of two million dollars be raised—to be collected from the members of the Union within a fixed period of eight months—in the form of a levy of forty dollars per person. As the Joint Board has no dictatorial powers, a meeting of all shop chairmen in the cloak industry was called to take action upon this plan, and this chairmen's meeting, at Cooper Union last Monday, went on record for a one million dollar fund.

Of course, there was no question of principle involved in this decision. There were no two opinions concerning the desirability of such a fund. The difference between the opinion of the Joint Board and that of the shop chairmen's meeting is in relation to the size of the fund. It appears to us that the Joint Board has the greater amount of logic on its side, and for the following reason. The strike that has just ended lasted nine weeks and in its course benefits were given only during the last five weeks. The strike has, nevertheless, cost the Union almost a million dollars. What in case the strike had lasted, say, twelve or sixteen weeks,—how could the Union have then maintained the fight properly and decently?

And when we speak of a fight, let us be prepared for the worst. If preparedness is worthwhile at all, let us prepare ourselves good and proper. And big as the sum of one million dollars may appear when gauged by an individual standard, it is quite insignificant when judged by the scale of a great strike. That's why we think that the shop chairmen's meeting of last Monday has not given this matter due care and forethought when it "bargained down" that million dollars from the Joint Board. We are afraid that in doing that they have, to a degree, lessened the fighting power of their organization—should a test of strength come again in the cloak industry of New York. It is true forty dollars is not an easy matter for a cloakmaker to contribute these days, but as it is a matter of protection, of self-preservation against the chances of failure and defeat, it would seem to us that the cloakmakers of New York should strain every nerve and effort to raise the required sum.

Another thing. In the last strike, the strikers received five and seven dollars per week, a pittance barely enough for the merest necessities of living. Of course, under the circumstances it was impossible to fix a higher rate. But, we ask, why not consider now

the raising of a fund that would allow the giving of bigger strike benefits? It strikes us that this fund is only a means of saving from better days for a more precarious day, so what is the sense of bargaining and hankering about it?

The Joint Board was, therefore, more circumspect and far-sighted than the shop chairmen in this respect when it voted for two million dollars. Even twenty dollars per capita will be not altogether an easy matter to raise, and the raising of forty dollars per member would be merely a question of a greater effort. As the decision of the Joint Board is to go before the membership of the various locals now for approval, it is still to be hoped that a more thorough consideration of this question will lead to the adoption of the greater sum for this Reserve Fund. As a matter of fact, the greater this fund will be, the greater are the chances of avoiding any fight, and in case this proves impossible, the greater are the chances of victory.

In order not to be misunderstood, we deem it necessary to add that it is not our contention that a big treasury is the only guarantee of success in a fight. Courage, loyalty, clarity of aims and solid ranks—are the principal and greatest assets of our Union. But we do not want to lull ourselves into the illusion that a great strike can be fought out without funds, and the cloakmakers will do well to prepare themselves properly in advance.

## "He Wants a Court"

By THERESA WOLFSON

As the writer was coming out of the door of the Union Health Center, a short, wizened Jewish worker, with a red beard and a dilapidated slouch hat, sidled up to her and whispered, "Lady, lady, is this a court?"

"No, this is not a court," answered the writer. "What sort of court do you want?"

"A court, a court. I saw the sign 'for the clothing workers,' and I thought it was a court."

"No, but what do you want a court for?"

"It is like this, lady: I am working in a shop now; I was strikers' for a long time, and I got no money, and my family needed money; my wife and children were hungry, so I got disgusted and I got me a job. I belonged to Local 15, and when I came to the local they took my union book

away from me when they heard that I had a job, and they didn't give me any benefits or anything. So I went back to work again and I made a little money, but now the strike is over and all the old workers are back and the boss and the workers are making my life black. I don't know what to do; they won't let me work and I am ashamed to go to the Union, because they took my union card away. No one cares for me, even my wife is mad now. What can I do? During the strike I had to make some money, so I worked for this boss, and now the boss is against me, even. Lady, maybe this is a court?"

I answered the poor red-bearded Jew that this was not a court, and, shaking his head sadly, he walked away, wringing his hands. He was a stray sheep parted from the fold, in search of a court.



## IN THE REALM OF BOOKS

### American Periodical Literature

By DAVID F. BERENBERG

#### III. The Short Story Monthlies

America is the home of the short story. The fiction holds that we are too busy to read novels of any length and seriousness of treatment. The fact is that we are too lazy. We read any quantity of trash dealt out to us in small doses, although the time consumed in this manner is far more than the time required to read attentively a few well-worked out novels or essays.

Some twenty years ago the short story magazine became popular. Shrewd business men, always on the watch for chances to capitalize a public demand, rapidly multiplied the number of such publications until they became a veritable plague. Now every news stand is cluttered up with them in such bewildering quantity that the casual observer becomes confused, and is readily to be pardoned for thinking that literacy in America is a real phenomenon.

Most of these sheets are published on cheap paper, with clast, ugly print, and, strange to relate, they are usually without pictures. They make up for this by publishing cover designs that represent all that is banal and useless in art. Their titles are interesting, to say the least. When they are not called by some too obvious name, such as the "All-Story" magazine, they bear superscriptions that carry to the mind of the reader a more than passing suggestion of salaciousness. "Snappy Stories," "Briery Stories," "Paradise" make an appeal to the erotic instinct that is far from being fulfilled by the contents of those papers. In a sense, names like these are the counterpart of those advertisements that draw thousands into the dull interiors of burlesque theaters.

What a desert of stupidity these pages disclose! The attitude of those who write for these papers toward their own work is illuminating. Those of them whom I have met are unamused in despising themselves for their scribbling. Contempt for the public that reads them inevitably follows. Jack London's recipe for plot is far too complicated for the average short story magazine. Even that threadbare situation is unnecessary. All that seems to be required is a very thin suggestion of sexual adventure and a commonplace avoidance of the consequences of that adventure. For the dear reader of these papers is, after all, a respectable citizen! He is quite ready to read smutty stories, and to imagine them culminating in the inevitable, but on the printed page the moralities by which he, very unwillingly, lives, must be violated. There is no attempt at characterization, no attempt to link up the story with life, no inkling of an understanding of the artistic verities.

The excuse is, as always, that what we want in fiction is to be released from reality, and to live, if even for a moment, in a land of dreams. Suppose we grant this contention for the sake of argument, although it is a matter of fact a good deal to be said against it. What a world of opportunity is here provided for the followers of Freud in analyzing the sort of dream people want to be released from! And it is precisely here that the meanness of this kind of magazine appears. It is inevitable that the average man and woman in our ugly, mismanaged society should be

discontented with the realities of daily existence. That discontent leads to dreams to replace reality, lies in the nature of the human animal. These dreams are built of the material of sex and luxury. The opportunity for feeding the altogether natural need for sex adventure, and for an expansive life beyond the immediate reach of the poverty-stricken individual is the opportunity of literature throughout the ages. It has remained for us to pervert this into channels of meanness and sordidness that baffles the understanding. Sex stories are as old as the literature of the race. These sex stories vary from the tremendous and dignified tragedies of Dido and of Tristan and Isolde to the humorous narratives of Boccaccio and the shrewd analyses of Rabelais.

Instead of this sort of thing, we give in the columns of the short story magazine, a sick and dim echo of those jokes and stories that are the common coin of the stag party and the Pullman smoker. And then we rob even these tales of their vividness of language and the color of the environment that gave them birth. Only a people stunted in imagination can keep on reading papers that deal in this sort of thing. But a people bred on the traditions of Puritanism, a people that shrinks from "Jargon" and the "Genius," becomes sufficiently stunted to enjoy the furtive reading of these dull tales.

The effect of these publications is greater than the immediate effect on the reader. Young writers, and there will always be young writers, are influenced to a great extent by the market. And the short story market is to a very great extent provided by these papers. The great magazines, using this term in a commercial sense, papers like the Saturday Evening Post, and the Cosmopolitan Magazine, are open only to writers of standing and experience. Newcomers in the field of fiction must sell their wares, if at all, to the short story magazines. If they want to have their work in print, and the desire to see concrete results is very strong, they must conform. They study the market carefully, and they modify their output to suit its demands. The net result is a stunting of their own artistic sensibilities, and a cynicism that may ultimately prevent them from doing the work they set out to do. This cynicism of the younger writers toward their own work, and toward any ideals other than those of immediate success, is one of the most disturbing features in our literary life. It is almost the prevalent mood, and it is not the kind of cynicism that leads to constructive criticism. It is rather the spirit that says, "Oh, hell, what's the use?" and they proceed to prove that there is no use in anything.

When we look at America and notice its prevailing sentimentality, its inability to stand off and view things objectively, its crude acceptance of shams that ought not to deceive a child—and perhaps would not—we ought to remember the source and inspiration of sentiments and ideals that act so strongly to hinder progress.

We console ourselves by thinking that the growth of the radical movement will ultimately affect literature, and will make of it the honest thing it ought to be. We should not be too sure of ourselves on this point. Literary tastes are slowly formed, and

## THE STAGE

### THE DELUGE

Produced at the Plymouth Theater,  
by Arthur Hopkins—A Translation  
from the Swedish of  
Henning Berger, by  
Frank Allen.

By ABRAHAM TUVIM

After an evening of "The Deluge," a review of the play and players becomes rather a simple matter. All one needs to do is mingle with the audience as it passes from the theater, and make mental notes of the remarks heard—then embody them in a typewritten statement, and one has a story of which the most ingenious press agent may boast.

The audience at the Plymouth was more than pleased. Its expression was definitely favorable. Such superlatives as "splendid," "different," "worthy," "excellent," were hurled about freely. John Barrymore, who was "among those present," seemed to beam approval. One gathered from facial and verbal expressions that the pleasure was in a great measure derived from the privilege of having been admitted to a secret room, where realism in life had been unfolded, and where the truth was told with a degree of courage which was admirable.

That is precisely what "The Deluge," or rather Henning Berger, seeks to do, and succeeds. After gathering a group of average American types, which includes a saloon-keeper, waiter, broker, promoter, lawyer, a jobless immigrant, a "ham" actor and a woman of the street, he herds them in a saloon of a midwestern town, where each expresses his opinions and airs his views.

The average American cannot do this without showing his class and caste prejudices, and so hatred and distrust, snobishness and scorn, jealousy and egotism play their roles. The crooked lawyer denounces the promoter as a keeper of brothels, and is in turn denounced as a grafter. Both find common ground in their scornful attitude toward the less fortunate immigrant, the actor and the woman of the street. America is permitted to express itself—the average America of petty jealousies which are so common to American commercial life.

Then comes a storm and flood-burst, and the group finds itself penned in the saloon. The river banks are overflowing, thunder and

lightning lend their power and fear to impress upon the group that their hours are numbered, that soon the force of the rushing waters will tear the walls down and sweep them to death.

Henning Berger uses the storm in order to remove from the consciousness of his characters their daily struggle for existence. For as soon as the truth of impending death dawns upon them, and they find little, if any, reason for struggle, the ugly realities of cutthroat commerce give way to kindly thoughts for each other's comfort. "The Colonel's lady and Judy O'Grady are sisters under the skin." They fraternize—they can afford to be decent to each other—death is certain, class distinctions have very little import, and the best in them comes to the fore.

In the morning, however, life again assumes its usual role. The walls after all, did not give way to the flood, the waters were receding, the sun smiling as of old. The business world opens its arms, and one by one the group rushes forth to meet it. The brotherhood of the night is forgotten in the rush for spasms—the promoter becomes his old self, the lawyer rushes to court, the broker avoids the immigrant whom he had promised to aid, and forgetting about the street walker, with whom he had lived in the past, and to whom he had made rosy promises during the night, goes out to marry a lady who will bring him money and social standing in the community. The struggle is on again, the hatreds and jealousies are resumed with as much intensity as ever, and the play closes as it had begun.

Henning Berger shows a remarkable grasp of American life, and Arthur Hopkins deserves the thanks of the community for supplying a mirror in which America can see itself. The cast is excellent, especially Lester Lonergan, as O'Neill, the lawyer; Kathleen McDonald, as Sadie; Robert O'Connell, as Stratton, the saloon-keeper, and Robert McWade, as Father, the promoter.

Haywood Brown, author of "Seven Things at Night," and editor of the column "It Seems to Me" in the World, will give a series of five lectures on "Journalism and the Arts" at the Rand School, 7 East 15th Street. They will begin on Friday, February 3, at 8:45 P. M. A nominal fee will be charged, and in case of an overflow, those registering for the entire series will be given the preference.

are hard to change. It will take a great deal of conscious effort to bring about a change in these papers. Or rather, to bring about a change in public demand which will make these papers impossible. No such change can be brought about unless people can be made to think, and to think is the last thing that the human being will do.

The effort of the earnest editors to create papers that will not print trash are bound to meet with stiff opposi-

tion. Frank Harris tried it in "Pearson's." But "Pearson's" does not pay. Max Eastman tried it, and is trying it in the "Liberator," but the "Liberator" is hardly enough of a market for all the honest stuff that is surely somewhere to be found. Less determined men than these have tried the policy of printing good stuff, only at the end to yield to the demand of their own public, expressed in terms of circulation, for the old familiar trash.

## DESIGNING AND SKETCHING

A WONDERFUL PROFESSION!!!

DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY  
BEGIN AT ONCE.

YOU CAN BECOME A PATTERNMAKER AND GARMENT  
SKETCHER IN THREE MONTHS OR LESS.

NO TALENT NECESSARY TO LEARN THE "MODERN SYSTEM" OF PATTERN-  
MAKING, DRAFTER, SKETCHING, GARMENT SKETCHING, FITTING AND  
DRAWING OF LADIES' MENSSES' AND CHILDREN'S CLOAKS, SUITS AND  
DRESSES.

PRIVATE INSTRUCTIONS BY PRACTICAL EXPERTS.

ENTER REASONABLE.

CALL ANY EVENING FROM 7-9 AND SATURDAY AFTERNOON FROM 2-5.

THE MODERN FASHION SCHOOL

Belle St.

112-114 WEST 40th ST.

Opposite Bellevue Theatre



# LABOR THE WORLD OVER

## DOMESTIC ITEMS

### IOWA NOT A PARADISE FOR WORKING WOMEN

Iowa has no code of working hours or minimum wage scale for women, nor has it a complete code of regulating conditions. The state laws pertaining to working conditions for women are vague and inadequate, the power to enforce them limited and the appropriation small.

The instances are many where nothing has been done for the workers, or where, though the mechanical equipment of the plant is up to date in every respect, the human equipment has not even been given the recognition the machinery commands in oiling and cleaning.

### MUST TAKE TIME TO EAT

Employees in industries, in Pennsylvania at least, must take sufficient time to eat their lunches, even if the employees would rather work than eat. So rules the state industrial board in a case brought before it on the application of women piece workers of a Philadelphia concern. The board also declared that "half an hour is not sufficient time to obtain a meal when the workday practically extends to ten hours." We grow more human every day.

### PHOTO-ENGRAVERS WIN ALL ALONG THE LINE

The commercial employers who opened up a battle on the International Photo-Engravers' Union two months ago have learned a valuable lesson in the school of experience. They have the notice of surrender nailed to the mainheads in nearly every city in which they started the row. The union's decisive defeat of the New York commercial employers a week ago evidently started the rout, and in not a single instance has the union given ground, holding to the 44-hour week and opposing reductions in wages. The employers made a general demand for the 48-hour week and wage reductions ranging from 10 to 20 per cent, afterward modified to \$5 and \$6 a week. Throughout the country approximately 3,500 men had been locked out.

### GLOVEWORKERS' SHOP PAYS

About fourteen months ago the Gloveworkers' Union of Chicago engaged in glove-making on a small scale as an experiment, with a few members interested in the project. At a recent directors' meeting the first annual report showed a profit justifying payment of 6 per cent dividend. Despite the business slump, the glove-makers' business venture did not lose a day.

### WOULD END ODD-MAN DECREES

If the McSwain bill in its present form becomes a law, 5-to-4 decisions of the Supreme Court will pass into history. The measure is now in the judiciary committee of the House and provides that in any case heard and decided by the Supreme Court "where is drawn in question of statute of any State of the United States on the ground that said statute is charged to be in conflict with the Constitution," such statute shall not be held to be in conflict with the Constitution "unless at least seven members of the said court decide, agree, and concur in the opinion that such statute is so unconstitutional, null and void."

### PORTO RICANS WANT ISLAND TO BE STATE

Several bills have been introduced in Congress defining the status of Porto Rico. The Nolan bill proposes incorporating the territory and vinding the revenues of the island for sanitation, education and permanent public works. The Burren bill would enable the people of the island to frame a constitution, organize a state government and be admitted into the union as a state. The Williams bill provides that the people elect their own governor. The Campbell bill creates an autonomous government as "the associated free state of Porto Rico." Its principal feature is the appointment of a resident commissioner of the United States, who will supervise the administration of the government.

### ADVISES TO STORE COAL

Secretary Hoover announced today that the government has been advising the storing of coal in preparation for a prospective strike on April 1st, and that the Interstate Commerce Commission has sent letters to industry and utility companies advising them to take the same step.

### EIGHT MEN TO ONE JOB IN OHIO

Unemployment in Ohio, as reflected in the eight free employment bureaus in the larger cities of the state, has remained about the same ratio since last July, a special report of the State Department of Industrial Relations today shows—about eight men applying for each job listed. The report covers the period July 1, 1921, to December 31. During that time 288,699 applications were received at the bureaus and 32,000 men were placed in jobs.

### RHODE ISLAND TEXTILE STRIKE

Following an announcement by a majority of Rhode Island textile corporations last week, of their intention to reduce wages, the United Textile Workers' Council voted to authorize a strike on a state-wide scale.

### FOR A GENERAL MINE INVESTIGATION

Officials of District No. 2, United Mine Workers of America, in an appeal addressed today to President Harding, Vice-President Coolidge, members of Congress and the Federal Trade Commission, requested that the government give some relief from the present unemployment system. The appeal, signed by President Brophy, demands a "formal, effective governmental investigation of labor conditions in the coal fields of the country."

### "BIG BUSINESS" IN MEXICO

A resolution introduced in the House of Representatives by Congressman Connelly of Texas, marked the first official step to uncover machinations of American moneyed interests to obstruct recognition of the existing Mexican government.

## FOREIGN ITEMS

### DENMARK

#### DANISH WAGE REDUCTIONS

In accordance with the world-wide policy of wage-cuts, the employers in Denmark have given notice that all existing agreements with the workers are to terminate immediately.

Already the "fodder" bases have been in existence since the national agreement last spring, but employers maintain that even this method is insufficient if trade is to be enabled to continue.

As a result of the sliding scale, wages have suffered a reduction of about 17 per cent.

### AUSTRALIA

#### AUSTRALIAN "COUNCIL OF ACTION"

The Trades Union Congress Council of Action has passed a resolution at Melbourne that—

"As the Washington Conference is unlikely to evolve a scheme of value for the prevention of future wars, we shall endeavor to arrange a Pacific Conference to enable Australian workers to arrive at a common understanding with the labor organizations of other countries to prevent war."

#### COSTLY GOVERNORS

An official statement by the New South Wales Labor Party, occasioned by the refusal of the Governor, Sir William Davidson, to grant Mr. James Dooley, the former Labor Premier, a dissolution, draws attention to the high cost of State Governors, whose abolition will be a plank in the Labor program in future.

The statement says that the New South Wales Governor occupies property worth 1,000,000 pounds, and draws a salary of 5,000 pounds. "The rubber stamp work," it proceeded, "could be done by the Chief Justice or a tipstaff with a slight increase of salary."

### GERMANY

#### GERMAN FACTORIES DESTROYED

A resolution has been passed by the German Federation of Trade Unions (A. D. G. B.) complaining of the destruction of machinery and buildings in many factories belonging to the Deutsche Werke, at the order of the Inter-Allied Commission of Military Control.

German workers and industry will suffer gravely by this action, which has been prompted by the regulation against the manufacture of war material.

The Trade Unions maintain that the workers in these establishments would hold themselves responsible for the prohibition of the manufacture of any sort of war material.

#### TREAT OF RAILWAY STRIKE

Germany is threatened with a general railroad strike, which will be disastrous, if it comes off. The reason for the threatened strike is because the railroad employees had demanded payment of January wages before Christmas, which the Government turned down, claiming that this was but a new tactic to secure a wage increase.

### ENGLAND

#### LONDON LABOR PREPARING FOR THE MARCH ELECTIONS

The London Labor Party issued a series of resolutions to be considered by a special conference on January 28, which are intended as the basis of a "general constructive program of Labor" for the London Common Council elections in March.

"Nobody is more conscious," it is stated, "than are the supporters of the London Labor Party of the financial burden which high rates impose upon the working and lower-middle class community.

"We ourselves are overburdened ratepayers, and we are more interested than any other party in securing release from financial injustice.

"The London Labor Party points out that the existing system of municipal finance is cruelly unjust to the working and lower middle class ratepayers, and lets off far too lightly the ground landlords of London and others of the wealthy classes.

### CANADA

#### HOURS QUESTION IN HALIFAX

At a meeting of the workers' unions in Halifax, a resolution was passed protesting against any reversion to a fifty-five and one-half-hours working week, and calling upon members of the local unions to refuse to work more than forty-eight hours per week after January 21.

### PANAMA

#### PANAMA WORKERS RESORT TO INJUNCTION

Organized labor on the Panama Canal has resorted to the injunction as a means of attempting to thwart the policy of Secretary of War Weeks in the reduction of labor costs. President McConaughy of the Metal Trades Council, has filed application for an injunction against the Governor and other officials of the Canal in the United States District Court to prevent them from making charges for rent and certain other privileges hitherto enjoyed by employees free of charge, and a preliminary injunction has been granted by District Judge Charles A. Kerr.

### HAWAII

#### TO UNITE ALL WORKERS

The workers of all races in Hawaii are considering an international organization to be known as the "United Workers of Hawaii," with the aim of "readjusting" the trade unions in Hawaii in building up an industrial form of organization that will unite in one body all the wage workers without discrimination as to sex, race, creed, craft or color and gaining direct votes in the management of industry, according to the preamble to the constitution now being voted on by the various bodies.

## Educational Comment and Notes

### President Schlesinger At Our Forum

Those of our readers who are familiar with the plans which were announced by the Educational Department at the beginning of the season, remember that we intended to conduct extension courses dealing with the problems of our own industry. Arrangements were made to have these courses given by persons who are well acquainted with the problems of our industry, with the assistance of officers of the Union.

The strike interfered with our plans. However, as soon as our victory was certain, the Educational Department immediately prepared to carry out these plans as far as possible. The first activity along this line took place on Friday evening, January 27, at the London Casino, in the Bronx. The department arranged to have President Schlesinger address a small number of our members on the important problems of the industry which confront the officials and the rank and file now. The intention was to have him meet no more than one or two hundred persons in a small hall, and discuss the matter with them in an intimate fashion.

Arrangements were, therefore, made for one of the smaller rooms in the meeting hall, to accommodate about two hundred persons. When the evening arrived, however, an overwhelming mass of our members demanded admittance. It was seen that the subject of the meeting was sufficiently important to these mem-

bers to warrant a change in the plans. Accordingly, the large hall, accommodating several thousand people, was immediately opened for the membership, who filled it in a very short time.

President Schlesinger found himself compelled to address several thousand instead of several hundred. But his remarks were received with intense interest. He discussed with them the questions of piece and week-work, the standards of living, the demands of the employers, and other similar matters in which every worker is vitally interested.

After President Schlesinger's address, a number of our members asked questions and made brief statements on the subject of the discussion. Brothers Feinberg acted as the Chairman of the meeting and helped to make it successful.

The Educational Department feels that meetings of this sort are very important for the organization. It is convinced that the rank and file must become well acquainted with other problems than those of their own shops. They must be shown what confronts the industry from a larger and broader point of view, if they are to be depended upon to stand behind the interests of the entire membership.

It is planned to have a number of such meetings in different sections of the city. Judging by the response last Friday, there is no doubt that they are needed.

### Union Officers and Extension Courses

At the beginning of the present season, the Educational Department made arrangements to conduct extension classes in various sections of the city. The plans included series of lessons and discussions on important problems of the industry and the unions. These were to be given at the offices of the various locals in English, Yiddish and Italian.

In each case it was hoped that a competent teacher would present the subject to a group, and that various officers of our organization would assist in presenting the subject and making it clear from a practical point of view. Arrangements were made to have President Schlesinger and other officers of the International, as well as officers of the various Joint Boards, do this work in conjunction with the teachers.

It was hoped that lessons and discussions under this arrangement would present to our members both

theoretic and practical views, and would help them to understand clearly the problems which they and the officers of their organization are called upon to solve.

Unfortunately, the late strike interfered with the plans of the Educational Department. Our members were too busy with the actual struggle. We could not think of developing our extension classes when the rank and file were concerned with the grave problems created by the strike.

But now that the struggle has ended and victory is on the side of the workers, the plans of the Educational Department will be resumed and an attempt will be made to carry them out successfully. We plan to announce details very soon. Meanwhile, we hope that our members will keep this in mind and will be prepared to join these classes and discussion groups as soon as they are organized.

#### HEALTH LECTURE AT THE BROWNSVILLE UNITY CENTER

We have arranged a series of health lectures for our Unity Centers.

The first will be given at the Brownsville Unity Center Thursday, February 9, by Dr. T. A. Galdston, of the New York Tuberculosis Association. He will talk on "The Conservation of Health and the Prevention of Tuberculosis." It is needless to emphasize how important it is for our members residing in the Brownsville section to attend this lecture.

Admission free to members of the International and their friends

#### DR. WOLMAN'S COURSE IN TRADE UNION POLICIES

Last Saturday, January 28, Dr. Wolman met his class in Trade Union Policies in the Workers' University.

This course will continue for the remainder of the year. Next Saturday, February 4, at 2:30, Dr. Wolman will take up the question of the Wage Policy of American Trade Unions. The class will discuss the attitude of trade unions in America on wages, cost of living, standard of living, productive efficiency and standardization before and after the recent war.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

### WORKERS' UNIVERSITY

Saturday, February 4th.

Washington Irving High School, Irving Place and 16th Street.

1:30 P.M.—Mr. B. J. R. Stolper, "Foundations of Modern American Literature."

2:30 P.M.—Dr. Leo Wolman, "The Wage Policy of American Trade Unions."

2:30 P.M.—Mr. A. L. Wilbert, "The Joke About Housing," by Charles Harris Whitaker (a noted architect), which absorbs the housing problem in the whole social and economic body.

Sunday, February 5th

10:30 A.M.—Mr. A. Fichandler, "Making Judgments."

11:30 A.M.—Dr. H. J. Carman, "Social and Industrial History of the United States; Evolution of the Problem of Money and Banking."

11:30 A.M.—Mr. G. F. Schulz, "Public Speaking."

### UNITY CENTERS

Monday, February 6th

East Side Unity Center

8:30 P.M.—Mr. Solon DeLeon, "Industrial Crises."

Second Bronx Unity Center

8:30 P.M.—Mr. Max Levin, "International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union—Aims, Organizations, Policies and Activities."

Brownsville Unity Center

8:30 P.M.—Dr. Margaret Daniels, "International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union—Aims, Organizations, Policies and Activities."

Waldenbrook Unity Center

5:30 P.M.—"Physical Training," Miss Mary Ruth Cohen, director.

Tuesday, February 7th

Waldenbrook Unity Center

8:30 P.M.—Mr. Max Levin, "International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union—Aims, Organizations, Policies and Activities."

Harlem Unity Center

8:30 P.M.—Mr. A. L. Wilbert, "Modern Economic Institutions—Trusts."

Bronx Unity Center

8:30 P.M.—Mr. Solon DeLeon, "Industrial Crises."

Lower Bronx Unity Center

8:30 P.M.—Miss Theresa Wolfson, "Complexity of Modern Industry and Unionism of Today."

East Side Unity Center

8:30 P.M.—"Physical Training," Miss Eva Cohn, director.

Friday, February 3rd

Brownsville Unity Center

8:00 P.M.—Dr. Margaret Daniels, "Applied Psychology—First Steps in Reasoning."

### The Farm "Bloc" and Labor

A very interesting illustration of the power of solidarity is shown in the present developments in our government. Our readers are undoubtedly familiar with the farmers' "bloc," and the latest results of the attempts of farmers to protect their economic interests.

During the past few years, the farmers of the United States have suffered greatly. They had to buy commodities at high prices and because of the decrease in American exports and other causes, they had to sell their product very low.

Next they woke up and realized that unless they organize and fight they will suffer longer and more. The resulting farmers' "bloc" is an excellent example of solidarity of an economic group. It was created by economic conditions, and became so strong as to force the dominant Republican party to consider its demands. President Harding was forced to appoint a farmer on the Federal Reserve Board. Perhaps this will be of some use to the farmers.

This situation should be interesting to workers. It should show what can be accomplished by unity of action. It should prove that a union of individuals with the same economic interests, if it is sufficiently strong, can secure practically anything that it demands.

Some of our workers have learned this in the past. They proved that they have learned this, by their admirable conduct during the late strike. They proved to the world

that they can develop a real solidarity.

But if such solidarity is guided by an intelligent understanding of the forces that oppose them, and of the methods which can be used to combat these forces, the success of the group is assured.

That our workers can fight bravely, there is no doubt. That they can fight intelligently, is also true. To many it is a question as to which of the two is more important. It has happened frequently that small forces intelligently led and consisting of intelligent individuals, defeated larger forces without these advantages.

If this is true, there is but one inference to be drawn. Workers must become acquainted more and more thoroughly with the character and direction of the social and economic forces which are shaping our present industrial society. They must become acquainted with the industrial and economic history of the country. They must understand the methods by which the existing economic institutions preserve their existence and increase their strength.

With such knowledge our workers can face their opponents without fear, and such knowledge can be secured with an outlay of but an hour or two a week. An intelligent member of the International can learn much about the industrial history of the United States, the history of the labor movement in our country, and the policies of the Trade Union Movement, in the various classes of the Unity Centers, the Workers' University, and our Extension Classes.

The Educational Department will be only too glad to provide opportunities to those who wish to learn more about these vital subjects.

DR. BARNETT L. BECKER

# The Weeks News in Cutters Union Local 10

By JOSEPH FISH

## GENERAL

The best attended meeting held by Local 10 during the past few months took place last Monday in Arlington Hall. Undoubtedly, this large attendance is due to the new clause in the constitution which requires that every member attend at least one meeting each quarter of the year, and also to the number of very important matters that were to be taken up. The following are some of the important questions taken up at that meeting:

1. The question of voting on the next convention city.
2. The case of Mr. Sam Martin, who has requested readmission to our organization.
3. The granting of a week's vacation to Miss Flora Goldstein, one of our stenographers.
4. The granting of a two-weeks' vacation each to Brothers David Dubinsky and Samuel Perlmutter.
5. The fixing of Business Agent Shenker's salary.

When the choosing of a convention city, where the convention of the International is to be held, was brought before the membership, it decided to leave the matter in the hands of the Executive Board, and to have the Board make its recommendations to the next general meeting of the body, which will be held on February 27, as the members did not want to give up too much time to this question.

The recommendation of the Executive Board in the case of Mr. Sam Martin was taken up by the body. Mr. Martin was expelled from this organization in April, 1919, after having been found guilty of the charge of obstructing the conduct of the strike which was being waged by the Waist and Dress Cutters for a 44-hour week. Mr. Martin was called out on strike during the recent general strike of the cloakmakers of New York, and is still out of New York, and is still out. He has applied to the Executive Board for reinstatement in the Union.

The Board, acting upon his request, decided to recommend to the body that Mr. Martin be granted readmission in the organization upon payment of a \$100 fee, with the provision that he cannot hold office for five years from the date of his obligation, and other minor restrictions. When the report of the Executive Board was read to the members at the meeting, a lively discussion took place on the floor. There were quite a number of speakers pro and con, Brothers Harry Berlin and Charles Stein leading the attack against the recommendation of the Executive Board, and Brothers Samuel Perlmutter and David Dubinsky defending the action of the Board. Brothers Berlin and Stein, during the course of their remarks, emphasized the fact that the actions of Mr. Martin during the Waist and Dress strike of 1919 are still fresh in their memory, and that as such as they would like to stretch a point in his favor, they feel that to permit Mr. Martin to rejoin the organization would be committing a great wrong against this organization.

Those who spoke for the acceptance of the Executive Board's report laid great stress on the fact that this is a strike case, and that in view of the fact that Mr. Martin has been called out on strike from a cloak bound to re-admit him. To quote Brother Dubinsky, "In these days of civilization, why not be liberal, and not bound a man and demand a pound of flesh when he is already down?" Other speakers expressed their views

along similar lines. After discussions were closed and the matter put to a vote, the decision of the Executive Board was concurred in by a large majority.

The next question which came up before the body was that of a vacation of one week for Miss Flora Goldstein, and a vacation for Brothers Dubinsky and Perlmutter. Miss Goldstein, one of our stenographers, was kept exceptionally busy during the entire strike, working very hard and staying all sorts of hours, down at the hall. The Executive Board has, therefore, recommended that she be granted a week's vacation. This recommendation of the Board was concurred in, as was also the recommendation for a two-weeks' vacation for both Brothers Dubinsky and Perlmutter, who worked very strenuously all through the strike.

The last question that was taken up at Monday's meeting was that of Business Agent Shenker's salary, which was left open by our Executive Board for the general membership to decide upon. It was the opinion of those present at the meeting that the value of Brother Shenker's services to this organization is such as to merit a salary of \$60.

After disposing of the above, a motion was made and carried to adjourn, and the Inner Guard, Brother Sam Massover, by means of a prepared paper, registered all those who had attended the meeting.

## CLOAK AND SUIT

Brother Dubinsky, General Manager of the organization, has prepared an extensive report on his activities as Hall Chairman of the cutters during the recent strike in the cloak and suit industry, which he expects to render at the coming meeting of this division. The meeting will take place on Monday, February 6, at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place. There is no doubt but that this report will be of very great interest to our members, and they are therefore urged to attend. This report will also be printed in the columns of JUSTICE very shortly, so that all our members may become thoroughly acquainted with the activities of the cutters during the recent strike.

Brother Dubinsky reports that the situation in the cloak and suit industry is very bright, and that practically all of the cutters are employed. However, should there be a few cutters who are not working at present, Manager Dubinsky requests that they apply to him at the office of the Union, as he is in a position to place them at work.

## WAIST AND DRESS

The organization campaign against open shops in the waist and dress industry, which was launched by the Joint Board in these trades on Monday, January 30, is now in full swing. It is satisfactory to note that according to the statement issued by the campaign headquarters, located at the Labor Temple, 14th Street and Second Avenue, a very large number of workers of open shops has responded, and the employers are flocking to the headquarters, eager to make settlements with the Union.

It is gratifying to see the spirit

which is manifested by the workers of the open shops, who are anxious to have their shops organized. Committee after committee from these shops appears, appealing to the organizers in charge to have their workers called out, so that they can help to fully organize the industry, thereby improving working conditions not only in their own places of employment, but in all shops throughout the greater city.

The organization campaign, which is being so well conducted, is under the leadership of Brother Julius Hochman, who is being ably assisted

by the regular organizers of the Joint Board.

## MINIMUM WAGES

(Continued from Page 4)

show whether the minima were actually the maxima, and whether organized labor should warmly support such legislation. There are other features which should be considered in this connection, when we speak of the attitude of organized labor toward legislation regulating wages, but that we shall have to do some other time.

## DESIGNERS OF LADIES' GARMENTS ARE IN GREAT DEMAND A GOOD PROFESSION FOR MEN AND WOMEN! EASY TO LEARN, PAYS BIG MONEY

Take a Practical Course of Instruction in the Mitchell Schools  
In designing Women's, Misses and Children's Wearing Apparel. A course of instruction in the Mitchell School Means an Immediate Position and Bigger Pay. The Mitchell Schools of Designing, Pattern-making, Grading, Draping and Fitting have been established for over 50 years and have achieved



## NEW IDEAS NEW SYSTEMS BEST METHODS BEST RESULTS

Individual instruction. Day and evening classes. Reasonable terms. Write, phone or call for free booklet and full information.

Demonstration Free at Our School

EVENING CLASSES: MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY

## MITCHELL DESIGNING SCHOOL

912-920 BROADWAY (Corner 21st Street) NEW YORK

Telephone Stuyvesant 8383

Boston Branch: 453 Washington Street, Dexter Building.

## CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10 ATTENTION!

### NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETINGS

Cloak and Suit	Monday, February 6th
Waist and Dress	Monday, February 13th
Miscellaneous	Monday, February 20th
General	Monday, February 27th

Meetings Begin at 7:30 P. M.  
AT ARLINGTON HALL, 23 St. Marks Place

### CUTTERS OF ALL BRANCHES

should not fail to secure a working card within twenty-four hours after going to work. Those who hold "one-week" or temporary cards should not fail to change them for permanent ones if they are working.

Dress and waist cutters who are working should not fail to change the present white cards, which they hold, for new ones that will be issued on and after January 15. Dress and waist men who will be found working on the present white cards after January 15th will be disciplined the same as those without any card at all.

## BUY

WHITE LILY TEA  
COLUMBIA TEA  
ZWETOCHNI CHAI

Exclusively