

"My righteous-
ness I hold fast,
and will not let
it go."

—Job 27.6

JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

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

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Price, 2 Cents

GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD AT ATLANTIC CITY ADOPTS IMPORTANT DECISIONS

International Will Throw Its Entire Weight to Win Philadelphia Waist and Dress Strike—President Schlesinger Authorized to Appoint Union's Representatives on Federal Cloak Investigation Commission—To Send Second Food Shipment to Russia—Report of Secretary Baroff Approved—Thousand Dollars Voted for West Virginia Miners—International Will Take Part in Chicago Political Unity Labor Conference.

LAUNCH CAMPAIGN FOR WEEK-WORK IN WAIST AND DRESS INDUSTRY —PREPARATORY CONVENTION PLANS COMPLETED

(Special to "Justice")

Atlantic City, February 16.—The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union will throw its entire force and prestige to bring the fight forced upon it half a year ago by the waist and dress manufacturers of Philadelphia to a successful end. In this fight the manufacturers have received the full support of the Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce. As this is the only important conflict the International has on its hands at present, it will devote its entire attention to its prosecution, firmly determined that the work conditions in the Philadelphia waist and dress shops remain intact and unmoisted.

This was the sum total of the discussion on the Philadelphia waist and dress situation at the meeting of the General Executive Board in Atlantic City. It is twenty-six weeks now since the waist and dress girl workers of Philadelphia have been out on strike against the arrogance and aggression of their employers. They are waging a remarkable and inspiring battle; in spite of injunction persecution and unrelenting of oppressive treatment they are receiving at the hands of the police, the courts and

the employers, they have not wavered an inch, and are as determined to win their fight as on the first day of the strike.

The International has also decided to start a court suit against the Philadelphia waist and dress employers, charging them with conspiracy to destroy the Union and to disrupt the prevailing work standards in the industry, thus causing irreparable damages and untold suffering to the workers.

An interesting incident, illuminating the spirit and the morale of the Philadelphia strikers, was presented in the fact that in spite of the want prevailing among them they have decided last week to contribute \$500, to be collected among themselves, for the Russian war and famine sufferers' relief. At a meeting held in Grand Fraternity Hall, attended by over a thousand striking girls, of every race, nationality and color, it was decided to donate from their meager strike benefits \$500 towards the famine relief fund. This incident has been the subject of comment in the Philadelphia press for days, and betrays, as perhaps no other incident throughout the entire strike, the splendid sentiment of working class solidarity prevailing

among the strikers.

CLOAK SITUATION DISCUSSED

This Atlantic City meeting of the C. E. B. has a certain sentimental value attached to it. Willy nilly, it recalls to one's mind the fact that only a few months ago the associated cloak manufacturers of the entire country had come together in this city to devise ways and means how to smash the cloakmakers' organizations, bring back piece-work in the cloak industry, to lengthen work-hours and to cut wages. This conspiracy was smashed into bits, and today the International representatives had gathered in Atlantic City to listen to the report as to how this plot was destroyed.

President Schlesinger rendered a lengthy report on all that transpired in the cloak industry all over the country during the past few months and was followed by a detailed report

by Secretary Baroff on the general situation of the Union, supplemented by a number of reports rendered by the Vice-Presidents on the situation in a number of ladies' garment centers. A discussion arose about the possibilities resulting from the planned Federal investigation in the cloak industry of New York and the situation when the present agreement with the Protective Association will terminate next June.

A special committee from the Joint Board of Cloakmakers of New York consisting of Manager Israel Feinberg, Secretary Langer, and Chairman Pinkofsky came to Atlantic City and participated in all the discussions pertaining to the cloak industry of New York. After President Schlesinger had reported concerning his correspondence with Secretaries Hoover and Davis of the Federal De-

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Dress Jobbers Agree To Stop Dealing With Non-Union Contractors

The dispute over the disclosures made by Waist and Dress Joint Board, charging the Jobbers' Association in the dress industry with sending out work to non-union contractors in spite of a definite prohibition in its agreement with the Union, which threatened a strike in the dress industry, was settled last Wednesday, February 15, at a conference between representatives of the Joint Board of the Dress and Waistmakers' Union and the Wholesale Dress Manufacturers' Association at a meeting at 1119 Broadway. The Union was represented at this conference through Julius Hochman, I. Horowitz and M. K. Mackoff.

The manufacturers' organization, which consists of jobbers, agreed to stop dealing with non-union contractors. The workers had proved that a number of prominent jobbers, members of this Association, have not only let out contract work to non-union shops, but have practiced keeping two sets of books in order to con-

ceal their violations of the agreement. The Jobbers' Association pledged itself and its membership to observe the agreement scrupulously in the future and to punish or expel any of its members who might violate it. A committee was appointed to take up the charges of the Union and to investigate the cases of all those who have broken the agreement, which expires on January 31, 1923.

The organization campaign in the waist and dress industry, meanwhile, is continuing unabated. New shops are being organized daily and firm after firm is settling with the Union. All the workers on strike in the unsettled shops meet at the Labor Temple, 14th Street and Second Avenue.

The organization drive in the waist and dress industry differs from all former campaigns undertaken by this Union in that it is well-conceived and fully thought out plan. It will not be given up until the non-union shops in the industry are organized and signs are not failing that it will be a successful job.

New York Cloakmakers Raising Million Dollar Reserve Fund

As reported already in JUSTICE, there was some disagreement among the active members of the cloakmakers of New York as to whether the Reserve Fund to be raised by the organization be one million or two million dollars. The matter was given over for final decision to the membership of the locals, but it would seem from advance information that the prevailing opinion is that this season only one million dollars be raised at the rate of \$20 per member. This money is to be paid in by the members within the next few weeks.

Whether one or two million dollars, on one point the cloakmakers of New York are definitely agreed—namely,

that a big defense fund must be created. And, more enough, in immediate response to this unanimous decision payments towards this fund have already begun this week.

According to Treasurer Philip Kaplowitz, of the Cloak Joint Board, the first five dollar bills have already begun pouring into the treasury of the Union. There seems to be no doubt that the cloakmakers will not fail to a person to contribute their share towards this Reserve Fund. They know quite well that when the Union begins to negotiate a new agreement with the employers, it is well that it has a substantial treasury at its disposal.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK

By MAX D. DANISH

THE TEXTILE STRIKE

THE long expected textile strike in New England broke out last week, when cotton mill workers in New Hampshire and Rhode Island went out in protest against wage reductions averaging 20 per cent and the restoration of the 54-hour week.

The press estimates of the strike state that about 50,000 textile workers have quit the mills. Among the affected plants are the great Amoskeag Mills, which with its 15,000 "hands" is the largest cotton mill in the world. In Massachusetts, the mill owners have so far, with the exception of two factories in Lowell, involving 2,600 workers, not attempted to reduce wages and the strike has therefore not reached the Bay State as yet. As was to be expected the State Guardsmen, both in Rhode Island and in New Hampshire, have been ordered to be in readiness in their armories for "possible duty."

On the whole, the walkout of the textile workers has been a remarkable success up to date. Not a single disturbance from any of the strike centers has as yet been reported in the press, which would doubtless seize the first opportunity to enlarge upon "riots" and "violence" on the part of the workers. It must be kept in mind that in no industry have the wages of the workers been as low as in the textile trades before the war. Within the last few years they had succeeded in building up an organization which raised their wage scales and reduced their work-hours to 48 per week. The brazen attempt of the mill owners, not only to reduce wages but to bring back the 54-hour week, accounts for the unanimous response to the strike call, its orderliness and effectiveness and therein lies its chance of success.

THE POLITICAL UNITY CONFERENCE

ON FEBRUARY 20, there will assemble in Chicago a conference of progressive labor and political leaders called for the purpose of effecting political unity within the ranks of organized labor and the adoption of a "fundamental economic program," not the formation of a new political party.

We quote from the call to this conference, signed by W. H. Johnston, President of the International Association of Machinists, chairman of the committee in charge; Martin F. Ryan, President of the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen; W. S. Stone, Grand Chief, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers; and a number of other prominent labor leaders:

"There has been no common understanding to bind the workers of all walks of life together. For lack of this common understanding, we have been divided and betrayed. To the end that there may be a beginning of that wisdom which comes only through understanding, the sixteen railroad labor organizations have called a conference of representatives of the progressive elements in the industrial and political life of our nation to discuss and adopt a fundamental economic program designed to restore to the people the sovereignty that is rightly theirs, to make effective the purpose for which our Government is established, to secure for all men the enjoyment of the gains which their industry produces."

"To our way of thinking, this attempt to reach a 'common understanding to bind the workers together' is a significant event in the American labor movement. The fact that it comes from the sixteen railway unions, the most virile section of organized workers in the basic industry of the country, makes it even more significant. Clearly, it is a step towards the formation of a real Labor Party in America, and regardless whether this undertaking is successful or not, the Chicago conference will mark a milestone in the inevitable, though gradual attainment of political unity of organized labor in America."

THE IRON HEEL IN INDIA

THE news from India is daily becoming more and more alarming, from the point of view of the British government.

Apparently, the English authorities have decided upon a ruthless campaign of suppression against the "civil disobedience" program and the demands contained in the recent manifesto issued by Gandhi, the Indian Nationalist leader. Rioting and shootings are reported from every corner of that vast domain, while in many sections Nationalist Volunteers in uniform armed with bamboo staffs are parading the streets, singing national airs and drilling openly. All this is done under the nose of the police. The women are participating in the demonstrations, rebuking the more backward among the men folk for their lack of enthusiasm.

If the threat of the British authorities to arrest Gandhi is carried out it is quite likely that the sparks of revolt smoldering throughout India will burst out in an all-engulfing flame. It is true that Gandhi and his followers have started their Nationalist campaign on a basis of non-co-operation, which does not include fighting or violence. But it is obvious that these ramifications have already been exceeded in the course of this campaign for independence started by the Non-cooperationists.

Violence begets violence. In the last few years Britain has had ample opportunity to learn this truth in Ireland, Egypt and in many other of its vast "colonies." There are three hundred million souls in India and a comparative handful of Englishmen. No matter how well organized its campaign of suppression, in a land of such vast dimensions and amidst the flames of a gigantic revolt, Britain will, in the end, have to acknowledge defeat and give India back to the Indians.

JAPAN IN SIBERIA

ONE of the most outstanding results of the Washington Disarmament Conference, and one that has within it the seed of endless mischief and conflict, is the decision with reference to the continued stay of Japan in the Far East of Siberia and in Manchuria.

Despite the energetic campaign conducted by the representatives of the

Far Eastern Republic, the specious claims of the Japanese imperialists for holding that territory have been sanctioned by the Conference and for the time being, at least, the Japanese are to stay in the Far East and have control over its chief sources of wealth and railways. It would seem, indeed, that the Japanese who came to Washington to take part in the Conference only on condition that their continued illegal occupation of Siberia be sanctioned, have carried the day.

That Russia and the Far Eastern Republic will never consent to these arrangements it is clear as daylight. Today, of course, neither Soviet Russia nor the Chita Republic can successfully undertake to repel the Japanese invaders. Within a few years, however, the tables are likely to be turned. The one hundred and fifty million Russians of the mainland cannot and will not sanction this willful robbery of their lands and wealth by the invaders from across the Vladivostok Straits. The awakened conscience of the Japanese masses will not tolerate this crime either. In the end, Siberia is bound to revert to the peasants and workers of Russia.

The Union Health Center in 1921

A REPORT

Union Health Center Building

We began the year with a deficit of \$1,445.23. We paid off this deficit and in addition paid off \$2,000.00 on our mortgages, and at the end of the year we still have a balance of \$435.42.

During 1921 our income will be \$10,300.00, our expenses \$7,700.00 and there will still be a profit on the building of \$3,500.00, besides paying off \$2,000.00 additional on mortgages.

Union Health Center Dental Department

During the year we had an income of \$38,570.97; an expense of \$35,353.45.

We would have had a surplus of \$2,918.52 were it not for the fact that we spent \$3,787.03 for additional equipment and had to make up the 1920 deficit of \$63.25,—so that during the year we had a net deficit of \$931.76.

During the year 1921 we have done \$10,000.00 more business than in 1920 and treated not less than 2,612 patients.

Union Health Center Medical Department

The Medical Department has done three times as much work in 1921 as in 1920. In 1920 we had an income of \$6,771.09; in 1921 we had \$21,323.21.

There were 5,113 candidates to the

Union Locals. There was a total of over 16,000 examinations. There were \$3,657.50 received from the General Clinics and \$2,758.50 from the Special Clinics.

Plans for 1922

At a meeting of the Board of Directors held at the Union Health Center on February 6th, the following was decided:

1. To enlarge and take up for the Medical Department the second floor at present occupied by the office of the Joint Board of Sanitary Control.

2. To increase the Medical Department, to extend its clinical work, to install new electric baking, massage and other appliances for the treatment of rheumatism and other similar diseases. Dr. Price, who is going to Europe in the spring, was authorized to buy suitable instruments and equipment for the extension of the clinical work.

3. It was likewise decided to begin some time in June an extensive propaganda for introduction of a compulsory health and medical insurance benefit for all the New York Locals, such health insurance insuring the members of the Locals and their families through medical help in the Center and in their homes.

HARRY WANDER, Chairman
GEORGE M. PRICE, M.D.,
Director

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The Rail and Mine Workers Conference

By EDWARD B. DAWSON

Representatives of 2,000,000 rail workers and 500,000 coal miners of the United States will meet at a conference in Chicago next week to plan an alliance to defend the seventeen unions in these industries from the employers' wage-slashing and "open shop" movements. The agitation for the creation of the alliance of railroad workers and miners was begun several months ago by the United Mine Workers of America when it was evident that both miners and railroad workers would be on the defensive in wage controversies this Spring.

President John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers, who has been corresponding with the chiefs of the four great railroad brotherhoods and the other railroad organizations to prepare for the preliminary meetings, announced last week that the conference would open next Tuesday in Chicago.

The miners always have favored an alliance with the railroad workers, but the conservative brotherhood officials thought the miners were too radical for them. The wage cuts and adverse decisions from the Railroad Labor Board are believed to have changed the frame of mind of the railroad brotherhoods, many predict that the Chicago conference will be the beginning of the first real alliance of the unions in the two industries which are dependent on each other.

The railroad workers are still confronted with the wage cut issue which nearly brought them to a general strike on every railroad of the United States last Fall. The strike move was abandoned when the Railroad Labor Board announced that there could be no immediate wage cuts because it was so rushed with other work that it could not take up wage

issues. The workers already had received a wage cut of 12 1/2 per cent, effective July 1 of last year. The additional reductions demanded ranged from 10 to 40 per cent, the poorest paid getting the largest percentage of reduction.

In accordance with the procedure of the Railroad Labor Board, the railroad executives have met with the representatives of the railroad unions to discuss the wage cut proposals. In every conference, with all branches of the employees, the executives' proposals have been rejected. They now will go to the Board for arbitration. The final settlement of the railroad wage issue has probably been delayed for several months by the intervention of Herbert Hoover, with a regional plan for settlement of the disputes.

Although railroad workers are engaged in one of the most dangerous occupations, requiring alertness of mind and body at all times, it is not generally known that they are among the most poorly paid workers in America. Firemen and engineers on some of the biggest locomotives get less than \$5 a day, and those on the small yard engines get little more than half of this amount. Although they are supposed to work only eight hours a day, they often are compelled to work up to the limit of the federal law prohibiting work beyond sixteen hours. Only through overtime work are they able to support themselves and their families with the minimum of decency and comfort.

The general strike movement swept the country because the railroad workers were thoroughly aroused by the 12 1/2 per cent wage reduction last July. They contended that they did not get enough pay before the cut became effective, and so the referendums on the strike

proposition were carried by enormous majorities. Even the old men, whose seniority rights would be menaced by their participation in a strike, voted for war with as much enthusiasm as the young men.

The coal miners are in a similar situation. At the convention of the United Mine Workers of America this week in Indianapolis the union will decide what action to take in negotiations with the mine operators leading to the renewal of the agreement which expires March 31. The Scale Committee of the United Mine Workers has been formulating demands which will come before the convention. Although the employers are said to be ready to invite a general strike with demands for wage reductions, it is believed the convention at Indianapolis this week will recommend a demand for substantial wage increases for coal miners in all districts.

The mine operators want to reduce wages in districts that have collective bargaining agreements with the union to the scales that prevail in non-union fields. They say the low wages of the non-union fields permit the operators there to undersell them in many markets. In reply the union asserts that a reduction of wages in the union mine fields would be followed by still further reductions of the considerable wages of the workers in the non-union fields.

There is only one solution for the conflict between the selling price between coal from union and non-union fields, the United Mine Workers declare, and that is the organization of the non-union fields. They have already spent \$2,000,000 on the organization of the non-union fields in West Virginia, where their efforts have been resisted by an army of gunmen in the pay of the mine operators.

That federal courts and the army will be used to break the strike of coal miners, if it begins April 1, because of wage cuts by the operators, was indicated by Attorney-General Daugherty in a recent interview. He

announced that no legislation would be needed to enable him to act in the event of a strike.

"I never would permit unions, if I had any duties to perform, to break up the 'open shop,'" was his ultimatum. "The people are more interested now in peace and plenty than they are in the 'open shop.'"

The coal miners face the wage cut threats of their employers at a time of unusual depression in the soft coal industry. Government experts estimate that 100,000,000 tons of coal have been mined for which there is no immediate demand because of the industrial depression. The surplus of coal has been accumulating for a year, throwing hundreds of thousands of men out of work. The suffering of the unemployed miners has been so great that numerous appeals have gone to President Harding from miners' unions. West Virginia miners sent the following telegram:

"While investigating committees are parading around making investigations, little children are suffering from cold and starvation. Never in the history of the State of West Virginia has suffering been so prevalent as now. Therefore, we earnestly appeal to you to use your influence to secure for starving men, women and children of West Virginia the same consideration that was given to starving men, women and children of Russia."

The miners will answer the demands for wage cuts with the statement that even with existing wages the workers were unable to get above starvation incomes. With the decreased wages, they were forced to buy food from company stores which did not recognize the drop in the cost of living in other parts of the country.

The similarity of the situation of railroad workers and miners has increased their interest in solidarity, and millions are hoping that the movement toward an alliance between the workers of both industries will result in success that will be of benefit to the toilers of all trades.

With the Waist and Dress Joint Board

By M. K. MACKOFF, Secretary

(Minutes of Meeting, Feb. 8, 1922)
Brother Berlin in Chair

Upon opening the meeting, a committee from the Workers' Unity Association of 125 Lexington Avenue, appeared before the Board with the following request:

In view of the fact that the Workers' Unity Association is composed of girls, most of whom are members of the various locals of our Joint Board, and as they have arranged a Bazaar for the children of Russia, to be held during the period from March 19 to March 18, 1922, they, therefore, request that we grant them credentials to permit them to speak and appeal to our members at shop and member meetings.

The Joint Board considered the appeal made by the committee on behalf of the Workers' Unity Association, and took into consideration the hall which was arranged by our Unity House Committee. In view of the fact that the names of the applicants for the Workers' Unity Association and those for the hall arranged by our Unity House Committee are almost alike, and, taking into consideration the fact that the Unity House Committee has decided to contribute the entire profits of its ball for the famine sufferers in Russia, it was, therefore, decided to deny the request made by the committee representing the Workers' Unity Association.

A committee from the Socialist Party of New York appeared before the Board with the following request:

In view of the fact that Local 1, S. P., arranged a concert, the profits of which are to go to the Socialist Party and the Naturalization Aid League, they request that we purchase some tickets.

Upon motion, the Joint Board recommended to the Local that we purchase \$50 worth of tickets.

The Secretary informed the Joint Board that he has received the following communication from the local Secretaries:

"The local Secretaries of the respective locals, composing our Joint Board, with the exception of the Secretary of Local 10, held a meeting on Friday, February 3, 1922, at 16 West 21st Street, and acted upon the expenditures which the Joint Board is about to make in regard to organization work for Local 66. After due deliberation, they beg to recommend to the Joint Board that Local 66 is to pay to the Joint Board the balance of the \$6 assessment, on the same basis as the other locals composing our Joint Board.

A lively discussion arose, in which many of the delegates and officers of the Joint Board participated. Upon motion, it was decided to adopt the recommendations submitted by the local Secretaries, it being understood that as soon as the present organization campaign is over, the Joint Board should arrange for Local 66

to properly affiliate itself with the Joint Board.

In communication, Local 25 informed the Joint Board that Sister Miriam Levine was appointed as Business Agent to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Brother Kensefeld.

Upon motion, the Joint Board approved the appointment of Sister Miriam Levine.

A communication was received from the New York Call, which, in substance, reads as follows:

At the Conference of Labor organizations, held Sunday afternoon, January 22, at which practically every Joint Board or Federated body, and a large number of individual locals were represented by delegates, a resolution carried unanimously emphasizing the need and value to the entire organized labor movement of building up a large circulation for the New York Call, and that to that end a circulation committee be created, to consist of representatives of at least ten organizations.

It is especially desired to have your organization represented on that committee, and that the one you select be one of your best and most effective members.

Your organization needs no argument as to the steadily increasing need of a daily English newspaper of large circulation absolutely at the command of labor. Certainly, if argument were needed, it has been more than supplied by the treatment only recently given to the capitalist gross of the railroad workers, the miners, the marine workers, milk drivers, and other groups of workers.

The work of this proposed circulation committee will be to consider

and work out plans by which a drive for circulation of the Call among members of organized labor can be most effectively and quickly carried out.

Again expressing the earnest wish that your organization will co-operate in the manner requested, and that you will promptly notify us of the name and address of the member named.

Upon motion, the request of the New York Call was granted, and Brother Hochman was elected to represent our Joint Board.

Brother Berlin, President of the Joint Board, then introduced Brother Schlesinger, President of the International, who was present at our meeting.

In a brief, but impressive, talk Brother Schlesinger reminded our Joint Board of his appeal made to us about six months ago, in reference to the strike which was then about to be declared in Philadelphia. He furthermore reminded the Joint Board about the decision we rendered at that time to contribute a certain amount of money for that strike, and according to our contributions towards the Philadelphia strike, through our International, it shows that we had contributed \$15,000. Considering that said strike is being conducted for the twenty-fifth week, with the minimum expense of about \$8,000 or \$9,000 a week, and since the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union had not contributed more than we did, and since the other locals of the International contributed very little money, the International itself advanced up to the present time about \$175,000. The

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Current Realities

By NATHANIEL BUCHWALD

A person's character, the very essence of his inner being, is sometimes revealed by a mien, a gesture, a word, an inconsequential act. Also the character of a people is thus laid bare at times.

Two characteristic incidents in current American reality have done more to disclose the paltriness of American culture, the shallowness of national intellect, the coarse weave of our spiritual life, than volumes of unfriendly comment on the part of outsiders or arabancess of satire and invective a H. L. Mencken.

We allude, first, to the Duell bill in Albany, and, secondly, to the case of Kentucky versus Evolution. Both the crusade of Senator Duell against industrial warfare and the rampage of Kentucky revivalists against the theory of evolution would be admirable material for fun and burlesque if the American citizen would but appreciate the grotesque nature of these essentially clownish performances. But Albany, N. Y. and Frankfort, Ky., are "made in America," and are taken for granted by America. Their droll attempts to circumvent facts and assassinate reason are recorded in the newspapers, commented upon editorially, treated with the respect that is due honest, competent opinion.

The Duell cure-all is not a dangerous attempt at vicious legislation. It is a danger signal only in the sense that it is indicative of the perilously low level of political mentality of our state, the mirror-state of the Union. Political reaction is an immediate menace when guided by expert statesmanship, but when its pilots are men of the Duell type it ceases to be a menace in the specific

sense and becomes a pitiless spectacle.

Yet a menace it is. Every subnormal state is a menace to national growth and healthy development. Political imbecility may be amusing to the cynic, but, like any other form of imbecility, it is cause for alarm. It is not Duell that is dangerous—it is Duellism, and Duellism is, unfortunately, all too prevalent in our benign land. Cynics would have it that it constitutes the very essence of political America. Certain it is that the Duell panacea is in no way inferior to the Lusk anti-education laws, and is on a par with some of our Federal statutes.

There is no mistaking the motives back of the Duell bill. The fact that it is sponsored by the traction ring and similar sinister combinations of capital, betrays it as an attempt to assassinate the labor unions. Nor is it necessary to infer the motive from the nature of the bill. Mr. F. S. Gardner, Secretary of the Board of Trade and Transportation, the organization that is championing the measure, put it as brutally as he knew how when he said that "This bill, if adopted, will make peace between employees and employers and make the walking delegate a supernumerary."

Peace without the walking delegate, I.e., the kind of peace that exists between the wolf and the guarded sheep, has ever been the goal of Big Business, and Albany has ever been anxious to arrange such a peace. It is not this aspect of the case that is new or surprising. But what does surprise one is that Big Business, with its vaunted efficiency for evil, is, after all, but a bungler—even in its own "line." The grasping, acquisitive passion of our industrial magnates has, after all, not out-

grown the primitive rapacity of an Oriental potentate. They have literally learned nothing about the delicately adjusted and highly complicated machinery governing the economic relations of modern master and slave, and they still proceed on the theory that the law of the law is sufficient to compel the slave to do the bidding of his master.

The Duell measure with its courts of compulsory slavery, is, of course, doomed to ignominious defeat, but it is significant that the industrial masters, with a legislature waiting on tiptoes to execute their orders, are politically too crude and immature to make articulate their true desires. You must give credit to the open-shouters that they do not want the sort of thing presented in the Senate on their behalf. It is too obvious that the scheme, if put through, would be highly preposterous and utterly unworkable, and would produce chaos instead of order and exasperation of all classes instead of docility on the part of labor. Duell ran a fool's errand for them, and the humor of the situation is that they don't realize it. The moral of it is that one must be intelligent to be effectively selfish. Big Business, in the political field, has not the talent worthy of its avarice, and therein, in a measure, lies a degree of security for labor.

But labor will regret it sorely if it will not build up its own political bulwarks based on vision and intelligence. It is simple enough to fight an adversary who is in his right senses. But when you have to fight a maniac who has run amuck and a whole lot of maniacs to help him, why, you have to know the business of taming as well as that of fighting.

The attempt of some of the Kentucky Solons to outlaw science is of less portent so far as material damage is concerned, but it is of a piece with the Albany Duell affair in that it advertises us as a people who boast

the mentality and intellectual advancement of the Medicine Man. One may be a good and law-abiding American, but one is really ashamed of one's common citizenship with the Kentucky legislators who in all seriousness and with much fervor propose that the teaching of Darwinism or the theory of evolution be prohibited in the state schools. Wish, indeed, will peep my eye! How will you explain away the fact that a thing like that could come to pass in the United States, the country that has assumed the role of civilizer for the whole continent south of us and, for many an island population in the vicinity?

The papers make sport of the whole affair; any number of good jokes has been produced on the subject, but what neither the papers nor other agencies of public opinion will admit is that the legislation against laws of nature is just about representative of our intellectual standards. And yet another open secret, that a public print will disclose only at its peril, is that our educational institutions are, to an alarming degree, influenced and dominated by a lot of religious bigots and sanctimonious ignoramuses. It is this aspect that raises the Kentucky stupidity to the level of a serious national menace. It is bad enough that the spirit of Billy Sunday dominates many of our pulpits. To surrender to it our schools and seats of "higher learning" means to perpetuate the type of citizen that chooses a Duell for his lawmaker and acquiesces in Duellism or Lunkism or Palmerism as the gospel of America. It is but little, indeed, that we have to offer to the "ignorant foreigners" or the "uncivilized natives" of our colonies, if these be the standards of our civilization and the types of our leadership. Rather, we have a good deal to learn, say, even from the very foreigners we are trying so hard to "Americanize."

The Trade Union Movement in Roumania

(A letter from Roumania.)

The trade unions of Roumania before the entrance of that country into the war (August 1916) comprised at the period of their highest development a maximum of 8,000 members. During the war (middle of 1916 to end of 1918) all working class activities both in the occupied regions of the Walachei as well as in Moldavia were suppressed. No newspapers were allowed to appear; the trade union offices were closed; many comrades were imprisoned, many of them even treacherously murdered. The starvation wages and working conditions of those days may be easily imagined.

After the armistice and the withdrawal of the armies of occupation, a powerful movement set in; the workers joined the trade unions in throngs; it seemed as if the wave of strike movements would never cease.

Almost all strikes ended in victories for the workers (out of 1,000 strikes not more than 14 were lost). In Roumania proper, the membership rose to about 70,000. In addition

there were about 10,000 in the Banat, and Transylvania, and about 10,000 in the province of Bukovina. In Bessarabia there were only small illegal groups, without any connection with the other organizations.

Consequent upon the unbroken series of victories and under the immediate influence of Russia there developed a movement which was strongly Belshavist both in theory and in practice. This movement made a strong appeal to most of the leaders as well as to the newly organized masses of unskilled workers. This was especially the case in Roumania itself; in the Banat and Transylvania the movement was weaker, and entirely insignificant in the Bukovina.

In practice there was no actual distinction between the Labor Party and the Trade Unions in Roumania itself, while in the Banat and Transylvania there was not even a formal distinction between these two bodies, as in these two provinces the contributions to the Labor Party were

always collected by the Trade Unions. Unduly emboldened by their victories, the Trade Unions failed to define their international affiliation, so confident were they in the invincibility of their own power.

When in the middle of 1920 the economic depression set in, the workers and to pay dearly for the mistakes of the past. The attitude of the Government and the authorities having become intolerable, there arose among the rank and file an insistent demand for a general strike which accordingly broke out on December 20th, 1920.

The Government ordered a general mobilization of the army; martial law was proclaimed; newspapers were suppressed; the censorship was introduced; thousands of workers' leaders (also members of parliament) were arrested; military tribunals were set up and sentences varying from 1 to 15 years imprisonment were imposed.

The strike proved to be a complete failure.

The Terror then assumed unlimited dimensions. Under the pretext of combating Communism further thousands of workers were arrested, and flogged in the prisons, many of them being tortured and even murdered. During the past 8 months

hunger strikes have been the order of the day. Only so-called "national trade unions" were tolerated; these were specially formed and directly subsidized for the express purpose of training strike breakers. The trade union offices have been closed, some of them being occupied by the military, and their funds confiscated. For months past hundreds of our fellow-workers have been lying in prison without having been brought to trial as yet.

Wages everywhere have been and still are forced down, and working conditions rendered worse. Resistance on the part of the workers is impossible owing to suppression of their organizations. Neither is it possible to do anything against the Terror, for the censorship still exists, the offices, and meeting halls are closed, meetings are prohibited, and railway employees as well as other employees in State and private concerns have been mobilized.

Recently a Bill was passed ordering that the Trade Unions be formally separated from the Labor Party. In view of the White Terror the workers of Roumania will be unable to emerge from their present situation unless they have the support of their comrades in the other countries.

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A Letter from London

By EVELYN SHARP
(London Daily Herald Service)

For the great British public there are two or three sensational murder cases running at the moment: for the rest, Greece, the prospects of a general election, and the industrial situation provide us with our headlines.

To take the last first: from the workers' point of view, it is as bad as it well could be, except that it threatens to become worse! Industrial magnates are prematurely congratulating the country on the relative peace in the industrial world, and on the absence of "industrial unrest." But it is actually only the moment's breathing space afforded when a boxer puts his opponent temporarily out of action.

Dramatic wage cuts are being accepted everywhere simply because the workers are not in a position to fight them, with their union funds depleted, and the constant fear of unemployment hanging as a very real menace over their heads.

Yes, poor as they are, there are signs that the workers will resist the attack on hours which is rapidly developing. Important sections of industry are already threatened, and should the attack on these be successful there is small hope for the smaller sections of the workers. Of late times in the case of the railwaymen. Here an experimental advance is being made by the Scottish companies. They had proposed a variation of the existing agreements not only as regards wages, but also as regards railwaymen's hours. But the eight-hour day is a principle which the railway workers will not lightly surrender. Officials of all the three unions concerned are agreed in declaring a policy of utmost resistance to any infringement of hours, and the rank and file are fully as eager to defend their rights in this respect. They have, moreover, the advantage of a sound appeal to public opinion. Ought the lives of the travelling public be entrusted to the care of engine drivers and signmen working over-long hours? The answer cannot be in the affirmative.

Other bodies involved in the attack on hours are the builders, the engineers and the miners. The builders are concerned to defend their 44-hour week, and the Federation of Building Trades Operatives is calling

a meeting this month of the full executives of the affiliated unions to decide upon a common line of action. The men in the meantime are officially advised to ignore all orders from employers involving any deviation from the 44-hour week.

In the mining industry the attack on hours has only just begun. So many mines are working short-time, or have closed down altogether, that the question of hours does not arise. But from Cleveland comes the news that the mine owners are asking for an extra hour below ground, and a 49-hour week for surface workers, as opposed to the 46½ hours now worked.

Most interesting of all is the attitude taken up by the Plymouth District Committee of the Amalgamated Engineering Union, which points out:

(1) That employers will continue to demand concessions in hours and overtime so long as there are to be had for the asking.

(2) That "at some point the members, even the most submissive, will be compelled by hunger to make a stand and concede no more."

(3) That "it is common sense to face the inevitable early rather than late, while some strength remains."

"If it be true," the committee concludes, "as represented by the Executive Council and the officials, that we have no power to resist, then the union has failed and is of no use."

An important feature of the present situation is the organization of the unemployed. Such organization is, of course, only possible when the army of unemployed is very considerable numerically and suffers comparatively little change. But at the present time there are thousands of men who have done no work for six and twelve months on end, and for these their local unemployed organization bulks more important than their some-time union. There is, in fact, a tolerably distinct and undoubtedly regrettable cleavage between employed and unemployed labor, although the ranks of the latter are constantly recruited from the former. Such organization facilitates concerted action on the part of men employed, regardless of trade on "relief works." The government scheme laid down the rule that not more than

75 per cent of the standard rate of wages should be paid on such works. House Councils, preponderantly labor, secured modifications of this rule, amounting to its suspension, but in Ton Pentre (Wales), where road making was started on that basis, the unemployed workers "struck" for the full navvies wage, and the local organization is demanding that the full rate be paid or the scheme abandoned.

There is still no definite information regarding a general election. Every day some of the papers definitely assert its probability, while others discount all rumors to that effect. The next day they exchange roles, so that in either event each will be able to say, "I told you so." Actually, of course, the decision rests with Mr. Lloyd George, and it is impossible to prophecy which breeze will ultimately determine the direction of that political weathercock.

In the event of an election, however, labor expects to put some 400 candidates in the field, and in addition there will be a few men run by the Co-operatives, with a practically identical program. The position is that, while the Co-operative Society as a whole has negatived the proposal to join the Labor Party politically, many of its local branches are affiliated to the local Labor Party, and in elections Labor and Co-operatives normally join forces, either supporting the other's candidate and not encroaching upon each other's election preserves. It is interesting to note that the Derbyshire Miners' Council has recently stated that in view of the present situation in the industry, it was not held desirable that the miners' officials should enter Parliament, and that two officials have withdrawn their candidatures in consequence.

Russia is once more to the forefront politically owing to the decision taken at Cannes to invite the Soviet government to send representatives (preferably including Lenin) to an International Conference in March. Just before the opening of the Conference at Cannes a cable was sent to Mr. Lloyd George, signed by La-

bor M. P.'s (including J. B. Clynes, T. E. Naylor and Tom Shaw), trade union officials (including Ben Turner of the Textile Workers, and Robert Williams, Transportation Union). The text was as follows:

Eight million organized British workers, realizing close connection between decay of British trade with consequent dangerous growth of unemployment—and Russian exclusion comity of nations, strongly urge full political recognition Russian Government by Britain—preferably jointly with Allied Powers, admitted alone.

It is now officially admitted that the funds allocated for the assistance of local authorities in promoting relief works have run out. The most recent official figures give the number of totally unemployed persons as 1,381,390. These are estimated to represent, with their families, some seven million persons. And Mr. Lloyd George appears to have decided that this is not the moment to appeal to the country, so that we can look forward to no special electroneering effort to deal with the problem of unemployment.

A few of these people die of starvation. Large numbers are being carried off by the influenza epidemic. The disease in its present form is one from which the well-nourished people normally recover, and ill-nourished people frequently die. The cause of death, however, is certified as influenza, not unemployment.

The closing down of relief work schemes means that the unemployed apply to the guardians for relief. This, in its turn, must sooner or later lead to a financial crisis, for the pocket of the ratepayer is no more bottomless than that of the taxpayer.

Yet, with a cynical disregard for the well-being of the working classes, the capitalists continue to press for further cuts in wages, and, most deadly of all, an extension of working hours. That such an extension would lead to further unemployment is not denied. That is, actually, the object of the movement. Longer hours for the individual mean an "economy" in the wages bill—in other words, the dismissal of a proportion of workmen.

UNITY BALL FOR RUSSIA NEXT TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Next Tuesday evening, February 21, on the eve of Washington's Birthday, there will take place the Unity Ball for the benefit of the hungry masses of Soviet Russia, at the Star Casino, 107th Street, between Lexington and Park Avenues.

The Unity Ball is arranged under the auspices of the Joint Board in the Waist and Dress Industry and its entire net profit will be given over to the fund for the Famine Sufferers of Russia.

At this Unity Ball, next Tuesday evening, all the friends of the Union and all the visitors to the Unity House at Forest Park will meet and renew old acquaintanceship. The spirit of fraternal joy which usually prevails at the Unity House will be continued there. It is to be expected that this affair will be a huge success in the fullest sense of the word.

QUESTION BOX OF THE UNION HEALTH CENTER

It happened at the Health Center. A young woman, an applicant to the Union, was told she would have to have a medical examination before she could secure her card to the Union. When she was through with the physical examination which the Doctor gave her, she was told she would have to go upstairs and have her teeth examined before she could get her card.

"Arch, said she, America, gounf—to get a Union card, so they look into your teeth."

The other morning, a tall bent shouldered worker came into the clinic, and said to the girl at the desk, "information please."

"What is it, sir," she said.

"I want some information."

"What do you want to know?"

"I want to register my feet," replied he.

He was a presser and wanted the foot clinic.



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JUSTICE

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EDITORIALS

THE PUBLIC AND THE UNIONS

Who would have believed, only a few years ago, that there would come a time in this land of ours when the "good" and "legitimate" labor unions would be placed in the light of "a great menace to the country" by our legislators and rulers? Who would have believed that after years of tireless fighting for the only weapon they can successfully use against the employers—the right to refuse to work, the right to strike—this achievement of the workers would again be placed under a huge question mark, and that persons who cannot utter a sentence without embellishing it with the words "freedom" or "liberty," would, in all earnestness, begin nursing plans how to rob the workers of their only means of defense against their exploiters? Who would have believed that after having "fought and won" the battle against the Hohenzollerns, that most concrete symbol of tyranny and oppression, we, in this land, which contributed a great share towards that victory ostensibly for altruistic purposes only, would seek to institute here a system of serfdom in comparison with which the hated Hohenzollern regime is the acme of liberty?

* * * * *

Nevertheless, unbelievable as this fact may appear, the Chamber of Commerce in New York City has prepared a bill which, if enacted into law, would make strikes illegal and a conspiracy. A second, similar bill was introduced at Albany by two other members, and a public hearing has been staged for the first of March, by the Committee on Labor to discuss the question whether workers on strike are criminals or not.

Times there were when our legislatures would grind out annually a crop of laws against radicals only. This legislation would practically outlaw political and industrial non-conformists as "a menace to society, to the public and to the existing order." In this there was, at least, some method and plausibility. The radicals, Socialists and Anarchists, have always fought in the open against the existing economic and social order, and this order, as represented by the legislators, had, of course, a right to defend itself. The labor unions, however, were always legitimate associations, not a whit less legal than any other associations of persons combined for the purpose of promoting their own interests. The new law-projects, at Albany, however, are aimed at the practical destruction of unions. For, if workers may not strike; if, when five persons combine and leave employment on account of inadequate compensation they are to be regarded as conspirators and punished with prison and money fines,—why should workers belong to and maintain a union? A union is not of ornamental value to the workers; it is their citadel, their weapon of defense and offense, and once this weapon is outlawed and treated as a conspiracy, the reason for belonging to it ceases.

Nor can it be said that the legislators, the New York Chamber of Commerce, and the entire capitalist press are making a secret of their designs. On the contrary, they know their aim and they speak openly concerning it. They are even aware that this planned legislation violates the principle of the "freedom of labor"; they know that these contemplated laws would convert the "free" worker into a serf and a chattel. They cannot deny this as the purpose of these bills bulges out in bold relief from every sentence in which they are framed. The only excuse they advance in defense of their scheme is that the public, this mysterious creature, "the most important factor in our society," which is usually the "innocent victim" in the fighting between labor and capital—the "public" demands that an end be made to this eternal warfare, and, consequently, a law must be enacted to make strikes illegal!

* * * * *

It is interesting to observe that the Chamber of Commerce, an organization whose members dedicate their lives to the gentle art of skinning the public, appears in this case as the advocate and the protector of the "interests of the public." It is interesting to note that our entire capitalist press which feels and thinks in the terms of old Vanderbilt: "The public be damned!"—speaks

now "in the name of the public." It is not less interesting that our legislators who lie awake nights in thinking how best to serve their true masters, the various public-fleeing corporations, and the Chambers of Commerce, that these have of a sudden begun to talk about the "interest of the public!" The important point, however, is—aside from the above reference to the sincere motives of the fathers of the anti-strike laws—that this excuse and cloak is, in its entirety, a huge bluff.

For years the workers have been striking—with varied success. For years we have talked about capital and labor as the two paramount factors in our society without stumbling against the mysterious existence of the public. And only now, in these momentous days, when it dawned upon some powerful interests that it is high time to destroy the growing American labor movement, that the "public" was discovered to be used as a screen for anti-strike laws. We have a pertinent question to ask: Why was not this "public" discovered a long time ago? Is it of such microscopic size that it could be spied out only with a magnifying glass? It would stand to reason that we have always had with us a "public" that was suffering from the war between capital and labor. Why is it that we are asked to clutch at it now in order to find a bottom for anti-strike legislation?

The answer is, the labor movement was never as strong, as united and as clear of its purpose as it is now. Our social pillars have seen the writing on the wall and are scared to death. The railroad workers are getting daily more and more dangerous. The miners' resistance is growing more and more invincible. Moreover, the workers in these two basic industries are planning a union, and what couldn't they achieve if united? The fights waged by the labor movement are becoming more and more systematized and led with better strategy and skill than the counter-fight of the organized employers. Organized capital would bring the workers back to pre-war days, cut their wages, lengthen their work-hours and lower their standards. But the workers are protesting firmly and determinedly. The workers demand that the employers too contribute of their swollen profits towards the "economic readjustment."

This growth of the labor movement is disturbing the peace of mind of our Chambers of Commerce. It fills with uneasiness our press, our legislators, and all their servile spokesmen. So they have gone ahead and discovered the "public." You see, they are not in the least concerned about capital and its privileges, nor would they think of harming the workers. Perish the thought! All they worry about is the "dear public." If the workers could fight and win their battles without injuring the public, well and good. But since the public is compelled to suffer, we must seek to abolish strikes. And here is the line of their argument: "Stop fighting. If you have any disputes with your bosses, come with your grievances to our judges who will arbitrate between you. You stand to lose nothing by it, whether you are right or wrong. At any rate, no strikes will be tolerated, for they had been decreed taboo by that lord and master of us all—the Public."

* * * * *

It is, of course, understood that we have not the slightest apprehension that these planned laws will deter, even for a while, the development and the growth of the labor movement. On the other hand, we believe that this entire scheme of prohibiting strikes will give a powerful impetus to the labor movement that would have taken years to achieve under ordinary circumstances. We deem it, however, necessary to point out to those of our readers who may have been thinking in the past that our labor movement is hopelessly slow and ineffective, that our rulers and masters disagree with them entirely. The masters consider our labor movement as the only great menace to their continued domination, and that explains the meaning of their newest plot to destroy the labor movement by legislation. We hope, and we are convinced, that this attempt will be a lesson of the need of greater unity and loyalty to a number of our workers, and that it will drive out of their heads the pessimism with regard to the tendency and character of our movement.

* * * * *

Henceforward, the workers must forget all their imaginary differences and together, in a united effort, line up their forces against the dark powers which threaten the life of the labor movement. When the workers of the State of New York will say their "No" to these planned laws, they will never grace our statute books. A general strike of all the workers, even before the bill is enacted into law, would certainly lead to the early death of this nefarious proposal. This, however, is an extreme method. It is possible that a powerful protest in New York and all over the country will suffice to destroy this dark scheme. But should all these means of protest fail and labor serfdom be made part of our law books, we should not despair of the character and the aspirations of our labor movement. The modern worker cannot be converted into a slave any longer and if he decides to quit work, quit he will, legally if possible, illegally if necessary.

LOCAL 23 INSTALLS NEW OFFICERS

We were present last week at the installation meeting of the Executive Board of Local No. 23 and of its Manager, Brother Harry Wander. Two moments during that afternoon have made a particularly deep impression upon the writer of these lines: First, when we realized that the majority of the elected officers were all former officials, the same persons whom we have seen installed as officers of the organization last year. The second moment was when a hearty expression of appreciation was given to two Board members who are now leaving their trade and the Union to seek other means of making a living.

* * * * *

The re-election of the same members of the Executive Board of Local No. 23 has made us think of some gentlemen—outside of the labor movement but still craving to have a say in it—who main-

Amnesty Drive to Begin Again

New developments in the work of securing the release of the remaining 118 political prisoners in federal prisons were announced by the American Civil Liberties Union, following reports of interviews at Washington with officials of the Administration by Roger N. Baldwin and Albert De-Silver who are in charge of the Union's amnesty campaign. The reports indicate an extensive renewal of the activities which resulted in the release of 25 prisoners on Christmas day.

"The Administration has been stopped in its consideration of war cases by the criticism of Debs' release," according to this report, "despite the widespread editorial approval of the President's action, the come-back from the American Legion and small-town newspapers who don't know the war is over, has unsettled the President and the Attorney-General. Yet the officials recognize the entire justice of the claim that there is no difference legally between the men released and those still in. They could get no more criticism than they got if they had released them all and made an end of the issue."

"As things stand now, we are going ahead with renewed energy to keep this issue hot. We don't propose to be downed on an issue of principle by a few belated releases on Christmas. We shall soon get a hearing on the resolution in the

House, and we shall get all the facts so far withheld by the Department of Justice, through Senator Borah's resolution. We shall not stop short of the release of every one of the 118 prisoners, and the dismissal of all cases under the Espionage Act and other war laws still pending in the courts. We hope to keep the campaign within the bounds of ordinary lines of publicity and political propriety. But deaf ears may require our turning again to more dramatic methods of telling the Administration facts they don't want to hear."

While the Civil Liberties Union is urging the release of all political prisoners, their restoration to citizenship and the dismissal of untied cases, it is assisting in efforts to release individual prisoners who make applications for clemency. Over half the 1,100 prisoners at Leavenworth have refused to make such applications on the ground that they "committed no offense in exercising their rights of free speech and free press," and that their trials were "the product of war hysteria and a conspiracy of employing and other interests, the whole record of which reeks with injustice and prejudice." The Department of Justice takes the position that no case will be considered for clemency unless application is made by the prisoner, although that rule was not applied to the Christmas commutations of sentence.

General Executive Board Adopts Important Decisions

(Continued from Page 1.)

partments of Commerce and of Labor, it was decided to endorse all steps taken by him in this matter and to authorize him to appoint the representatives of the Union on the Commission. A new letter will be sent to Secretary of Labor Davis in which it will be reaffirmed that the investigation must be a complete and thorough one and made with the object of determining the factors responsible for the high cost of women's garments.

Among the important decisions al-

ready adopted by the G. E. B. the following deserve immediate notice:

1. To donate \$1,000 to the starving miners of West Virginia.
2. To take immediate steps to ship another food transport for the famine sufferers of Russia.
3. To take part in the political labor conference that will commence in Chicago on February 20, called together by the Railway Union. President Schlesinger was elected to represent the International at this Conference.

tain that no officer should hold a post in a Union longer than a certain limited term. They would not consider that the old officer may have earned, through untiring and loyal labor, the full confidence of the members. The fact that the Union might suffer through a continual change of officers does not phase them in the least. What difference does that make, as long as the "principle" that the officers must be changed every given term is observed? And as we watched the installation of officers at the meeting of Local No. 23, there came to our mind the installation of another Executive Board of a different local, where all the chosen officers were brand new. We compared in our mind the helplessness, the inexperience of that Executive Board with the ability and seasoned experience of this Board, and we felt as never before that it would be a crime against our organization if this "principle" of changing officers every season should ever become one of the rules of our Constitution.

The second moment which impressed us very pleasantly was the recognition of the loyal work of many years of Brothers Gordon and Gold. These two men have been with the Union practically from the first day it was born. They stood loyally by it in fair weather and foul, and now that they are leaving the organization—not with the aim of becoming employers themselves—the Union could not do a nicer thing than what it had done, namely, to express its sincere appreciation by word of mouth and in the form of a valuable gift.

A MESSAGE FROM THE MEETING OF THE G. E. B.

As these lines are being written, the first two sessions of the General Executive Board meeting have already been held at Atlantic City, with the participation of Morris Hillquit, legal advisor of our International. The coming Governmental investigation of the cloak industry of New York and the waist and dress-makers' twenty-five-week-old strike in Philadelphia were the principal subjects of discussion at these sessions. Next issue of "Justice" will contain a detailed and lengthy report of these and all subsequent discussions and decisions at the meeting of the Board.

News from Cleveland

By MEYER PERLSTEIN

ONE INJUNCTION AFTER ANOTHER

We already have two injunctions against us in Cleveland, and before we are through with the strikes on hand we are certain to have a few more. One of these injunctions was issued against us in the city of Cleveland, the second one in the town of Painesville, Ohio.

Both come from the same source: The Landisman-Hersheimer firm, with which we are in strike. The restraining orders against us are rather strict and do not allow more than two pickets in front of the shop. These pickets must be registered with the clerk of the court and have to wear badges. Around the shop their demeanor must be as punctilious as in a lady's drawing room, and yet, in spite of its conspicuous success in obtaining injunctions, this firm has not yet succeeded in making cloaks in its shop this season.

Confronted with these dismal prospects, the firm began to circulate the strikers, pleading with them and whining that they, the workers, have "betrayed" its interests. It seems that the firm had expected that at least 50 per cent of the workers would remain in the shop when the strike was called. In the end every one of them went out, without the slightest intention of returning until the firm concedes their demands.

Indeed, neither the injunctions nor the lawyers and the judges can make the Landisman firm fill out its orders this season, and it would seem that the firm is beginning to find it out just now.

THE \$2,500 JUDGMENT

Some months ago the same firm, having an agreement with the Union, sent work to a non-union contractor's shop in the suburban city of Painesville. The Board of Referees decided against the firm. The firm appealed from the decision of the arbitrators to the courts, and a local judge granted at that time an injunction against the Union and fined it to boot \$2,500 as damages. The Union appealed the case to a higher court, and this appeal will be heard this week. Newton D. Baker, former Secretary of War, represents the Union in this case.

STANDARDS BEING INTRODUCED

This season we have begun introducing the standards of production for the operators. Until now the

pressers were the only ones to work on these standards.

The two shops where the standards have already been introduced for the operators are the Sonnenhein Cloak Company and Kampfen Bros., a dress shop. This week was the first week the operators of these shops received their pay according to the new standards. The wages of the operators in the Sonnenhein Cloak Company, where twenty odd operators are employed, were \$50, \$60, \$65 to \$80 per week. In the shop of Kampfen Bros., where a lot of women are employed, the earnings of the women were from \$35 to \$50 a week and the earnings of the men were from \$40 to \$65 a week. The majority of the operators in these shops now admit that the standard of production is not worse than piece work.

In a number of shops the standard is now being introduced, and, of course, we still have a lot of trouble, particularly in such shops where the tailor system prevails, i. e. where the operators do the entire tailoring on the garment, with the exception of the lining.

WHERE WILL THE CONVENTION TAKE PLACE?

Will the convention be in Cleveland? This is what our members are asking themselves loudly these days.

Of course, many of our men and women would like to have the convention in our city, yet I am inclined to believe that all those who expect to be delegates silently pray that the referendum decide on another city. A delegate, as a rule, is very eager to go "a-journeing," and as our Clevelanders are home-staying folks, these would-be delegates cannot be blamed for it.

At present all our members are paying 5 per cent of their wages to maintain and conduct the strikes we have on hand. This was not an easy matter to carry through, but our active members have done their duty and have won this point.

NEW REFEREES

Our impartial chairman and one of our referees have resigned. Various causes have contributed to these resignations, and as yet we have not filled their vacancies. In view of the fact that the wage question is to be taken up again by the Referees in April, this depleted state of the Board gives us a good deal of worry.

With the Waist and Dress Joint Board

(Continued from Page 3.)

courageous girl strikers of Philadelphia conduct the strike against the Philadelphia manufacturers very bravely, notwithstanding so many weeks of struggle. Their spirit is not broken. The International admires those Philadelphia strikers. The manufacturers are using the weapon of injunction, and the police judges fine the strikers of Philadelphia very heavily. In one case six pickets were fined \$500 each for mere picketing. The Union paid that fine.

Brother Schlesinger, therefore, appealed to our Joint Board, that since Local 15 is conducting a strike so near to us, he urged the Joint Board to make some arrangements, in order to confine our contributions for the brave Philadelphia strikers.

The Joint Board was very much impressed by the speech delivered by Brother Schlesinger, and upon motion, it was decided that the Board of Directors take up Brother Schlesinger's request.

Brother Hochman reported that since we inaugurated the present or-

ganization campaign, 140 shops went out on strike, which employ 1,546 people, and up to the present time 87 shops were settled. Besides, the investigation department proved that some jobbers are keeping two sets of books, thereby deceiving the Union, in reference to giving work to non-union contractors. Therefore, arrangements were made to stop all the contractors working for Dorfman & Weisen, and also the Eclipse, these two being considered among the biggest of the jobbers. As soon as these firms learned of our plans, that we intend to stop the union contractors, the firm of Dorfman & Weisen agreed to help the Union unionize all of their non-union contractors, and therefore an appointment was made for tomorrow, in order to make the final arrangements.

In conclusion, Brother Hochman stated that thanks to the co-operation of a number of our active members we have some satisfactory results, and that if same co-operation will prevail, we may expect to unionize the non-union shops.

American Periodical Literature

By DAVID P. BERENBERG

V. THE LIBERAL JOURNALS

A few papers struggle against the weight of mediocrity and dullness that characterizes our periodical literature. The fight they are making deserves notice and encouragement, but for the moment they are hardly able to hold their own against great odds. Although one of them, "The Nation," has more than a century of activity and achievement behind it, it is only within the last five years that it and others like it have managed to reach a public great enough to have any effect on public opinion.

I remember going to the public libraries years ago, and seeing "The Nation" on the magazine racks, along with the "Atlantic," "Century," and the rest. For the most part it stayed there—except when some gray-haired and usually well-dressed old gentleman took it down for an hour or so. I was curious enough to take it down, too, to see what the gray-haired gentlemen found in it. I do not suppose that it was essentially different in those days from "The Nation" that has so won our respect, but it seemed heavy and dull then; it seemed to make much of questions apparently far removed from the realities of life.

That infantile judgment survives to this day the endorsement of most of adult America. We do not like to deal gravely and seriously with important matters. We prefer to laugh and to leave the settlement of public questions in the hands of those "whose business it is" to attend to them.

In 1913 a group of young liberals in New York City founded "The New Republic." Prominently connected with this paper from its start was a young man named Walter Lippman, who some ten years ago created a stir by his spectacular entry into and exit from the Socialist Party. Lippman, like many other young bourgeois in revolt against the narrowness and stupidity of bourgeois life, succumbed to the glamor of Rooseveltism. But the "New Republic," which swallowed the Roosevelt myth at first, refused to follow the apostle of strenuousness into the paths of conformity. The young men back of it were in earnest about their protest, and the paper continued to represent liberal thought.

The war made the existence of papers with this kind of individuality difficult. Most papers yielded to pressure in a more undignified, even a ludicrous, manner. But the war served to bring the "Nation" out of its slumbers, served to crystallize the liberalism of the "New Republic," and served to introduce to us still a third paper, the "Freeman."

These three stand out practically alone among those of considerable circulation, as consistent representatives of liberal thought and of literary dignity. While these papers seem to specialize in political comment, it must not be thought that they are political papers exclusively. In fact, the most mature literary criticisms published anywhere in the country are to be found in their pages.

Liberalism is an evasive philosophy. Much vaporous talk has served to make of the terms "free" and "liberal" altogether meaningless shibboleths. It therefore seems at times to those who have definite dogmas (not always in accord with the facts) that the group of papers here under discussion is vague and academic; even that it is cowardly. It is true that the "New Republic" and the "Nation"

do not ally themselves with any of the factions of the revolutionary movement. It is also true that they often find something to hope for in situations the hopelessness of which must be obvious to any radical. Yet to condemn these papers as worthless because they do not subscribe to our particular vagaries is unreasonable.

The lack of a definite anchor often leads the liberal papers into embarrassing predicaments. The "New Republic," for example, endorsed the war, and then found itself unable to follow through the logic of its position. Denounced war, such as the "New Republic" would have had the country wage, was which would leave civil liberties intact, and which would not be accompanied by a degeneration of our political morals, does not exist. The capitalist press, notably the "New York Times," was not slow in noting the plight of the "New Republic" in this particular.

The "Nation," with its more consistent pacifist attitude, avoided this pitfall, only to fall into another just as obvious. Its hearty endorsement of the Soviet Russia, while highly commendable and very courageous, did not go well with uncompromising pacifism.

It is perhaps ungracious to mention these trifles, in view of the excellent work done by these journals in the last four years. With all their inconsistencies, they are the best we have.

The youngest member of the group is in some respects the most interesting. The "Freeman" is a bold, bright sheet, devoted largely to the spreading of Single Tax views. If that were all this paper represented it would not be read by more than a few students outside Single Tax ranks. It is, however, the keenest commentator on current history we have. Its editors are more keenly conscious of the ironies and humors of the world's predicament than are the somewhat pedantic editors of the other papers. Its literary criticisms are always refreshing. Its refusal to be deceived by appearances; its penetration of shams and fine words is admirable.

A number of other papers, in the enthusiasm of post-war idealism, tried to cater to liberal sentiment. Among these the "Dial" should be mentioned. The "Dial" had for years been a publication devoted to belles lettres. In its brief career as an exponent of militant liberalism it attracted a group of readers, which until then had hardly been conscious of its existence. But the public interested in freedom of thought and expression is not large, and the "Dial" found itself compelled to return to its original field, in which, however, it is now the advocate of revolutionary changes.

For years the little Single Tax weekly, the "Public," had done fine work. It perished during the war, for reasons with which I am not familiar. Its place has been brilliantly taken by the "Freeman."

The "Liberator" is hardly a liberal paper. For the most part, its policy seems to be to advocate the most extreme form of romantic radicalism available. It has strange lapses—into Wilsonism, for example. It is more a journal of artistic and literary rebellion than anything else.

Ten years ago the public that read papers of this sort was small and its influence remote. Today this small group of papers is gathering a larger group of followers whose influence in public life is bound to grow. These papers are fighting the battle for "free speech" and for civil liberties

THE STAGE

"The French Doll," a French comedy with several songs, will open at the Lyceum Theater on Monday night, February 20, with Irene Bordoni as its star. The play has been adapted by A. E. Thomas from the French of Paul Armand and Marcel Gerbidon.

Hilda Spong has joined Maria Alpher's company for the engagement of "Fedora."

"Dulcy" will begin its last four weeks at the Frazee Theater this Monday. The play will open in Boston on March 20.

"The Rubicon," a play from the French, will be presented at the Hudson Theater on Monday night. Henry Le Baron is the producer and Violet Hening will have the leading role.

Eugene G. O'Neill's "The Hair Ape," with Louis Wolheim in its leading role, is now announced for early in March by the Provincetown Players.

"To the Ladies," by George S. Kaufman and Marc Connelly, the authors of "Dulcy," opened at Rochester last night. It will begin an engagement at the Liberty Theater here next Monday evening. Helen Hayes and Otto Kruger head the cast.

Mary Shaw will act "Ghosts" another two weeks at the Punch and Judy, and will then revive "Mrs. Warren's Profession."

The Shuberts announce as their next production for the Century Theater Leo Fall's operetta, "The Rose of Stamboul," with Donald Brian, James Barton and Tessie Kosta.

"The Steamship Tenacity," which closed its engagement at the Belmont Theater, moved to the Neighborhood Playhouse Tuesday for two weeks.

Whithorne, Gruenberg, Goossens and others are represented in the first program of the International Composers' Guild on February 19, at the Greenwich Village Theater.

PLAN CHILDREN'S THEATER

National Club to Begin Drive for \$250,000 on February 25

The National Children's Service Club, Inc., interested in the development of juvenile theatrical talent, met at the Hotel Plaza and arranged details for a drive in the week of February 25 to raise \$250,000 to establish a national theater for stage children in New York.

Mrs. Hannah Dunn, President of the club, said that the Keith, Loew, Fox and other vaudeville houses and commented to the taking of subscriptions in their theaters. The club was founded by Harry A. Schulman last April and has produced several successful children's performances.

The theater would include courses in singing, dancing and dramatics, similar to the system in some foreign countries, to develop juvenile talent throughout the country.

Another crowded week of operas will include repetitions of "Andrea Chenier," on Monday, with Musio and

Gigli; Wednesday matinee, "Aida," Musio and Martinelli; Wednesday evening, "Rigoletto," Galli-Curci, Chamlee and De Lora; Thursday, "Tristan," Easton and Senesky; Friday matinee, "Lola," Galli-Curci and Gigli; Friday evening, "Cavalleria," with Jetties and Chamlee, and "Pagliacci," with Bori, Salazar and Ferrar; Saturday matinee, "Faust," Farrar, Martinelli and Rothier, and Saturday evening, February 25, "Die Walkure," Easton, Matsenauer, Kingston and Whitehill. Next Tuesday, Farrar, Kingston and Scotti appear in Brooklyn in "Madame Butterfly."

ELEANOR DUKE COMING

Eleanor Duke, the famous Italian actress, who has not been seen in this country for many years, is planning to come to New York for a series of performances next fall, according to an announcement made by Mrs. Yvette Guilbert at her recital in Town Hall on Tuesday evening.

CARUSO CONCERT SUNDAY

Farrar and Galli-Curci in Afternoon Benefit for Foundation

The Caruso Foundation concert, which opens the Metropolitan's fifteenth week next Sunday afternoon, will feature Farrar, Galli-Curci, Martinelli, Harrold, Gigli, Mardones, fourteen stars in all, with the opera orchestra and five conductors. At the usual Sunday evening concert, Bori, Chamlee, Caspalian and others will sing.

Bodansky will conduct at the Philharmonic concert in the Metropolitan Opera House on Tuesday evening, February 21, giving the Fourth symphony of Brahms in E minor, Rimsky-Korsakoff's "The Star Spangled Banner," and Gaidmar's "Bakantale" overture. The Rimsky-Korsakoff work will be given in this program in its first performance at a Philharmonic concert.

Perry Granger will play the B-flat minor concerto for piano and orchestra by Tchaikovsky, at the Philharmonic concerts on Thursday evening and Friday afternoon, February 22 and 24, at Carnegie Hall. Mengelberg will conduct. The purely orchestral numbers in the program are Strauss' "Tosca Spake Zarathustra" and Brahms' "Academic Festival."

Gregory Matusewicz, the concertina artist, will make his American debut on Saturday evening, February 25, 8:30 o'clock, at Town Hall, 113 West 43rd Street. Mr. Matusewicz will be assisted by Vera Smirnova, soprano. The program includes selections from Kreisler, Tchaikovsky, Dvorak, Mozart and others.

Tickets may be secured at the office of the Educational Department, Room 1003, 31 Union Square.

Members of the International may secure tickets at half price for John Galloway's "The Pigeon," now playing at the Greenwich Village Theater, Seventh Avenue and Fourth Street. This play has been warmly praised in the press, and we urge our members to take advantage of this opportunity to see it at reduced rates.

Tickets may be secured at the office of the Educational Department, Room 1003, 31 Union Square.

generally. Beyond that they are extremely vague. Yet without them our position would be appreciably worse.

It is, of course, out of the question to expect the masses to read these papers. They make too much demand

on thought, and often they presuppose too great a fund of knowledge to be popular. The honest liberal paper, written so that the average man can read it has yet to be established.

LABOR THE WORLD OVER

DOMESTIC ITEMS

SENATE WANTS TO KNOW ALL ABOUT ESPIONAGE

By resolution the Senate has called upon the Attorney-General to inform it of the names and addresses of all persons indicted and prosecuted under the espionage act or for conspiracy to violate war laws, the statutes under which indictments were brought, synopsis of offense charged, date and place of each conviction, sentence, time of expiration, appeals and results, and action taken by the executive in commuting sentences and by the Pardon Board in paroling defendants. Data is also asked of reviews of cases resulting in unfavorable recommendations for commutation or parole.

TEXTILE WORKERS' STRIKE

A state-wide walkout of textile workers affiliated with the United Textile Workers of America has been ordered for Rhode Island, effective February 8, according to Thomas J. McMahon, following a meeting of the National Executive Committee of the Textile Workers' Union.

THE BLESSINGS OF PRIVATE OWNERSHIP

The railroads of the country were in better physical condition at the end of the period of Federal control than they had been when taken over during the war. W. G. McAdoo told the Senate Interstate Commerce Commission. The cost of operation on the railroads under private ownership is 52 per cent higher than it was during the time of Federal control.

WILL RE-ENACT ANTI-IMMIGRATION LAW

The law restricting immigration, which expires by limitation on June 30, will be re-enacted to run until repealed by Act of Congress, Representative Johnson told the Women's Section of the National Civic Federation in the Hotel Astor, yesterday.

THE EFFECT OF THE RISE OF RENT

The outstanding factor in the high cost of living is the continual rise of rent. M. W. Alexander, Managing Director of the National Industrial Conference Board of New York, told members of the Illinois Manufacturers' Association, the National Metal Trades Association and the National Foundrymen's Association in Chicago.

TO ALLY MINERS WITH RAILWAY MEN

Renewal of efforts to form an alliance of coal miners and railroad workers, the largest two labor groups in the United States, was sought by President Lewis, of the United Mine Workers of America, for the purpose of bringing 2,000,000 workers together "in resistance to proposed attacks on wage scales."

WAGE DECREASES FUTILE

Professor Seligman, of Columbia University, and Charles M. Schwab, although presenting different views on the business outlook of the country, in New York City, both agree on one point, namely, that those who hold that a decrease in wages is vital are mistaken.

STRIKE CALLED OFF

More than a thousand members of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America, in Omaha, Neb., at a union mass meeting, voted to call off the strike, effective in local packing plants since December 5. The resolution ending the walkout was passed almost unanimously, according to local leaders.

ILLINOIS MINERS SUPPORT KANSAS

Results of the recent referendum of the Illinois miners were announced last Tuesday. Against the policies of President Lewis, in Kansas, the vote was 31,600; in favor of the Lewis policy, 5,558. For financial aid to Kansas miners out of the Illinois Miners' treasury, 33,462; against such aid, 4,867.

COMING TO THEIR SENSES

Some of New Jersey's biggest business men, members of a committee of industrial relations of the New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce, in a statement made public today, cautioned all employers to avoid anti-union coercion, to steer clear of the various "open-shop movements, and to co-operate with the worker in every possible way."

DAUGHERTY IN LINE WITH MINE OPERATORS

Declaring the right to work is equal with the right to strike, and that he would not permit labor unions to break up "the open shop," Attorney-General Daugherty announced today that no legislation would be needed to enable him to act in the case of the strike in the bituminous coal fields that is threatened April 1.

DPOP IN CROPS

The important farm crops of the United States this year were valued at \$5,675,000,000 by the Department of Agriculture. This is about \$3,400,000,000 less than last year's crops were worth.

OPPOSE COSSACKS

Organized labor has perfected plans to resist the establishment of the cossack system in Kentucky. The unionists will also ask the legislature to repeal a session law, which empowers any constable to stop a meeting that he believes is liable to "create discord" in the community.

When he signed the law, Governor Morrow acknowledged its unconstitutional.

FOREIGN ITEMS

EGYPT

FORMING AN EGYPTIAN DAIL

The formation of an Egyptian Dail is a new possibility of the political situation, and such a movement is already under way.

Meanwhile, deputations from the provinces are streaming into the capital to present to the Sultan protests against the exile of Zaghal and the terrorism exercised by the militarists. All declare that they will support no new Ministry which may be formed before the withdrawal of the Allenby Note and the abolition of martial law.

A leading member of the Delegation, in an interview stated: "Formerly we should willingly have accepted an alliance with Britain, but the formation of such an alliance is now a debatable subject. Britain has repudiated her solemn pledges; and alliances are only possible between nations that trust each other. Egypt today cannot accept what she would have accepted a few months ago."

ENGLAND

UNEMPLOYMENT GROWING

The live registers of the Labor Exchanges in the United Kingdom showed a total of 1,885,300 persons totally unemployed on December 26, an increase of 71,000 from the previous week. The secretary of the Tipton Unemployed Committee, an ex-soldier, states that the conditions of the Tipton people are worse than those of British prisoners of war in Germany.

PROGRESS IN CO-OPERATION

The Co-operative Wholesale Society is developing the Shilbottle Colliery where two new shafts are being sunk and the latest electrical machinery installed. A garden village for the accommodation of the workers is also in process of building, and 30 of the stone-built cottages are already occupied, the stone being brought from the society's own quarry in the vicinity.

ANOTHER RUSE

The Clyde Engineering Employers are attempting to run a bogus union for foremen, to prevent them being part of the trade union movement. Firms are advised to start in their works a branch of the "Foreman's Mutual Benefit Society"—the employers paying 2s 6d into the funds for every 2s 6d contributed by the men. A condition of membership is that all connection with trade unions or kindred bodies must be severed. Otherwise an annual dinner and retiring pensions seem to be the main object of this dubious body.

EDUCATORS CLASS-CONSCIOUS

Everywhere teachers are rallying in opposition to the recommended "cuts" in national education. "On the day that these cuts come," said a speaker at a large meeting at Birmingham on Sunday, "on that day I shall propose that the National Union of Teachers joins up with the Labor Party." And the remark met with applause,—significant because the teachers have hitherto held aloof from the Labor movement.

FRANCE

AMBITIOUS DREAMS!

France's policy of transforming the Little Entente from an anti-Hungarian combination into a vast counter-revolutionary bloc is progressing rapidly. By "inspiring" a Budapest-Vienna rapprochement France realizes the first tangible fruits of that policy. It is intended that Austria shall serve as the link which will ultimately establish friendly relations between Budapest and the Little Entente. In striving towards this goal France is dealing an ugly blow at Italy's foreign policy which has aimed at preventing the formation of a bloc with a Slavonic foundation in Central Europe.

GERMANY

WILL LABOR BE CRUSHED?

The conditions imposed by the Entente on Germany for the preliminary moratorium is likely to create a crisis in Germany's internal finances. The German Government has a simple plan of—

- Doubling existing taxation;
- Raising the post and railway rates;
- Abolishing the bread subsidy.

Every one of these measures will fall with crushing severity on German Labor.

HUNGARY

THE SPARK IS STILL THERE

For the first time since the fall of the Hungarian Soviet Republic, Magyar workers have dared to accept the challenge of the White Terror.

Laborers employed at the Cooper munitions factory (near Budapest) recently opened a cinema at the Tailors' Home. The "Awakening Magyar," supported by a detachment of White Guards, concocted a plan to capture—by armed attack—the newly erected cinema. But news of the impending onslaught spread to the shops and factories and within a few minutes the laborers had abandoned their tools and streamed forth, in thousands, to safeguard their movie.

The terrorists swiftly abandoned their plan, and the cinema has remained unmolested.

THE LEOPARD CHANGES HIS SPOTS?

The powerful Hungarian group of Hapsburg Loyalists has suddenly declared itself—republican! Count Albert Apponyi, the monarchist leader, announced this remarkable change of front by stating: "I prefer a decent republic to an indecent provisional kingdom." The ex-royalist and former Cabinet Minister, Ferdinand, is presenting to Parliament a law restricting the powers of the Regent. Herthy's "election" was originally valid until the throne is occupied. The proposed legislation aims to limit the Regent's tenure of office to five years.

Educational Comment and Notes

The Proposed Anti-Strike Laws

Labor throughout the State of New York is up in arms.

The advantage and gains which resulted from years of patient effort and hard struggle will be wiped away if the proposed anti-strike legislation goes through.

Leaders of the labor movement realize that nothing but united action on the part of labor can preserve to them the hard-earned fruits of their past economic struggles. But, as usual, those who are attempting to throttle the workers of the state, are making a tremendous mistake. They show their ignorance of history by advancing such measures as they do at present.

One of the greatest tragedies of the present time is that people either do not know or refuse to profit by the experience of the past.

This is not the first time in the history of the world that owners of wealth attempted to suppress labor. It is not the first time that they attempted to use their power to reduce workers to slavery. And in each case the result was the same. They failed. Sometimes the failure was immediate. Sometimes the failure came somewhat later. But in all cases they failed.

A student of labor history could tell them without difficulty that the best way of uniting an oppressed group is by attacking them in their most vital spot. Strikes are the vital factor in the success of the labor movement. If that is threatened, there is no doubt that the working class, no matter whether conservative or radical, will unite and fight with zeal, solidarity and certain success.

However, the workers must not be too confident. Their victory may be immediate or it may come later, de-

pending upon the methods which they will use.

But who can tell which methods will be the best?

How can one be sure that mistakes will not be made?

It is not difficult to answer the question. Of course, within a certain limit, no one can tell just how one's actions will turn out in the immediate future. But a study of the labor movement, of its fights, of its methods, of its tactics, of everything pertaining to its history, will enable workers to avoid the mistakes that were made in similar cases formerly, and to repeat the successful methods which were employed by their fellow-workers at other times and in other places.

In the present situation one should be impressed more than ever with the overwhelming importance of studying the history of the labor movement. Every worker has a sacred duty to himself and his fellow-workers, and that is, to become acquainted just as well as his time and intelligence will permit, with the problems which concern himself and the others of his class.

The Educational Department of the International believes that it is one of the most important duties of labor organizations to give such information to its members. Our International has been the pioneer in the movement for educating the rank and file. Every member should take advantage of the opportunities offered by our International and join one of the many classes in the Unity Centers, Workers' University, Extension Courses and Forums. Here he can learn what he should know, and thus become a better and more intelligent worker for the interests of his class.

Courses and Lectures

To many of our members the question of attending courses is a serious one. They have not the time or leisure to do so. They are tired after working all day, and are in need of pleasant recreation. They find it extremely difficult to go to a class, particularly if a subject is continued for some time from week to week.

There is no doubt that those of our members who feel this way, deserve our sympathy. In most cases they are ambitious, intelligent, curious and eager to learn more and more about all things in general and labor problems in particular. Such people suffer doubly, because they cannot satisfy a desire which they feel keenly.

A number of them seek to satisfy their thirst for knowledge by attending single lectures on interesting and important topics. They find it easier to attend such lectures every now and then, once or twice a month. They obtain some information from them, and frequently a great deal of inspiration.

As valuable as these lectures are to the masses of workers, it can be seen that they cannot take the place of systematic courses.

It is easy to understand that when one attends a course in any given subject regularly, once a week for several weeks, one gains a systematic and broad view of the matter. The subject is developed from beginning to end in a logical manner. More time is given to illustrations and dis-

cussions. The points brought out by the teacher are taken up by the class. In cases of doubt or disagreement, a number of opinions are expressed. Finally, as a result of all this, at the end of the course a student gains a pretty thorough and satisfactory knowledge of the subject.

There is another advantage in attending courses. While reading books along with the course is very important and highly desirable, the student who attends a course regularly benefits by the result of other people's reading. Those who have the leisure to read up on the subject, present the results of their reading and all the others in the class are benefited thereby.

Of course, it is much better to do one's reading for oneself, but if that is impossible, the next best thing is to get the results of other people's reading.

That these advantages are clear to every one, we have no doubt. A great many of our members evidently realize this, since they attend our classes in the Unity Centers and the Worker's University so regularly. But more workers should take advantage of the educational opportunities offered by the International.

In many cases this may be a sacrifice, but the sacrifice is certainly worth while.

The concert and lecture held at the Harlem Forum of the International on Friday evening, February 10th, was a great success. Many of

WEEKLY CALENDAR

WORKERS' UNIVERSITY

Saturday, February 18th

Washington Irving High School, Irving Place and 16th Street

1:30 P. M.—Mr. B. J. K. Stolper, "Walt Whitman."

2:30 P. M.—Dr. Leo Wolman, "Wage Policies of Trade Unions During and After the War"

2:30 P. M.—Mr. A. L. Wilbert, "The Human Factor in Industry," by Frankel and Fleisher.

Sunday, February 19th

10:30 A. M.—Mr. A. Fickander, "Judgment and Reflection."

11:30 A. M.—Dr. H. J. Carman, "Social and Economic Causes of the Civil War."

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

UNITY CENTERS

Monday, February 20th

8:30 P. M.—Solon DeLeon, Applied Economics—"Land Ownership and the Worker."

Second Bronx Unity Center

8:30 P. M.—Max Levin.

Waistmakers' Unity Center

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

Brownsville Unity Center

8:00 P. M.—Margaret Daniels, "International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union—Aims, Organizations, Policies and Activities."

Tuesday, February 21st

Waistmakers' Unity Center

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

Bronx Unity Center

8:30 P. M.—Solon DeLeon, Applied Economics—"Land Ownership and the Worker."

Lower Bronx Unity Center

8:30 P. M.—Theresa Wolfson, "Legislative Attempts to Control Conditions in Industry."

East Side Unity Center

8:00 P. M.—Physical Training, Miss Eva Cohn, director.

Friday, February 25th

Brownsville Unity Center

8:00 P. M.—Margaret Daniels, Applied Psychology—"How to Study."

our members, with their families, assembled in the Harlem Socialist Educational Center, 62 East 106th Street, and listened to a musical program by Mrs. Max Fickander. Fania M. Cohn, Secretary of the Educational Committee, then gave a short talk describing the object of the gathering and the aims of the Educational Department. She stated that it is the aim of the Educational Department that different groups of members should obtain instruction in social and economic questions and be enlightened on the problems, and aims of the Labor Movement, with

special emphasis on the work of the I. L. G. W. U.

A course of four lessons on this subject has been prepared and will be given in the same place every Friday evening. Officers of the Union will assist the instructor. Max Levin then gave an introduction to this course—which will deal with the History, Problems, and Aims of the Modern Trade Union Movement.

The audience was in fine spirits and general family feeling prevailed. It was unanimously decided that, beginning with next Friday, February 17th, the group should meet in the same place, Room 3, at eight o'clock.

ERRORS OF JEWISH DIET

Every worker is interested in the question of food, in fact one of the reasons he works is to secure food. Rarely, however, does the average worker think about the question of the food he eats—a meal is a meal, and as long as it tastes good, he does not worry!

But there is a large problem in the question of diet, the food necessary for a machine operator, who has a sedentary position is different from the food necessary for the truck driver who is out in the open air and is able to move around all day.

The Union Health Center, 131, East 17th Street, has had many problems connected with its clinic for stomach ailments, and one of the most important causes for these problems has been the ignorance of the worker as to what to eat and when to eat. For that reason the Educational Department has arranged a lecture for this Friday night, February 17th, on the "Errors of Diet," by Dr. B. Liber, editor of "Rational Living" and author of many books on health. Dr. Liber is an expert on health matters, and particularly on the question of diet.

Members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union are cordially invited to attend this lecture.

THE CLASS IN AMERICAN HISTORY IN THE EAST SIDE UNITY CENTER

The students in the high school class in the East Side Unity Center began last week an interesting study of modern American History, under Mr. Felix Sper.

This subject will be taken up by the class on every Thursday evening. The instructor has planned an interesting method of study. The class will take up current problems of American history, and in each case will trace them back to the events and causes in our past history that led up to the present situation.

Those of our members who live in the neighborhood of the East Side Unity Center, P. S. 63, Fourth Street, near First Avenue, are invited to join this class as soon as possible, in order not to miss the work. It is needless to say that their understanding of what is going on in America today will be much clearer if they attend this class.

STUDENTS OF UNITY CENTERS AND WORKERS' UNIVERSITY WHO HAVE CHANGED RESIDENCE ARE REQUESTED TO SEND NEW ADDRESSES TO OFFICE OF EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

The Weeks News in Cutters Union Local 10

By JOSEPH FISH

GENERAL

The office is being kept busy in attending to the regular routine work of the Union, i. e., calling shop meetings, attending to complaints, visiting shops and attending conferences with the Wholesale Dress Manufacturers' Association and the Waist and Dress Manufacturers' Associations. General Manager Dubinsky will have to do all this work by himself, at least for the present week, due to the fact that Brother Shanker has sent in a telegram to the Executive Board requesting a leave of absence, due to the fact that Mrs. Shanker must undergo a serious operation. He will therefore be unable to report to the office.

The first full meeting of the Executive Board was held on Thursday, January 26, at which meeting the organization of the Board took place. The following brothers were elected to serve as the various officers of the Executive Board: Max Stoller, who was Chairman of the Executive Board during the past year, was re-elected Chairman of the Board; Brother Philip Ansel, who served as Vice-Chairman of the Executive Board for the past two years, was re-elected Vice-Chairman; Brother Benjamin Evry, who has been a member of the Board for the past year, was elected Treasurer, succeeding Brother Sam Kerr, who formerly held that office; and Brother Morris Alovit, who has been a member of the Executive Board for the past few years, was elected Sergeant-at-Arms.

The Executive Board is again meeting twice a week instead of once, which has not been its practice for the past year or so. It seems that the majority of cases coming before the Executive Board have accumulated from the recent cloak and suit strike, although the present organization campaign in the waist and dress industry is supplying plenty material for the Executive Board to work on.

From all indications, the Executive Board will have a number of vacancies by the end of this month, which will have to be filled by appointment by Brother Perlmutter. Brother Meyer Zackheim has already tendered his resignation as member of the Executive Board from the Miscellaneous Division, which has been accepted, and Brothers Sidney Rothenberg and Sam Kerr have signified their intention of resigning.

CLOAK AND SUIT

As was reported in the last issue of JUSTICE, the cloak and suit industry, as all indications show, has made a good start, and it is hoped that it will continue along the same lines. General Manager Dubinsky is keeping the Executive Board very much occupied with the cases he is presenting for their consideration. The majority of these cases are an echo of the recent strike in the cloak and suit industry, of which cases Brother Dubinsky keeps a complete record.

According to Brother Dubinsky's statement, the number of cases pending is very large, and he expects to keep the Executive Board working very late in disposing of them for quite a number of sessions.

The Cloak and Suit Joint Board, at its last meeting, decided to levy an assessment of \$20 upon all members working in shops controlled by it. The purpose of this tax will be the creation of a million dollar defense fund, to be used, as in the past, in combating all organized efforts on the part of the Manufacturers' As-

sociations. A special meeting of the cloak and suit cutters to discuss ways and means of collecting this assessment will be called for Saturday afternoon, February 26, at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place.

The following is the second installment of the General Manager's report, which was rendered by him at the last meeting of the cloak and suit division, the first installment of which was printed in these columns in the last issue of JUSTICE:

"Below I shall outline in detail the number of registrants—amount of strike benefits paid out and the complaints that were handled by us.

REGISTRATION

Strikers, first 3 days of strike.....	1,700
Unemployed	400
For the balance of the first week of the strike the number of additional men who registered was:	
Strikers	190
Unemployed	100
The total number of men who registered is:	
Strikers	1,890
Unemployed	454

Grand total registered2,254

COMPLAINTS

In order that a comprehensive idea may be gotten of the number and character of the complaints, I will list them here in order:

Number of complaints received.....	484
Number of registered letters sent out	240
Number of plain letters sent out.....	155
Number of second and third notices	34

These complaints and the reasons for sending out the letters dealt with failure on the part of some men to report to the hall; to comply with the orders or the instructions of the Hall Chairman, and failure to register.

NATURE OF COMPLAINT

Failed to register.....	47
Failed to report to shops.....	205
Failed to picket	54
Visited shop without permission.....	50
Scabbing	18
Union men, employers	22
Called out by Picket Committee	19
Violating general rules	31

Prompt attention was given to all complaints lodged by Shop Chairmen to the effect that cutters were not attending meetings of their shop. In fact, care was exercised in this direction to such an extent that the result was 205 complaints as listed above under the heading of "Failed to Report to Shops."

Complaints against cutters who, while on strike, visited their shops, also resulted in most cases in dismissal, as in most cases the men pleaded ignorance of the rules, and upon instructions, complied accordingly. These of the men who were found scabbing or who had to be called out on strike by Picket Committees will be summoned to the Executive Board. Those of the cutters who were found to be employers were not allowed to go back to their original shops. A good many of these complaints, however, were founded.

A number of men who were called for violation of general rules were guilty of leaving the shop from which they came out on strike or worked prior to the strike with non-union men. Thirty-one cases that were called to the hall were found to be just mere suspicions. A total number of 44 complaints were unfounded. A total number of 105 men will be called to the Executive Board. Among these are men who are employers, scabs and those who are guilty of violating other rules. In

the meantime, however, should any of these men bring satisfactory proof to the contrary, the cases against them will be dismissed."

WAIST AND DRESS

It was reported in last week's issue of JUSTICE that a circular called "The Message," has been distributed among the workers of the non-union shops in the waist and dress industry, and, as was predicted, the results it accomplished are very satisfactory. The Organization Committee, with its perfect machinery, was flooded with work to such an extent that it appeared as though the efficiency of the machine would be impaired. However, the efforts of the organizers, Brothers Friedman, Cohen and Oretsky, Guman and Shapiro, under the able leadership of Brother Hochman, succeeded in overcoming this and putting matters back on a 100 per cent basis.

There was a conference held between the Wholesale Dress Manufacturers' Association and the Joint Board on Friday afternoon, February 16, which was called by the Joint Board in reference to the agreement between the Association and the Joint Board. The conference was attended by Charles D. Robbins, Mr. Zimetham and others, representing the Association, and Brothers Schlesinger, Halperin, Hochman, Dubinsky and Shanker, representing the Union. Our representatives at that conference laid great stress upon that clause in the agreement which requires members of the Wholesale Dress Manufacturers' Association to supply all the necessary information to the Union regarding the contract on working for them. They insisted that this part of the agreement be lived up to. This conference did not reach a definite understanding, due to the illness of Mr. Siegel, the President of the Association. From all appearances, another conference will be held in the very near future, possibly this week, where this and other questions will be finally adjusted. It is noteworthy that the Joint Board has taken very drastic steps against

union jobbers employing non-union contractors. In two instances, namely, the cases of Dorfman and Weisen, and the Eclipse, two independent jobbers, an ultimatum was served to the effect that if they did not send in the names of the non-union contractors working for them the Joint Board would take action against them. The firm of Dorfman & Weisen sent in a list before action was taken. In the case of the Eclipse a strike of the union contractors working for the firm was necessary in order to compel the firm to divulge the names of the non-union contractors working for them.

Due to the fact that last Monday was a legal holiday, no meeting of the waist and dress division was held that evening. But the Executive Board has decided that this branch hold its meeting for the month in conjunction with that of the Miscellaneous Division, which will be held on Monday, February 20, at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place.

LOCAL NO. 123 OF PATERSON ELECTS OFFICERS

Local No. 123 of Paterson, N. J., a local composed of ladies' tailors, at a general meeting had officers' election on January 7, with the following results:

President—Sam Friedman,
Vice-President—Sam Malowitz,
Financial Secretary—Sam Kaha,
Recording Secretary—Abe London,
Treasurer—Phillip Cohen,
Sergeant at Arms—J. Fishman.
An executive Board of ten persons was also elected.

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CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10 ATTENTION!

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETINGS

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

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

Due to the fact that there was no meeting last Monday of the Waist and Dress Branch, the regular monthly meeting of that division will take place in conjunction with that of the Miscellaneous Division on Monday, February 20th, at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place.

The Regular General Meeting will take place on Monday, February 27th, at Stuyvesant Casino, Ninth Street and Second Avenue, instead of at Arlington Hall, as usual.

A Special Cloak and Suit Meeting will be held on Saturday afternoon, February 25th, at Arlington Hall, at 2 P. M., where the new assessment levied by the Joint Board will be taken up.

THE CLOAK STRIKE DAY BY DAY

A Chronological History of the Recent Conflict in the Cloak and Suit Industry

By ALEXANDER TRACHTENBERG,

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

This record of the outstanding events of the last year nation-wide strike in the cloak industry, day by day, has been compiled from most authoritative and reliable sources. It will be mentioned on this page in the next few issues of JUSTICE. We expect to see readers to this column for reference purposes.—Editor's Note.

I. ANTECEDENTS

(Continued from last week)

Oct. 26.—Executive conference of Union officials held to consider the drastic program outlined by the manufacturers. Union declares that the workers "cannot and will not" accept the demands of the manufacturers. It characterizes the proposed sweeping changes in the prevailing conditions as an attempt to reintroduce the sweating system which existed in the industry prior to the advent and the growth of the Union.

Oct. 28.—Following the lead of the manufacturers in the New York market, the Chicago cloak manufacturers announce a return to the piece-work system, an increase in hours of labor, and decreases in the wage scales to become effective December 1, 1921.

—Chicago Cloakmakers' Union flatly rejects the demands of the employers and announces that it will fight for the maintenance of the existing standards.

—Joint Board of New York Cloakmakers' Union, meeting in joint session with executive committee of the various cloak locals, representing 50,000 workers engaged in the industry, unanimously rejects the demands of the Protective Association and decides to resist with all its organized strength the attempts to lower the standards which the Union has established as a result of bitter struggles during the past decade.

Oct. 29.—Protective Association invites public inspection of the factories of its members to effect sweat-shop argument of Union. Union replies, that less than one third of workers are directly employed in the shops of manufacturers, the preponderant majority being employed in the shops of their contractors and that the conditions in the shops of the latter are not the same as in the large manufacturing establishments. The prime reason for designating the proposed program of the manufacturers as a return to the old sweating system, the Union declares, is that the piece-work system of employment in such system, and as such has always been a sweating system.

Reintroduced in the most modern and best equipped shops, the piece-work system is bound to bring back the evils which prevailed in the industry before its abolition in 1919.

Oct. 30.—Philadelphia cloak manufacturers announce return to piece-work system, reduction in scales of week workers and increase in hours of labor beginning November 21, 1921.

Oct. 31.—Union publicly charges Protective Association with breach of contract, considering the proposed changes in the prevailing working conditions as violations of the provisions of the agreement of May 29, 1919 which established the week-work system, and provided for a 44-hour week. The main agreement was to be in force until June 1, 1922 and the supplemental agreement of June 3, 1921 provided for a report by the Joint Commission to the Conference Committee on November 1, 1921. The arbitrary and unwarranted demands of the Association were declared by the Union to be a gross violation of the existing collective agreements. This position later formed the basis for the Union's counter-offensive legal battle.

Nov. 1.—Protective Association refuses to deal with the Union representatives in adjudication of grievances as provided in the agreement of May 29, 1919. It publicly declares that it is not disturbed about the situation in the industry because 85 per cent of the workers will remain in their places if a strike should be declared by the Union.

—Union announces formation of General Strike Committee from membership of Joint Board and local executive committees. The General Strike Committee is subdivided into the following committee in charge of various phases of strike activity: Press Committee, Benjamin Schlesinger, Chairman; Hall Committee, J. Breslau, Chairman; Picket Committee, Harry Wander, Chairman; Organization Committee, Saul Metz, Chairman; Out-of-Town Committee, Louis Langer, Chairman; Law Committee, S. Lefkowitz, Chairman; Settlement Committee, Israel Feinberg, Chairman; Finance Committee, S. Perlmutter, Chairman; Relief Committee, B. Shane, Chairman; Speakers and Entertainment Committee, J. Heller, Chairman; Information Bureau, A. Blatsky, Chairman; New Jersey Committee, L. Pinkofsky, Chairman; Brownsville Committee, A. Babitch, Chairman; Brooklyn Committee, A. Corvanto, Chairman; Harlem Committee, J. Asplis, Chairman; Newark Committee, Max Brook, Chairman.

—Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America offers the Union moral and financial support in its impending struggle.

Nov. 2.—The Union charges Protective Association with provocation of strike in order to curtail production and maintain the prevailing high prices on garments.

—Meeting of Shop Chairmen of all New York cloak, suit and skirt shops to take a referendum on the strike question among the membership of the Cloakmakers' Union.

Nov. 3.—St. Louis Cloak Manufacturers announce introduction of piece-work system November 14.

—Protective Association announces withdrawal of demands for reduction of wages of Pressers, Cutters and Samplers. It reiterates its determination to re-establish piece-work and to introduce the 43-hour week.

—Montreal manufacturers announce the introduction of the piece-work system November 14.

Nov. 4.—Protective Association declares that reduction in wages would decrease prices of garments by 25 per cent. Union replies by stating that labor costs of production average about 25 per cent of the total wholesale price, and that a reduction in wages could but slightly affect the retail prices of garments.

Nov. 7.—American Association of Cloak, Suit and Skirt Manufacturers, an organization of sub-manufacturers and contractors, largely employed by

the members of the Protective Association, confer with Union on their position in the proposed strike.

—Referendum vote on strike begins among the members of the Cloakmakers' Union.

Nov. 9.—Montreal Cloakmakers vote to strike against proposed introduction of piece-work system, increase in hours of work, and lower wages.

Nov. 10.—Secretary of Labor Davis calls conference of Philadelphia manufacturers and Union to take up the situation in the cloak industry in that city. Employers fail to attend conference. Secretary discusses with representatives of Union the impending nation-wide strike in the garment industry.

—Strike against demands of Philadelphia manufacturers is submitted to a referendum vote of workers.

—Cleveland manufacturers demand reductions in existing wage scales.

—Result of referendum vote on New York strike shows 38,672 voting for and 163 against the strike.

—Twelve U. S. Senators jointly request New York manufacturers to defer action until controversy can be mediated.

Nov. 11.—Union accepts mediation offered by Senators on condition that employers would in the meantime withdraw their proposed program and would continue to operate their factories under the provisions of the existing Agreement.

Nov. 12.—Delegation of New York manufacturers confer with Secretary Davis.

II. THE STRIKE

Nov. 14.—As employers begin to operate on a piece-work basis, and longer hours, 50,000 workers desert the shops at 10 A. M., causing a complete tie-up in the cloak industry in New York. The Union declares that walk-out demonstrated the position of the workers with regard to the proposed changes in the standards and that it has endorsed its stand against the manufacturers.

Nov. 15.—President Schlesinger visits Mayor Hylan and secures promise for police protection for peaceful picketing of struck shops.

—Union levies assessment of 10 per cent on pay of workers who resume work in settled shops. General picketing of all shops begins.

—Union announces receipt of application for settlement from 769 manufacturers. 125 shops settle on Union terms.

—Mounted police stationed in garment centers in Montreal.

Nov. 16.—B. C. Viadeck, Socialist member of New York Board of Aldermen, offers resolution protesting against the "unfair action of the cloak manufacturers" and requesting the Mayor "to accord the workers in the cloak industry all moral support and all necessary protection."

—Philadelphia garment workers vote to strike—2462 to 157.

Nov. 17.—800 garment workers parade from strike halls to settled shops.

—International Fur Workers' Union offers moral and financial assistance to cloakmakers.

—One striker beaten and arrested in Brooklyn.

—Protective Association charges Union with having broken contract with American Association whose shops have been affected by the general walk-out. Union replies that, since members of American Association are working for Protective Association members, the strike against the latter must inevitably affect the first.

Nov. 18.—Attorney Max D. Steuer is retained as counsel for Protective Association.

Nov. 19.—New York State Industrial Commission offers to arbitrate strike. Union expresses willingness to participate at conference called by the state officials.

Nov. 20.—Philadelphia strike, scheduled for November 21st, is postponed for one week to allow further conferences with employers.

Nov. 21.—Union rejects proposal of counsel of Association to consider 1919 agreement invalid and to begin negotiations for a new agreement.

—Association refuses to withdraw demands pending settlement of strike by state or federal authorities.

—Samuel Untermyer accepts invitation of Union's attorney, Morris Hillquit, to become counsel for the Union after being convinced that the Association has broken its contract with the Union and that the Union's fight for the restoration of the agreement was a public issue. He suggests possibility of enjoining the Association from breaking the agreement.

—Chicago garment workers vote 2,545 to 43 to strike against employer's demands.

Nov. 22.—Deadlock reached on issue of breach of contract in New York market.

—U. S. Department of Labor expresses readiness to arbitrate the strike. Secretary Hoover also evinces interest in conflict and offers aid in arbitrating dispute.

Nov. 23.—New York State Industrial Commission calls representatives of Union and Association to conference. Representatives of Association fail to respond to call. Conference postponed. Commission appointed to investigate cause of strike.

—General Strike Committee meets to review situation and to perfect plans for the future conduct of the strike.

Nov. 24.—Union declines Department of Labor's offer for mediation unless the provisions of the 1919 agreement were again put in force.

(To be continued next week.)