

"My righteousness I hold fast, and will not let it go."  
—Job 27.6

# JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

Vol. IV, No. 36.

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Price, 2 Cents

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

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## WAGE COMMISSION BEGINS WORK

**VICE-PRESIDENT FEINBERG REPRESENTS UNION—BOTH SIDES SELECT IMPARTIAL CHAIRMEN TO SETTLE SHOP DISPUTES—UNION STRENGTHENS CONTROL OVER SETTLED SHOPS.**

The activity of the Cloak Joint Board of New York to strengthen the control of the Union over all the shops in the industry continues unabated. To begin with, a strict vigil is being maintained over the small shops that still remain on strike, the shops with which the Union could not settle because they would not agree to live up to the rules of the Union. These shops are being picketed and cloakmakers are warned away from entering them. The Union is making a special effort to place all the jobless men in the trade and it is freely predicted that in a short while the number of unemployed in the industry will dwindle down to nothing.

### FIRST MEETING OF CLOAK WAGE COMMISSION

The first meeting of the Cloak Wage Commission, which is to investigate the average annual earnings

## LOCAL 90 BEGINS ORGANIZATION CAMPAIGN

The Custom Dressmakers' Union of New York, Local No. 90, started a new wide organization campaign in the Greater City to organize all the workers in the trade. In this the Union will receive the aid of the organization committee appointed by the General Executive Board at its last quarterly meeting at Edgemere, Long Island.

Local No. 90 suffers principally from the fact that only a part of the workers in the trade are organized while thousands of women dressmakers in the fashionable garment-making district are as yet outside the fold of the Union. This condition, quite naturally, has a detrimental effect upon the organized shops.

The last season in the trade was a poor one, but the custom dressmakers expect a good season very soon. The prospects are that a strong organization drive, undertaken at this time with the aid of the organization committee of the General Executive Board, will produce gratifying results and will place the Union in a much better position in the industry.

## DRESS AND WAIST-MAKERS, ATTENTION!

Monday, September 4, is Labor Day, one of our legal holidays. The members of the Dress and Waistmakers' Union are called upon to abstain from work on that day.

**Joint Board, Waist and Dress-makers' Union**

**JULIUS HOCHMAN,**  
General Manager.

and period of employment of workers engaged in the cloak industry of New York, had its first meeting about a week ago, with Mr. Norman Haggood, the well known journalist, and impartial chairman of the Commission, presiding. This first meeting did not pass without a heated exchange of opinion regarding the scope of the investigation. Mr. Wm. Bassett, the Association's representative on the Commission, demanded that in addition to earnings and length of employment, the productivity of the workers also be investigated, a construction of the Commission's duties which would open a way for a discussion of "standards of production."

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## Ladies' Tailors Ready to Renew Agreement

**MASS MEETING ON TUESDAY, SEPT. 5**

The trade agreement between the New York Ladies' Tailors' Union and their employers expires on September 15th.

As readers of JUSTICE know, the ladies' tailors of New York have been amalgamated with the sample makers and alteration tailors in the cloak industry into Local No. 3, and are a part of the New York Cloak Joint Board. The ladies' tailors, are, therefore, under the direct control and supervision of the Cloakmakers' Union.

Vice-President Samuel Lefkowitz is the Manager-Secretary of this local and according to him, the last season in the trade was a very poor one. The coming fall season, however, is expected to be brisk and the ladies' tailors hope to share in what-

ever "prosperity" this fall season might bring with it.

On Tuesday next, September 5th, the Union will have a general mass-meeting at which final steps will be decided for the renewal of the agreement on September 15th. It isn't yet known whether this agreement will be renewed peaceably or the employers will offer stubborn resistance. At any rate, "preparedness" is now the slogan among the ladies tailors of New York.

The meeting will be held at Bryant Hall, 725 Sixth Avenue, on Tuesday evening, right after work and will be addressed by the following speakers: Israel Feinberg, General Manager of the Cloak Joint Board; Salvatore Ninfo, First Vice-President of the International; J. Rubin; Vice-President Lefkowitz and S. Yanofsky.

## First Vice - President Ninfo Visits Chicago, St. Louis and Cleveland

At a special meeting of the New York members of the General Executive Board, held at the General Office on Tuesday, August 29th, First Vice-President Ninfo was asked to proceed without delay to Chicago to take up with the Joint Board of that city the question of affiliation with that Board of locals not belonging to the cloak industry and to settle this matter in accordance with his best judgment.

Vice-President Ninfo will also visit Cleveland where he will address a

meeting of the Italian Cloakmakers and will endeavor to visit St. Louis to arrange organization work in that city. On Monday next, Labor Day, Vice-President Ninfo will be in Philadelphia to install a new local of Italian cloakmakers and to present to them the charter granted by the General Executive Board.

The meeting also decided that in the absence of President Schlesinger, First Vice-President Ninfo serve as Acting President of the International.

## WAIST AND DRESS UNION WINS AGAIN

**WIESEN, COHEN AND SMITH STRIKE SETTLED—MANY SETTLEMENTS IN EMBROIDERY STRIKE—FIRST SHOP CHAIRMEN MEETING A SUCCESS—UNION SUES WAIST FIRM FOR \$50,000 DAMAGES.**

After the satisfactory settlement concluded a week ago by the Waist and Dress Joint Board with the big jobbing firm of Dorfman and Wiesen, the Union declared a strike against another jobbing firm, Wiesen, Cohn & Smith. This strike, like the strike against the Dorfman & Wiesen firm, was called because the firm had sent out work to non-union contractors, in violation of its agreement with the Union. This firm supplies work to more than sixty shops employing over one thousand workers.

The strike did not last long and the firm settled with the Union a couple of days after the walkout took place. According to Manager Hochman, the terms of the settlement with this

firm are similar to the terms of the Dorfman & Wiesen arrangement. The firm paid \$1,000 and gave \$5,000 security for future faithful performance.

This settlement is another step in the courageous campaign undertaken by the Union to enforce the agreement in the industry and make the dress jobbers live up to their obligations to make work in union shops only.

### THE BONNAZ EMBROIDERY STRIKE

The strike of the Bonnaz embroiderers continues in good shape. About 95 shops have already settled with the Union and while the employers' association in the trade is still obdurate, it is members daily who make individual settlements with the Union.

(Continued on Page 4)

## RAINCOAT MAKERS STRIKE IN SEVERAL SHOPS

As reported a short time ago, the Raincoat Makers' Union, Local No. 20 of New York, began a movement for the renewal of the trade agreement with the employers and also to abolish, as far as possible, the "corporation" shops in the trade.

According to Brother Arthur Samuels, Manager of the Union, about 85 per cent of the employers in the trade settled with the Union and signed agreements. A small number of contractors, however, were determined to dodge a settlement and against these the Union declared a strike last Tuesday afternoon.

The mass meeting held by the strikers at the Forward Hall, 175 East Broadway, on Tuesday last was an enthusiastic and successful gathering. The Committee on Immediate Action of the local and the Special Strike Committee elected at the meeting were entrusted with the conduct of the strike. The meeting was addressed by Manager Samuels, Secretary Friedman, and Simon Robbins, executive member of the local.

## CLOAKMAKERS, ATTENTION!

Monday, September 4, is Labor Day, one of our legal holidays. No cloakmaker is permitted to work on that day. Committees will visit the shop district and workers found in the shops will be severely punished.

**Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union**

**L. LANGER, Secretary.**

## TOPICS OF THE WEEK

By N. S.

### WHY U. S. STEEL CORPORATION RAISED WAGES

THE U. S. STEEL CORPORATION is notoriously one of the most powerful movements, the wage-slashing and union-smashing campaigner industrial oligarchies in this country. It has financed the "open" It has been behind the futile attempts of the coal operators to cut the wages of the miners, and is now backing the "die-hards" among the railroad executives who are bent on establishing "company unions". A large proportion of the steel workers are still working 12 hours a day, and they had been among the first to suffer wage cuts in 1920 and 1921.

It therefore amounted to a sensation when Judge Gary, head of the U. S. Steel Corporation, announced an increase of 20 per cent, effective September 1, in the wages of day labor affecting upward of 156,000 men on the corporation's payrolls. The independent steel companies immediately fell into line, announcing identical increases. The new rate to be received by a majority of the workers will be approximately \$3.60 a day, for a ten-hour day, or \$4.32 a day for those who work the 12-hour shifts. Despite this increase, however, wages are still below the level which prevailed before the wage cuts. The following figures will make this clear: The wages for a ten-hour day, August 1, 1918, was \$4.50; October 1, 1918, the wages for a ten-hour day were raised to \$4.62; on February 1, 1920, the wages rose to \$5.06 a day; on May 16, 1921, wages were cut to \$4.05; on July 16, 1921, wages were cut to \$3.70 a day; on August 29, 1921, wages were cut to \$3.00 a day. The present 20 per cent increase is insignificant compared to what the workers had earned a few years ago.

This increase, of course, will be speedily followed by higher steel prices, which will in turn result in a rise in the cost of living. The wage increase will consequently be nullified. The wage raise is, nevertheless, not without significance. It means first that the wage-slashing campaign is at an end; for the time being, at least. And, secondly, that the industrial barons are beaten by organized labor.

Judge Gary's announcement of the wage increase is regarded as a shrewd maneuver to soothe labor into quiescence. It is intended to wean the workers away from unionism and to securely establish industrial plutocracy. The coal strike convinced the steel kings that it is too risky to fight labor in the open. So they changed tactics. The present wage increase is only a new method of carrying on their war against unionism. But the war is waging a bitter war. The workers know too well who won their wage increase. They know that it is organized labor who stemmed the tide of wage-slashing.

### THE COAL AND RAILROAD STRIKES

HENRY FORD announced that over a hundred thousand workers of his motor company throughout the country will be without jobs after September 16. In addition, several hundred thousand other workers employed in industries furnishing materials for the Ford plants will be affected. This situation is typical for other industries in different parts of the country. The cause for this general shut-down is the shortage of coal. Governor Miller, of New York, has called a special session of the Legislature to consider measures for the supply of coal in New York State. Mayor Hylan has called a conference for a similar purpose. Big establishments, like the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, are planning to use oil as a substitute for coal. Real estate men are very much concerned.

It is curious that the cry of the pending crisis because of the lack of coal has become universal and urgent only after the bituminous coal strike had been settled. Now it is generally admitted that the unions virtually paralyzed the industrial activity of this country. That all the scab heralds, proclamations and governmental plans could not mine a pound of coal.

At this writing a settlement of the anthracite coal strike has not been reached. The Philadelphia conference split on the work of arbitration. The miners reject the arbitration plan of the operators. Secretary of Labor Davis is trying to act as mediator, but he seems to make little headway. President Harding and a group of Senators have been cruising on the Mayflower mediating a new plan for settling the anthracite and railway strikes. It is unofficially announced that the President now feels that the country is confronted by a critical emergency and that he will ask Congress to confer powers upon him to assume control over the anthracite mines and railroads. The workers, according to this plan, will then be forced to return to work. For a strike against the government would mean high treason. But it is extremely doubtful whether the President will propose anything of the kind. He will, of course, continue to make gestures and threats, and here he is doubtless more effective than in his concrete measures for industrial peace.

The conference of the railway executives and the Brotherhood chiefs broke up. The "die-hards" among the executives were out. The terms for settlement proposed by the Brotherhoods were rejected. The companies reasserted their readiness to fight the unions to a finish. The Brotherhoods' efforts of mediation thereby came to an end. But that does not mean at all that their concern in the outcome of the strike has ended. The longer the strike lasts, the more their members are becoming involved in the struggle. The controversy between the maintenance of way men and the companies has not yet reached a settlement. The wage-increase offered to the steel workers by the steel companies has given them fresh courage in their demands. The workers feel that the worst of the industrial depression and its consequences have passed. They are now on the point of at least winning back their lost ground.

### ASSASSINATION IN IRELAND

THE assassination of Michael Collins (chief of the Provisional Government of Ireland), is only a link in the history of the struggle for Irish self-government. In Ireland the opposing factions do not conduct a paper war as they do in most countries. There they fight with guns and fire bombs. Only a few weeks ago the Free Staters defeated the Republicans in open war. Most of the positions held by the Republicans were recaptured by the Provisional Government. It seemed for a while that the Free Staters had securely established their authority. But those who believed so did not know Ireland. The Republicans did not for a minute give up what they held as a holy war against Great Britain and its servants, the Free Staters.

They changed their tactics. Propaganda and political assassination replaced the revolt of organized masses against the government. They have been defeated but they never dreamt of surrendering themselves.

Ever since the signing of the treaty between England and the Irish Provisional Government, several months ago, civil war flared up in Ireland. Before that Irish nationalists concentrated all their powers against the domination of Great Britain. But when Michael Collins, Arthur Griffith and other members of the Provisional Government brought from London a signed document, giving Ireland the same rights as are possessed by Canada and Australia, that is, making Ireland a Free State within the British Empire, Irish nationalists were divided into two camps, and they had been exhausting their energy and shedding their blood in a bitter civil war. This war continues unabated.

Will the death of Collins lead the Irish to adopt other measures in their struggle? Events in the last few days seem to show that Irish revolutionists are not yet prepared to give up their tactics. They do not recant as some hoped they would. They look upon Collins as a renegade who died in the cause of Great Britain. Bernard Shaw summarized the present Irish situation in the following words:

"Ireland is suffering from an epidemic of homicidal mania and is calling it patriotism. If the shooting of Collins doesn't turn every sensible Irishman into a resolute special constable, the country must perish, because if it cannot govern itself no power on earth can govern it. Self-government will become self-extinction."

### THE PRESENT EUROPEAN SITUATION

"IF AMERICA would co-operate with Great Britain the two nations could rule the world," Premier Lloyd George said a few days ago.

"If France forces Germany into a revolution they, Russia and Germany together, will soon dominate the world," declared Trotsky, almost at the same time. Both Lloyd George and Trotsky are in agreement that the present situation in Europe is intolerable. Both agree the disarmament at the present is impossible. Both see the possibility of another war.

"Never has Europe been in such a state of incoherence," Trotsky said in an interview with newspaper correspondents. "Individual statesmen and nations alike have no definite policy; they don't know what the morrow may bring forth. Suppose France brings military pressure on Germany. In that event Poland can hardly remain passive. If Poland acts against Germany, I question whether we can remain passive ourselves."

That France may act alone to enforce the treaty terms is regarded as highly probable. No one doubts in the sincerity of Premier Poincaré's threats of invasion into Germany. No one doubts, not even Poincaré, the seriousness of the crisis in Germany. The mark is in a constant fever. Its economic life is disintegrating. It cannot satisfy the reparation demands. But France is unyielding. England is turning to other directions, perhaps to an understanding with America and Japan for the mastery of the East. What seems clear is that Europe is in the brink of war or revolution.

## Cloak Wage Commission Begins Work

(Continued from Page 1.)

Vice-President Feinberg, representative of the Union on the Commission in the absence of President Schleisner, protested against this interpretation of the scope of the Commission's work, and after a long debate, it was decided that the investigation adhere to the letter of the agreement and confine its work to the workers' earnings and terms of employment. Mr. Hillquit, the Union's counsel on the Commission, strenuously supported Vice-President Feinberg's argument.

The duties of the impartial chairman on the Commission were defined as being that of taking care that both sides allow a thoroughgoing investigation and put no obstacles in the way of the Commission. The Association was represented at this meeting by Messrs. Bassett and Lachman. Mr. Otto Bayer, a well-known statistician in charge of the technical work of the Commission for the Union, was also present.

### SHOP DISPUTES MACHINERY

During this week there also took place a meeting between the representatives of the Cloak Joint Board and the Protective Association called for the purpose of deciding on the settlement machinery for straightening out shop grievances and disputes in accordance with the prescriptions of the agreement. Both sides were to select a group of impartial chairmen who are to be called in from time to time as the situation arises.

Both sides united on the following list of impartial chairmen or umpires: Dr. Wm. Slivovich, Louis Leiserson, Justice Frederick Spiegelberg, Morris Rubinow, Edgar J. Lowe, A. D. Wolf, B. W. Hucheb, Judge Sampson Friedlander, Abraham Maser, Alexander Bing and Morris Berman.

### UNITY CENTERS WILL OPEN SEPT. 6TH

On Wednesday, September 6th, registration will begin for the eight Unity Centers of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

Members are advised to register at the Unity Center nearest their homes.

List of our eight Unity Centers and their locations is to be found in the Educational page of this issue.

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

Patronize Our Advertisers

Friday, September 1, 1922.

# A Letter from England

By EVELYN SHARP  
(London Daily Herald Service)

The breakdown of the Reparations Conference in London was anticipated, but is none the less serious for that. Nor is it the less serious for having been postponed until now. If the British Prime Minister had taken a firm stand against French policy both at Versailles and after, the crisis with which we are faced today would have been met three years ago, before Europe was menaced with ruin. It is a question now whether he has not as usual taken the right line too late to avert catastrophe. With the best will in the world on the part of all the Allies, aided by America, Europe's ruin could scarcely be averted. With France determined on enforcing her militarist will on Germany, with Belgium probably going to her aid, with America standing aloof from the whole business, there seems little chance that Great Britain and Italy can achieve very much in the way of reconstructing Europe at this late hour.

Yet, if we had a Prime Minister with a policy, much might be done. The reason that France wins every time is not that her policy is a good one, or in itself even a successful one, but simply because she knows what her policy is and means to carry it out. The British Government has no policy. Spasmodically it flings a counsel of perfection at the world in general, as in the case of the Balfour

Note which pleased nobody because, as long as French militarism prevails in Europe, America practically refuses to throw good money after bad and will certainly not cancel our debt to her in order to help us to run a mad race of armament building against France. Why should she? On the other hand, a generous renunciation of the Allied debts to Great Britain, coming at this juncture, would have lost much of its effect. Notwithstanding, this still seems the only constructive policy open to us; and our Government naturally hesitates to take the lead in the matter because the whole of its horrid career has been spent in killing generosity among the peoples and in fostering mean and evil passions. Hence the necessary sacrifices involved—the cancellation of our debt would mean a sharp increase in income tax—is not one that the people are prepared to make simply because the wrecking tactics of the Coalition Government have at last utterly failed.

The only solution is a complete change of Government in all the Allied countries. If the peoples everywhere would be really represented, if the League of Nations could become a League of peoples and function as such, some way out of the present impasse might be found, though not without terrible suffering. Meanwhile, we are all asking—What will France do next? The suggestion

in the Paris "Temps," that in the end it may be Great Britain and not France that will be isolated in Europe, deserves more attention than it has received. France already is making real advances to Russia while we sit quibbling over immaterialities; she is equally capable of making a separate agreement with Germany which will shut out Great Britain. What if Great Britain that saved France's existence in a military sense in 1917? M. Poincaré in his present mood will not worry about a trifle like that.

## IN IRELAND

The Labor made one of its dramatic moves, last week, when at a meeting of the Irish Trades Union Congress a resolution was passed unanimously, demanding that the Irish Parliament be assembled immediately, "as a preliminary step to ending the present fratricidal strife," and in the event of this demand not being accepted by August 26, that the Labor Party members should hand back the mandates given them by the electors and resign their seats. An attempt to delete a paragraph from the Report, denouncing both the policy and the methods of the Irish Republican Party, was defeated by 91 against 25.

## IN RUSSIA

The news of the Russian famine is not nearly so favorable as it appeared to be last spring. The promise of the spring has not been fulfilled, for the heavy rains were followed by intense heat and hurricanes which have dried up and beaten down the crops, thus reducing considerably their yield. Both the Save the Children Fund organizers and those who

are administering the fund of the Friends' Relief Committee report that in the districts of Saratov and Buzuluk relief will certainly have to be continued during the coming winter.

## INDUSTRIAL MATTERS

Around the two interesting Labor events of the week have been reported formation in India of a Parliamentary Labor Party, and the meeting of the International Miners' Federation at Berlin. The difficulty of international trade union organization in face of the different conditions prevailing in different countries was discussed at the latter congress, and the very bad mining conditions of America were instanced in this connection. At a closed sitting, from which even the Press were excluded, the weakness of the American trade unions and their bad conditions of labor were discussed.

At home, the growth of the Guild movement in the building industry was demonstrated at the second annual conference of the National Building Guild in Birmingham. Satisfactory progress was reported in all the building schemes carried out by the Guild and now in course of being carried out; and a new plan was formulated whereby a Guild Building Society is to be formed, to enable the Guild to build houses independent of the help either of the Ministry of Health or of the local authorities. This scheme, if carried out, will be all the more important since the recent policy of the Ministry of Health seems to be directed towards throwing back the public, and especially the workers, on the tender mercies of the Jerry-builder.

# The Railroads Demand The "Open Shop"

By J. CHARLES LAUE

Buried underneath a mass of verbiage and press statement lies the real intent of the railroad executives to force the "open shop" upon the militant shop crafts, now on strike for the third month. It is a campaign that they have been leading up to for more than two years, ever since the roads were put back into private hands after the period of federal control.

The injection of the seniority issue into a struggle which was primarily the legal and just resentment of 400,000 men against unwarranted wage reductions ordered by the United States Railroad Labor Board reveals the executives' hand, for if they can establish the principle not only will railroad labor not dare to strike again but they can break the unions and eventually destroy the collective bargaining principle embodied in the formation of the Labor Board by Congress. The government thereby established the precedent of recognizing labor unions as the spokesmen for the 2,000,000 railroad workers and this was gall and wormwood to the typical "open shopper" like Judge Gary and his brother capitalists.

From the very start the Pennsylvania railroad, as the most typical of the "open shop" organizations, has resented the submission of disputes concerning its 200,000 employees to the Labor Board. Even during the war its representatives resisted the introduction of improved working conditions on its system, although such rules had been in effect for years on Western railroads where the unions were stronger than in the East.

Since last week, negotiations to end the railroad strike have fallen down completely and the strike seems bound to continue to the bitter end. It is inconceivable that the nation

will submit to the serious loss that will result if the roads are permitted to use the capital at their command to crush the unions. At the expense of great sums for strikebreakers and damaged rolling stock and the dislocation of the coal and crop transportation they can do this, for the present administration declines to act any further in the matter unless there is a great public clamor over the failure of railroad service.

The union leaders believe that they have judged the economic situation correctly and expect that the railroad crisis augmenting the coal shortage will force intervention. Inside information reveals the inept manner in which President Harding dealt with the strike at the start when conditions were ripe for an honorable settlement.

He met the shop craft leaders at the White House and handed them a memorandum written in his own hand suggesting that the strikers return to work with their rights unimpaired and he would assure them that the Labor Board would grant a hearing on their grievances and incidentally enforce its decisions against the railroad that in 100 cases had defied the rulings of the Board, which has no disciplinary power. This proposal was acceptable to the 90 committee-men composing the Shop Crafts Federation.

The President at the time was asked what he would do if the railroads rejected the proposed settlement and he was alleged to have said: "I'll make them; I have the power." An inkling of this dramatic utterance as well as the intimation that the railroad executives who had seen the President would accept gave rise to a widely circulated report that the strike was on the way of being ended. The failure of the railroad

presidents to ratify threw the entire matter back upon the President. Then when asked by the union leaders what he would do he became apologetic asserting according to one of the labor spokesmen, that he knew the railroads would not accept when he wrote the proposal. What riled the labor men was that he should then recede from his position and announce a second proposal which did not restore the strikers to their former places. Even this suggestion was not accepted by the roads except with nullifying reservations.

Then began the earnest efforts of the train service brotherhood leaders acting as mediators to end the strike which has lasted week when only one third of the roads led by Daniel Willard, of the Baltimore & Ohio, agreed to settle on terms which did not protect the returning strikers to any extent while the majority of the roads held out for unconditional surrender, so the strike goes on.

Samuel Gompers, in his Labor Day address hails the success of the American labor movement in resisting so splendidly the "open shop" movement in the last twelve months. There is hardly any question that the unions which have been on the defensive for two years are being favored again by the improved economic conditions to make advances. The miners' victory after so many weeks of privation is a remarkable tribute to the fighting and staying power of the American workers and the effectiveness of their strike.

But if the American labor movement is to emerge fundamentally intact after the depression, the six shop crafts and their allies must not be crushed in the present momentous struggle, the progress of which was reported in all the building schemes carried out by the Guild and now in course of being carried out; and a new plan was formulated whereby a Guild Building Society is to be formed, to enable the Guild to build houses independent of the help either of the Ministry of Health or of the local authorities.

It is not likely that the miners who have been aided materially by the sudden crippling of railroad transport would have been able to ship in large quantities will forget the railroad workers. Nor have the transportation brotherhoods, that have been so insistent on an honorable settlement entirely shown their hand, as the continued strikes at strategic points, of engineer, trainmen and firemen prove.

But it is just as well for the labor movement at large to realize the significance of the shopmen's struggle. The 2,000,000 railroad workers that now bargain collectively through a government tribunal have all to win or to lose in this strike for if the strikers are to sacrifice their seniority it means total defeat. Then will come the disruption of their unions, the formation of railroad company unions and finally the attack upon the train service organizations as the ultimate step of the "open shop."

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# JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

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# A Letter From Fannia M. Cohn

Brussels, Aug. 16.—The trip across was beautiful and uneventful. We had wonderful weather and it is quite superfluous for me to say that the seven days on the ocean have done me a world of good. Personally I can say that I never in my life rested so well in mind and body.

I came to Paris from Cherbourg on August 8th and knowing that my

stay in this city would be short, I did my best to make the most of it. What an inspiring, beautiful and interesting city! I spent the four days of my stay in Paris visiting the museums and other places of interest. I called at the offices of the local labor organizations in our trades, and on Saturday, August 11th, I had a meeting with the active members of

the local labor organizations on workers' education.

From there I went to Antwerp to attend the International Youth-Day convention in that city, which included a four-day conference and a huge parade. Five countries were represented at the conferences, and 30,000 workers with their families took part in the parade, marching along the streets in perfect formation and singing socialist and labor songs. It was a very impressive scene. Here, too, the labor educational posters and exhibits are displayed in the local labor museum and our posters are at-

tracting wide attention and comment.

Tonight I arrived to attend the Labor Educational Conference at Brussels. From advance information I know that eleven countries will be represented at that conference by thirty-eight delegates. The convention will be held at the Labor College in Brussels and the delegates will be the guests of the College.

I expect to return to the United States on September 12th in time for the beginning of our educational term and hope to be able to render a very interesting report on what transpired at the Brussels conference.

## Dressmakers' Union Wins Another Strike

(Continued from Page 1)

The Union is determined to fight against the Association as long as it will be required in order to bring them to the understanding that they cannot break the union in the trade and that they will have to sign an agreement with the workers' organization.

### UNION SUES FIRM FOR DAMAGES

The Dress and Waist Joint Board commenced a law suit against the Coronet Costume Co., 39 West 32d Street for breach of agreement. The Union sues the firm for \$50,000 damages.

The Joint Board is determined to prove to this firm, as well as to other firms which display contract-breaking tendencies, that a Union agreement is not a scrap of paper and must be lived up to.

### FIRST SHOP-CHAIRMAN MEETING

Last Thursday night the first shop-chairman meeting of the Waist and

Dressmakers' Union was held at Webster Hall. The meeting was very well attended and a number of trade questions were earnestly discussed.

Manager Hochman of the Joint Board reported on the situation in the trade, the last strikes and the recommendations referred by the Joint Board to the shop-chairmen meeting.

Among these recommendations, the principal ones were for the introduction of week-work in the dress and waist industry and the raising of a half-million dollar reserve fund through a \$20.00 per capita tax. After a long debate, the demand for week-work was adopted practically unanimously, only three voting against it, and the management of the organization was instructed to embody this demand with the other trade reforms and improvements to be presented to the manufacturers in the industry when the present agreement expires on February 1st, 1923.

That the Union might be in a position to call the workers on a general

strike, if such becomes necessary, the recommendations of the Joint Board for a \$20.00 per capita tax, to be paid out not later than June 30, 1923, was unanimously adopted. The meeting also endorsed the policy of the

Joint Board and of the Union's management in ordering strikes against such firms that encroach upon the workers' conditions in the shops and attempt to break the provisions of their agreement with the Union.

## Co-Operative Notes

### FRENCH CO-OPERATORS FOUND CO-OPERATIVE BANK

Following the Congress of the National Federation of Consumers' Co-operative Societies and the Co-operative Wholesale Society, recently reported in our columns, a national co-operative bank has been created at Marseilles, known as the Banque des Co-operatives de France.

The formation of the bank is the outcome of a policy systematically pursued by the French co-operatives ever since the war, whereby they collected the savings of their members in deposit funds lodged with the Co-operative Wholesale Society. The development of these deposits has been so rapid that to date they amount to 16,287,000 francs from

the co-operatives alone, with deposits from individuals, groups, and trade unions totalling more than \$1,000,000 francs.

The initial capital of the bank is fixed at 12,000,000 francs, owned by 1,600 co-operative societies and the wholesale organization. Interest on capital stock is limited to 6 per cent, all earnings in excess of which, after meeting the legal reserve, are to be distributed among the shareholding societies in proportion to deposits as well as interest paid on sums borrowed from the central bank.

Co-operative societies are in the truest sense factories of capital, the workshops where are forged the instruments of all industrial progress.—L. Mahilleau.

# A Couple of Hours with Gompers

By B. MAIMAN

(Special Washington Correspondent)

Last Friday, at half past twelve, I sat in the Capitol and listened to the message of President Harding to the United States Congress. A day later, I sat in the Council Chamber of the American Federation of Labor and listened to President Gompers's reply to President Harding's message. These two events mirrored two opposite camps, two conflicting interests—the two different worlds in which we live.

President Harding's message disappointed no one as no one expected anything from it. Harding's manner of speech and action are known to everybody. They are so flat and regular that one can tell at a glance approximately what comes next. Nevertheless, when it became known that the President was to address Congress, there was a sudden rush for tickets for the visitor's gallery which became filled at the hour of the delivery of the address with high officials, influential business men, and some of the best known writers and speakers who happened to be in Washington on that day. A regular corps of photographers trained their cameras to catch the President in various poses; the press gallery was filled to capacity, while the wires were doing their heaviest duty. President Harding speaks! The President of the United States addresses Congress!

The atmosphere in the press gallery, among the newspaper men themselves, was superfluous to say, not at all solemn, but as far as the public concerned, they would speak of the

speech with respect and some even praised it to the skies: "A fine speech," "A strong speech," "A wise speech," "The right word at the right time," "Yank the bull by the horns," etc., etc.

Gompers' invitation to the newspaper correspondents on the following day however, was answered only by a dozen newspaper men. We all sat down at the table where the meetings of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor are being held and Gompers gave us freely his opinion about that message and, along with it, the trade-union point of view with regard to lawmaking, political economy and other important questions. The newspaper men put to Gompers various questions and Gompers replied to these questions frankly, encouraging the men to keep on interrogating him. Among the newspaper men there was one who represented the "Railway Age" which is directly interested in the shipmen's strike; another represented the "Wall Street Journal," and still another, at one time a newspaper man, and now an executive of a large and powerful industrial concern. All these bombarded Gompers with questions obviously to embarrass him. There were two among them, however, who put questions to him with the purpose of "helping him out," or in order to bring out the right sort of reply to these questions.

Of a sudden Gompers threw in a bomb. He stated that President Harding, by his message to Congress

the previous day, actually hindered the settlement of the railway strike. He did not say it in so many words but what he said was subject to no other interpretation. At once the newspaper men picked up their sails, surely there is a sensation in this. Didn't President Harding use every effort in his power to settle the strike and here the chief of American labor charges him with hindering the settlement of that same strike! The majority of the newspaper men and the more experienced among them, at least, knew that their editors or the owners of their papers would not permit to make a sensation of this personally. But in itself, and to them personally, it was a statement of supreme interest.

Gompers keeps on telling that last Friday morning the executives of the railways had practically come to an understanding with the leaders of the workers. It looked like a complete settlement with the exception of a few minor details when the conference adjourned at lunch, with a view of continuing it in the afternoon. And while the conferees were having lunch in New York, President Harding delivered his message in Washington, and when the leaders of the workers and the railway executives came together again in the afternoon, there was a different spirit and a different atmosphere at the meeting. All prior points of settlement disappeared and the railway owners again showed fight. This setback could be ascribed to nothing else than the President's message which condemned the action of the workers as a "brazen violation of the law on the part of some railway workers who have conspired to paralyze transportation." And the President of the United States solemnly promises at the end of his message that follow:

"Therefore, I am determined to use the full power of the government to maintain transportation and the right of men to work."

Gompers then asked a question which, I am sure, will be found difficult to answer. Said he: "The President in his message stated that the proposals which he was to lay before Congress have absolutely nothing to do with the present strike, that they are proposals for the future. Why, then, didn't he withhold his message for a more opportune time when relations are not as strained and when cooler judgment is possible?" Gompers does not draw the conclusion that it was done purposely in order to break up the negotiations between the employers and the workers, or to hearten the executives and to inspire them with hope for the smashing up of the unions. No, Gompers did not say that. But he gave everybody the opportunity to draw conclusions freely and these conclusions were not favorable to the President.

Gompers tells another story. He tells the newspaper men that while the representatives of the railway owners were conferring with the leaders of the workers, "Jim" Watson kept on telephoning them from Washington. "Jim" Watson is United States Senator from Indiana and one of President Harding's close and intimate friends. This "Jim" Watson was at one time a member of the House and was generally known as representative of Big Business in Congress. After he left the House and before he became a Senator, he was lobbyist at Washington for Big Business. This is what Gompers told the representatives of the American press when one put two and two together, the sum is bound to be four.

(Continued on Page 8)

# Labor Spies Inc.

By **HEBER BLANKENHORN**  
(Bureau of Industrial Research,  
New York)

(Continued From Last Week.)

The latter fact was brought out in the investigation by the Inter-Church Commission. That body, composed of representatives of the principal Protestant denominations, and headed by the feathery and scholarly Bishop Francis J. McConnell, had not intended to include espionage in its inquiry into the steel strike. An investigator, while aiding the commission in its investigation of charges of violence and radicalism among the strikers, requested evidence on these matters from an "independent" steel concern, the \_\_\_\_\_ Company, at Monessen, Pa., near Pittsburgh. The general manager and the superintendent of the concern professed to have plenty of such evidence, and, pushing a button, ordered, "Bring in the labor file." The file, the repository of this concern's labor intelligence and the basis of its labor policy, freely offered into the investigator's hands, turned out to contain some 600 reports by under-cover men (spies), together with black-lists, letters to and from other strike-bound steel companies in Monessen and to the Federal Government, and contracts with "labor detective agencies." The steel company heads freely discussed the file's contents with the somewhat surprised investigator, told him to take it along and copy what he desired, and later introduced him to the officers of one of the detective agencies which furnished the spies.

The investigator therefore was assigned to the study of espionage, not because it was sensational, but because steel companies regarded it as thuggish.

The Monessen file was analyzed, the investigation was extended to other towns in the Pittsburgh region, and then to the Chicago-Gary district; ramifications leading to Ohio, Washington, and New York were followed, and data collected, including original documents from the spy-strike-breaking companies, interviews with the managers of two spy firms, affidavits, and court documents.

The Commission's second volume says:

These are not "revelations"; these are the facts thinly hid in steel towns. Steel workmen in scores of towns know the spying exists, but are too accustomed to it to try hard to find who the spies are.

Collating these data with others in its possession the Commission in its "Report on the Steel Strike" (pp. 18, 22-29, 120, 209, 211-235) published its findings; that the existence of widespread well-financed privately incorporated spy concerns constitutes an integral part of industrial corporate policy of "not dealing with Labor unions"; that their "operatives," inside the plants or inside the unions or outside both, during that strike, spied, secretly denounced, engineered raids and arrests, and incited to riot. "It was a customary inevitable part of the college professor or two has been known to have worked in the labor-detectives, perhaps in some cases actually taken in by their impressive propaganda as 'industrial harmonizers' and 'production efficiency experts.' The world was developed propaganda to a new status, and the intelligence departments of industrial warfare rely on propaganda, sometimes by leaflets, of-

tenor by rumor or whisper. The great bulk of the spies, of course, act like workmen, dress like workmen, take plant jobs alongside workmen, and strive, if there is a union involved, to win the union office. Spies are Anglo-Saxon, Polish, Italian, Russian, Serb, Lithuanian, etc., according to the bulk of workers they are set to influence. They are radical or conservative at will or at order. I have read hundreds of their reports, a few accurate and crafty, the most illiterate and banal, and as a "literature" so empty both of fact and of significance that one continually wonders how a sensible employer can pay good money for such results.

But there are results. The spy managers have a certain energy. Their tools are part of a repressive system too often quite successful. The spy reports during the steel strike advised, not so much such things as "influence" to break up union meetings. "Why do the local authorities permit these regular meetings to be held in Charleston?" reports a spy in Monessen, concerning the only town in the Monongahela district where rights of assembly had not been abrogated. The wholesale suppression of civil rights rested on the spy army; arresting, raiding, and depriving on faked charges was wholesale. In one case in Chicago where a Sherman Service manager specifically instructed his spies to "stir up as much bad feeling as you can between the Serbians and Italians" the Government at last stepped in, arrested the spy managers, and indicted them for inciting to riot and murder. But in another quarter we traced some of the plant spy documents straight through the steel companies into the Department of Justice of the Federal Government. The alliance persists. The recently appointed head of the Government secret service is also head of a labor detective agency.

Confessions of spies are unreliable documents. But occasionally they can be checked up, and some reveal years of activity inside the unions, often as officers, some as high as president of a State labor federation. Stalling and misguiding the union, inciting factional fights, looting the treasuries—these are the spy officer's work. The spy companies' boasts of their control over unions frequently are false advertisements for the benefit of a prospective client, but recently several local explosions have left groups of spies naked. In Wheeling, W. Va., one of the most trusted lieutenants of the steel strike organizing committee died suddenly and his desk revealed his ten years' record as a hirling of the Corporations Auxiliary Company. People recalled then how the steel strike broke suddenly and mysteriously in Wheeling. His desk also named a number of other labor officers; they left home and family with speed.

In the autumn of 1919 the Corporation's Auxiliary manager in Pittsburgh told the Interchurch investigator that "when the American Federation of Labor organizer goes to Akron, Ohio, he reports to our man." In November of 1920 (before this part of our report was published) the suspicious rank and file in Akron trapped ten in their unions as spies. "A-201," "M-205," "K-63," "W-47"—so these men were recorded in the books of the Corporations Auxiliary in Cleveland, while in Akron they were secretaries and business agents of the unions. Two were the highest officers in the city's Central Labor

# Labor and Its Press

A LABOR DAY MESSAGE

By **SAMUEL GOMPERZ**,  
President, American Federation of Labor.

On Labor Day, 1922, the workers of America should consecrate themselves anew to the support and extension of the Labor Press.

The Labor Press is doing splendid work in defending and advancing labor's cause. Without it, organized labor would be indeed poorly equipped in its efforts for the protection of the wage earners.

The value of the Labor Press to our fellow workers is incalculable.

In season and out of season the labor papers proclaim the doctrine of justice for those who toil.

Wage workers are coming to rely more and more on the Labor Press to get the facts on subjects which affect them most closely. They are learning that the employer-owned press cannot be relied upon to support labor's interests at those crucial times when there is need of support to shape public opinion for the truth and justice of labor's cause.

In labor controversies there is always need of saying the right thing at the right time. It gives the workers an advantage when the advantage is needed. The labor papers are on the job to do this work.

It is of immeasurable value to the workers to have these regular publications of their own to give consideration to the general principles of the labor movement and their application.

It is of equally immeasurable value for them to have a press that will strike hard and to the point and persistently on crucial questions in defense of labor's rights.

The influence of the Labor Press is also outside the labor movement. It compels the general public press to be more truthful and decent in its attitude toward labor and the labor movement.

Agitate! Educate! Organize!

This is the slogan of the trade unionists in their struggle for the emancipation of all the workers.

In this struggle the Labor Press is one of the workers' greatest assets.

Let us pledge ourselves on Labor Day, 1922, to give the Labor Press that one hundred per cent support which its loyalty to the workers' cause splendidly earns and deserves.



TWO WORLDS

Union, and one had been a candidate for Councilman in the city government.

A sickening business. In a land of milk and honey, if capital keeps the kine and bees, there will be droppings for spies. System does it! Men can be found willing to make a business of debauching labor. Given the cash, they will make it a large-scale business. It's part of the big game, the game of big business. Pull a wire here and get a court to act; pull one there and get a police order; telephone to a bishop or dine an editor—it's result we want. Hire the right fellow and the union bolts on strike

when you want it, and goes back to work when you are ready. In a wide land many employers and unions know no experience of spies and are oblivious of their existence; so much the easier for espionage to flourish in many other businesses. It's like the hook-worm disease; no one knows its actual extent or how great sections of the laboring population are lethargic or anemic because of it.

Only one thing seems clear. Where capital gets the upper hand securely enough, its prerogative shows in perversions receding to human nature, but not so its own.

(Continued on page 11)

# JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

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## EDITORIALS

### A GOOD BEGINNING

The Joint Board in the waist and dress industry of New York has earned our whole-hearted approval for its firm stand against the two firms which were not able to resist the temptation of breaking their agreement with the Union. The Union's victory, in this case, is even more important because many who pretend to be more or less familiar with the situation in the dress industry were rather pessimistic about the outcome of this fight. They argued that the Union is too weak to engage in a conflict at present and counseled a policy of inactivity for the time being. Fortunately, the Joint Board did not follow this advice and decided to fight, and the result fully justified its attitude and its faith in its own strength. It is clear that the Joint Board knew better and had more courage than many of its over-cautious, through well-intentioned, advisers.

We always believed in courage, in a fearless spirit, as one of the principal factors in our daily fighting. Faint-heartedness never gained an inch of ground in labor struggles. All our victories are surely not the result of over-caution or timidity. Our leaders must keep that constantly in mind and he who calculates, weighs and measures to a nicety is, perhaps, well-fitted to sit at a desk and try to keep down the too exuberant enthusiasm of the over-zealous hot-head, but he is certainly unfit to be the leader in a fight. A true leader must have faith in his own cause; he must be enthusiastic and eager for the hardest, the seemingly impossible part of the task.

It appears to us that the present Joint Board in the waist and dress industry is composed of persons who believe in the old slogan of the great French Revolution: "Courage, courage and once again, courage." This is, indeed, a fitting motto for every militant union. Without it no labor organization can endure; courage is its living breath, the flame of its existence and augments its material strength and endurance.

Nevertheless, important as it is for a union to be courageous, enthusiastic and ever-ready for a conflict, this courage must always have its basis in the concrete material facts of life. Otherwise this splendid courage is bound to evaporate into thin mist—no matter how great it may be. A fortress cannot always be taken by sheer nerve; such an operation requires also the necessary physical strength. We deem it necessary, therefore, to remind the dress and waistmakers' locals that now, after such an auspicious beginning has been made, the propitious time to devote their energies to quiet preparatory work. They must see that within the next few months the workers in the dress and waist industry all become members of the Union. It is one thing to teach a few manufacturers or jobbers a lesson in the enforcement of union agreements, but it is quite another task to undertake a fight in the entire industry for a change of the prevailing work-system. Such an operation requires not only courage and nerve; it cannot be carried out unless all the workers in the trades are firmly united and fully aware of the aims and purposes of the conflict.

Moreover, such a fight requires big material resources. Without such resources the utmost degree of enthusiasm will avail little. The more money is called to explain to the masses the aims of the coming fight, the more individual, from mouth to mouth agitation is carried on, the better. The subject of week-work as compared with piece-work must become the talk of the day among the dress and waistmakers and take precedence over all other trade interests and discussions.

Simultaneously with this educational mobilization, everything must be done to fill the coffers of the Joint Board and to carry out the decision to raise a half-million dollar reserve fund. The members of the Union must not wait until they are in a position to pay the \$20.00 assessment in full; we are certain that no one of our workers is in a position to do this. The better way is to save every week a mite and to pay up this assessment in installments. The cloakmakers might serve the waist and dressmakers as a good example in this respect, and what the former have succeeded in achieving is not at all impossible for the latter.

Surely the present unenviable material conditions of the workers in the waist and dress trade of New York should serve as the strongest incentive for them to strain all their efforts and get ready for the fight. And when everyone that is capable of doing things in the Union will have done his or her full share, there is no doubt that within a few months the Union will celebrate the biggest victory in its history and the Waist and Dress Joint Board will assume the place of honor in our International which rightfully belongs to it.

### THE CLOAK STOPPAGE AND ITS RESULTS

The Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union last week declared the stoppage in the industry officially ended. This declaration means that the "cleaning" in the cloak industry was carried out successfully as far as it was possible. Of course, some who expected too much are disappointed. From letters which we have received we observe that some there were who believed that ALL the contractors would be driven out from the trade through this cleaning process and these are now dissatisfied. The fact is that the Cloakmakers' Union never intended such a thing from the very beginning. The stoppage was undertaken to drive out from the trade the so-called "social" shop and the "corporation" shop and not the shops of the contractors that are controlled by the union and where union conditions are observed.

The Joint Board similarly does not claim that the work of rooting out all the "social" shops was completely achieved. While hundreds of such nests were abolished, a number still remain against which the Union is continuing the fight. Whatever was possible to accomplish through the stoppage, however, was accomplished. The taking out of thousands of workers from these pest nests and their transferring to union shops was doubtless a great achievement. The worth and value of this achievement is not dimmed in the least because it could not be done for ALL the cloakmakers who worked in the "social" shops. It takes time to carry out such a huge undertaking and it is folly to argue that because there are a few hundred workers who have not yet been installed in Union shops that the stoppage should have continued indefinitely. The stoppage has accomplished its principal aim and its usefulness was then at an end. Now the union and its entire machinery must do all it can to bring the "cleansing" process to its logical and inevitable end.

It will require not only the strict vigil of the union leaders to speed the final outcome in this direction. The full co-operation of the members of the union must be enrolled to hasten the complete disappearance of the "social" shop from the cloak industry. Our workers must have in mind not only their own personal interests, the earning of a few more cents and an additional hour of overtime work, but must endeavor to make room in their shops for workers who are still without jobs. They must understand that even though they might lose a few pennies for the present, they will eventually gain thereby a great deal more. When the "social" shop has vanished, the conditions even in the legitimate union shops are bound to become much better. But as long as this type of shop exists, it will, indirectly, dictate work-conditions everywhere. The cloakmakers must grasp this truth and act in accordance with their interests not only of the passing hour but of their interests of tomorrow and of the future.

Many cloakmakers, we are informed, have not acted in a humane and truly intelligent manner in this respect, regardless of the appeal of their Union. Many have shown themselves to be greedy for the few extra cents they might earn by refusing to admit a few more workers into the shops. The Union will probably take strict measures against the near-sighted stubbornness of such men. We should, however, prefer that the cloakmakers see and understand for themselves the aim of the Union and help it in its work. It is high time that the cloakmakers understood that their salvation lies not in the earning of a few extra dollars during the season, through overexertion, but in making a regular living and working regular hours. Overtime is only a momentary relief, a palliative which brings only temporary comfort and is usually followed by a chronic headache and disappointment.

And in speaking of ailments we wish to touch upon one that appears to us inherent to the cloak industry and which will, sooner or later, have to be gotten rid of. We have in mind the cloakmaker to whom the cloak trade is only a side line to engage in when the season is in full swing and to leave after a few weeks for his normal vocation, whatever that may be. It stands to reason that such a cloakmaker has little interest in the affairs of the Union. He belongs to the Union only because without its card he cannot procure any work. Such a cloakmaker is, in our opinion, only a parasite on the union and by far not a wholesome factor in the industry.

It is this type of cloakmaker, who has in mind only to earn as much as he can grab during the few weeks of the season, that is to a great extent responsible for the "social" shop and for the other evils in the trade. He is a factor that constantly undermines the existence of the regular cloakmaker, the one that is entirely dependent upon his trade for a living. We do not know how many such "temporary" cloakmakers there are in the trade, but we are inclined to believe that their number is quite large and we do not hesitate to say that they have no place in the Union as they cannot, by their very nature, form an integral part of it.

We would very much like to hear from our readers, from the rank and file of our membership, their opinions with regard to this question. Perhaps, we are mistaken and this type of cloakmaker does not exist or is a negligible factor in the trade. It is, nevertheless, an interesting subject and we invite our readers to write to us concerning it.

# The German Clothing Workers in the Last Two Years

By L. S.

(Special Correspondence to Justice from Berlin, Germany)

The German Clothing Workers' Union has passed through two eventful years.

While the dreadfully bad conditions of the workers, both male and female, in the clothing industry necessitated a bitter struggle for an increase in wages, there raged within the Union a struggle between the two political tendencies in the German working-class movement, a struggle which on various occasions assumed a personal character. At the Congress which was held at Nurnberg in 1920 the clash of opinions went on for days so that it was not possible to do much real work.

The Congress held at Munich in July 1922 presented quite a different aspect. The influence of the Communists in the Union had shrunk to almost nothing, while the bad times and the attachment felt by one and all to the organization had brought together many of those who in 1920 had been bitterly opposed to one another.

This is a fortunate state of affairs, which will be welcomed by everybody who is interested in the International Clothing Workers' movement: For the German Union is powerful both as regards its membership and its influence upon working conditions. Let us first take a glance at the situation in regard to membership.

Approx.				
	Men	Women	Union	Total
1. Membership at the end of the 4th quarter 1920	22,420	87,491	4,370	114,281
2. Membership at the end of the 4th quarter 1921	21,381	82,810	6,200	110,391
3. Membership at the end of the 4th quarter 1922	7,000	8,881	1,300	17,181

It is not a mere coincidence that the decrease in membership took place in the years during which the Communists endeavored to get control of the Union.

We will now give a few figures showing the resources of the Union. In the years 1920 and 1921 the receipts from contributions amounted to 22,806,377 marks. The receipts from entrance fees, during the same period, amounted to 139,536 marks.

A Department for Statistics exists and is attached to the Bureau of the Union. From the figures published by this Department it appears that in 1921 there was 8,012 wage movements, not accompanied by strikes, that 112 strikes were proclaimed, so that there were 3124 wage movements in all. These wage movements affected 25 branches of the clothing industry and were conducted in 425 towns. In the wage movements not accompanied by strikes there were involved 21,948 undertakings employing altogether 69,846 men and 131,148 women. Of these, 50,142 men (75 per cent) and 76,909 (60.2 per cent) women were organized in the German Union.

In the wage movements which were accompanied by strikes there were involved 2,391 undertakings employing 14,955 men and 20,991 women. Of these, 11,503 men (76.7 per cent) and 16,781 women (51.4 per cent) were members of the German Union.

A conspicuous feature is the rather large proportion of women who, although not organized in the Union, took part in the strike movements. It may safely be assumed that a considerable proportion of these women are unorganized, since the "Chris-

tian" Union and the Hirsch-Dunker (neutral) organizations have but little influence among the workers in the clothing industry.

It is therefore apparent that also in Germany there is a large field open for propaganda to increase the membership of the German Union.

From all the available data, as for instance, the report of the Central Executive, it appears that in the years 1920 and 1921, and again in 1922, a conscious struggle was carried on against the lowering of the standard of living of the male and female workers in the clothing industries.

The disagreeable part of this struggle, however, is that our comrades in Germany, both male and female, must often feel that they are engaged in a never-ending struggle. Every increase in wages is more than counterbalanced by a further fall in the value of the national currency and a corresponding increase in the cost of living. When we take this fact into account our optimism increases for the energy with which the working classes of Germany struggle against the difficulties which threaten to bring ruin both upon themselves and the whole German people.

At the beginning of this article we pointed out that the recent Congress of the German Union was a great success. We were also present at the Nurnberg Congress in 1920, and again at the Munich Congress, so that we are in a position to make a comparison. It looked as if the delegates at the last Congress were quite different to those who attended the Munich Congress, so that we are in a position to make a comparison. It looked as if the delegates at the last Congress were quite different to those who attended the Munich Congress, so that we are in a position to make a comparison. It looked as if the delegates at the last Congress were quite different to those who attended the Munich Congress, so that we are in a position to make a comparison.

There seemed to be a rather considerable division of opinion in regard to the question as to which organization in Germany might become fused with the Clothing Workers' Union. As in other countries, so in Germany also, the question of organization by industry is one of the burning questions of the day. In point of fact the German Clothing Workers' Union already, to all intents and purposes, comprises the whole industry as it caters for all the male and female workers in almost all branches of the industry. On a previous occasion already, the Union had taken a decision in favor of amalgamating with the organizations of Furriers and Hatters. At the Munich Congress the question was raised as to whether efforts should be made to bring about a fusion with the Textile Workers' Union. The Executive Committee was of the opinion that an organization catering for tailors, dressmakers, etc., is not related closely enough to the Textile industry to justify an amalgamation whether considered from the point of

view of trade union policy or from the standpoint of the clothing industry.

The Executive Committee pointed out that a lot of work had still to be done in the clothing industry and warned against the unwisdom of imagining that, with the formation of a great industrial organization, the struggle against the employers would become so much easier.

The advocates of a fusion with the Textile Workers' Union defended their point of view by pointing to the greater power and efficiency which the formation of one great industrial organization would bring about, and they regarded such an organization as necessary particularly in view of the socialization problem. Ultimately the majority of the delegates decided that between now and the next Congress the Executive Committee should take steps with a view to bringing about a fusion with the Textile Workers' Union. This means that a decision has now been taken in regard to the principle of this question; it now remains to give full consideration to its practicability.

The Rules of the Union were subjected to a thorough revision. A minimum scale of contributions was fixed; these are now to be equal to about one hour's wages. The lowest contribution class is to be 3 marks, the second 4 marks, and the third 6 marks, and 2 marks more for each succeeding class until the highest class is reached, for which the contribution is 36 marks.

Various other decisions relating to the internal organization of the Union were taken at the Congress. These, although of considerable importance for the German Union itself, are not of sufficient interest to justify their insertion in this brief report. One of these decisions, however, must be mentioned here. In October and November 1921, the Executive Committee expelled from the Union, Wilhelm Schumacher and Ziolkowski. These were the moving spirits in connection with the "germ-cell" formation as inspired from Moscow. Wilhelm Schumacher, who was, up to a few years ago, President of the Berlin Branch of the Union, did not put in an appearance at the Congress in order to defend himself against the proposed expulsion. In the last two years this man Schumacher was one of the ring-leaders in the disruptive work that was being systematically carried on, not only in the German Clothing Workers' Union, but also in other German trade unions. Although the President repeatedly asked if any of the delegates present wished to put forward arguments to show why Schumacher should not be expelled, nobody expressed a desire to speak. Without discussion the expulsion of Schumacher was unanimously decided upon by the Congress.

Ziolkowski was present to defend his own case and endeavor to make out that he was being expelled from the organization through motives of "political animosity." In reply thereto the President of the Union, Comrade Plett, made the following declaration to which there was not a single dissenting voice in the Congress:

"I wish to declare emphatically, once and for all, that we should never think of expelling members of our Union for political reasons. If we were to do that, then we

should be obliged to expel quite a number of our branch Presidents, because they belong to the same political party as Ziolkowski. There are a number of such Presidents with whom we get on splendidly; as a matter of fact to a certain extent we get on better with them than with other Branch Executives who happen to hold the same political views as ourselves."

The expulsion of Ziolkowski was also confirmed by a large majority. By this the delegates expressed their determination not to tolerate any disruptive tactics within the organization.

The other countries manifest great interest in the German Union. This was proved by the fairly large number of fraternal delegates from other countries, and by the messages of fraternal greetings sent by these organizations which were unable to send fraternal delegates. From Austria, Comrade Smilka attended; from Belgium, Comrades Liebers and Cornet; from Denmark, Comrade Arup; from Prague, Comrade Vlach; from Switzerland, Comrade Schurter, while the Clothing Workers' International was represented by Comrade Van der Heeg. They all expressed, in cordial terms, the feeling of friendship and solidarity entertained by their respective organizations for their German comrades. The Secretary of the French Union, Comrade Reichenbach was prevented at the last moment from being present at Munich; he sent a telegram, expressing his best wishes for the success of the Congress. The delegate from Hungary was likewise unable to obtain a passport. Letters with messages of fraternal greetings were also received from the "Amalgamated Clothing Workers" of America, as well as from the Swedish organization. All of which is a striking proof of the revival of the spirit of internationalism since the war.

How much the increase in the cost of living necessitates the prompt intervention in Germany of the Trade Unions, is proved by the fact that on July 10, that is to say two days after the close of the Congress, the representatives of the employers and workers came together at Augsburg to negotiate a new wage agreement for the gentlemen's tailors made-to-measure branch. For Berlin, Bonn, Düsseldorf, Hamburg and Cologne the following scales of wages were fixed:

From July 16 to July 29, 1922, 2-1.2 marks per hour; from July 30 to August 12, the hourly wages to be increased by 1-1.2 marks. At present the hourly wage varies from 19 to 30 marks. On August 9 there are to be fresh wage negotiations.

In almost all branches of the clothing industry wages have been increased in the course of the last few weeks. At present, in Berlin, the wages of a cutter in the underclothing branch amount to 35 3-4 marks per hour; in Bielefeld to 31 1-2. For dressmakers: in Berlin, 23 1/2 marks; in Bielefeld, 18 1/2 marks. The weekly wage for a fully qualified female worker in the ladies' ready-made branch in Berlin varies between 669 and 840 marks. In most cases wages are fixed only for a very short period.

In Germany it is one long monotonous business: the fall of the mark, increased cost of living, increase in wages, another fall of the mark, etc., following each other in a vicious circle.

This state of affairs, however terrible its consequences may be for the working classes of Germany, constitutes just as much a danger for the whole of Europe.



# A Couple of Hours with Gompers

(Continued from Page 4)

When one couples the story of "Jim" Watson telephoning to the representatives of the railway owners, who were at that time conferring with the men's leaders in New York with the fact that this Watson is a personal and intimate friend of President Harding and that Harding delivered his message to Congress at the same time, and that right after the President's speech the railway executives broke up the conference with the workers and became uncompromisingly stubborn — when all these facts are put together and appraised for what their worth might amount to, it becomes unnecessary for Gompers to come out with a direct accusation that President Harding had hindered the settlement of the shopmen's strike. The insinuation alone is sufficient to form a basis for this charge.

I dwell on this one point of Gompers' statement regarding President Harding's message because, in my opinion, it is the most sensational point, using the term in its best sense. It is this point which is bound to make the deepest impression and will draw the attention of even passive outside observers, if any such there are in a paramount conflict like a railway or a coal strike. It is a point which brings out in bold relief the hypocrisy with which politicians seek to end struggles between capital and labor.

Gompers, however, has made many more important statements during the two hours which he devoted to the newspaper men, statements which deserve analysis. He spoke, for instance, of the President's cry that we shall maintain "a government by

law" and remarked that "Mr. Harding means not to maintain 'government by law' but 'government by injunction.'" He also spoke of Harding's record as a Senator when he sought to enact a law making strikes illegal. Gompers also spoke about the recently introduced bill to get the federal government to defend "foreigners" and gave reasons why the American Federation of Labor will be opposed to it. When the writer of these lines asked him whether the President's demand for a law to defend the "foreigners" implies a law that would give the federal government an opportunity to defend "foreign scale" as against native organized workers, Gompers replied that that was surely the purpose of the law but that they dare not state it in the open.

Gompers also spoke about the President's Coal Fact-Finding Commission, about the governmental regulation of coal prices, and many other worthwhile things. I confess that I have found something to criticize in Gompers' opinions, which to my mind are not entirely consistent and not fully in the best interests of the workers. I shall, however, have to leave this for another time. Meanwhile I will say that Gompers' talk with the newspaper men last Saturday has made a deep impression upon the correspondents both and that the Associated Press and the United Press sent out a very fine report of this interview. The impression was felt again that the White House and the American Federation of Labor Building are two "headquarters" in the fight between capital and labor.

## How the Mediums "Brought Back"

Sir Conan  
Doyle's  
Dead  
Mother



And How They Were Later  
Unmasked by an Unsentimental  
Policewoman and Detective,

Told by the Man  
in Whose House the  
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**Sunday American**

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The Unity Centers will be reopened on September 11th. Those of our members who wish to join them, register at once, at the Educational Department—3 West 16th Street, or at the offices of their Local Unions.

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# LABOR THE WORLD OVER

## DOMESTIC ITEMS

### TO SELL COAL

The New York State Board of Estimates adopted a resolution urging the New York Legislature to grant authority to the city to purchase, store and sell coal at cost plus the necessary expense.

### NO CHANGE IN DEBT STATUS

Secretary of the Treasury Mellon declared that the United States Government would hold every European power to whom it loaned money during the world war separately and individually responsible for its indebtedness.

### JUST TAXATION

Inheritance taxes are the most just of all taxes and offer a vast reservoir of potential income to the federal and state governments, declares John W. Huse, assistant director of the Massachusetts State Inheritance Tax Department. Doubling the state inheritance taxes (now over \$7,000,000) would make possible a reduction of small landowners' taxes, who are now most heavily burdened.

### FURTHER GAGS FOR STRIKERS

Senator Sterling (South Dakota) introduced a drastic bill aimed at violence in railway strikes. Conviction of causing death by destruction of railroad property or a fatality by interfering or attempting to interfere with interstate commerce by strike activities carries a death penalty. Five years in jail and \$5,000 fine is the penalty for conviction of violence or threats of violence in interstate commerce.

### LABOR TO SUPPORT LAFOLLETTE

Control of the Republican Party in Wisconsin is the objective of the most intensive primary campaign in the State's history. The State Federation of Labor is organizing a Farmer-Labor League in the interests of Senator LaFollette.

### TWENTY PER CENT INCREASE

The United States Steel Corporation announces a 20 per cent increase in wages for steel laborers effective September 1. About 150,000 men are affected. Under the new scale they will receive 35 cents per hour.

### PROFITTEERING UNCHECKED

Financial analysis of the Public Service Corporation's report of Philadelphia reveals that the common stock earnings for April were 16 per cent as against 9.19 per cent for 1921. The trolley patrons are still forced to pay eight-cent fares.

### MORE JOKES

Six Republican conferences of the Senate and House are holding secret sessions to pass upon 2,436 Senate amendments to the tariff bill.

### WANT WAGE CUTS

If the views of Eugene G. Grace, president of Bethlehem steel corporation, are identical with other business men, the bituminous mine strike settlement is a disappointment to these interests.

"Unless the settlement eventually contemplates the liquidation of costs through labor, then the settlement is not sound and will stand in the way of reinstatement of prosperous times," said Mr. Grace.

Mr. Grace made this statement following a meeting of his board of directors at which time the merger with the Lackawanna steel company was approved. This merger will benefit "insiders" to the amount of millions of dollars, which will be an added cost to the steel industry.

Since President Grace made the above statement the steel trust has raised wages 20 per cent, making the rate \$3.60 for a 10-hour day.

### "ILLEGAL METHODS" TO CONVICT MOONEY

Thomas Mooney was convicted by "illegal and dishonorable methods," declares John P. Frey, editor of the "International Molders' Journal," in urging trade unionists to petition Governor Stephens to pardon Mooney and Billings.

"They should do so as a matter of duty, because Thomas J. Mooney and Warren K. Billings are still behind penitentiary bars in spite of the fact of the prosecuting attorney's statement that there is no evidence which would prove them guilty of the crime they are charged with," says Editor Frey.

"When a local union forwards a communication to Governor Stephens they should also notify Mrs. Rena Mooney, Box 344, San Francisco, Cal., so that this loyal woman, who has devoted all of her energy and her time in her husband's defense, may know that another communication has been sent to the governor."

### PRIVATE WAR PLANTS WANT GOVERNMENT AID

A new form of subsidy is being urged by owners of private war munitions plants. They want the government to pay for the upkeep of these establishments until the next "emergency."

It is stated that there are 12 of these plants, some of them involving an investment of \$10,000,000. The prices that the government paid for war munitions permitted excessive profits and also allowed for sufficient funds to be set aside to pay for the investment. The government has thus paid for these plants, but the private owners would now have the government protect their war profits by relieving them of the upkeep, that the plants may be maintained in condition until the next war. Then the cry will again be heard: "The government must not interfere with private initiative."

According to press comment, Secretary of War Weeks favors the plan; must be endorsed by congress. The war secretary is quoted: "If there is a war within 10 years it would be a paying proposition for the government to subsidize the plants and keep them in operation."

## FOREIGN ITEMS

### AUSTRALIA

#### AUSTRALIAN LABOR DECLARES FOR CO-OPERATION

The annual congress of the Australian Labor Party, just concluded at Sidney, has embarked upon a co-operative campaign to bring the farmers into close touch with the city consumers. It is proposed that co-operative societies be formed of all farmers, with similar organizations established among the city workers, so that the products of the farm will be sold directly to the consumers. The Labor Party will also stand behind the farmers in organizing co-operative banks to finance their crops, and will aid them in founding co-operative warehouses to distribute their surplus products throughout the world.

### RUSSIA

#### THE RUSSIAN HARVEST

The assistant chief administrator of the "Save the Children Fund," in Russia, states that a considerable portion of the province of Saratov has been afflicted by hurricanes and hailstorms and much destruction of crops has followed. A deputation of peasants recently declared that at least half the population will starve during the coming winter unless outside help is forthcoming.

### ENGLAND

The President of the Khalifat sends from Bombay news of the dismay caused throughout India by the British Premier's anti-Turkish speech, which the Moslems regard as a breach of the promise he gave India that Thrace and Asia Minor, with Constantinople as the capital, would be left to Turkish sovereignty. "Indian Moslems," he states, "have been and still are faithful to their conception of the British Empire, but Mr. Lloyd George has shaken the very foundations of the Empire, for what is the worth of British citizenship when a solemn understanding made publicly to more than 300,000,000 of British subjects has been broken?"

#### FLIRTING WITH LABOR

The flirting with a progressive industrial policy indulged in by the Liberals at Oxford is probably only a prelude to renewed suggestions of a Liberal-Labor alliance. The "Westminster Gazette" has been flying kites of this sort recently.

Such proposals would most fittingly emanate from Oxford, which is remote from the realities of the world. In the industrial centers, where workmen congregate, there is no desire for a Labor dog to be wagged by the Liberal tail.

Mr. Sidney Webb, the Chairman of the Party, made it quite clear that Labor intends to maintain its independence, so that the Liberals will gain nothing by being coy but willing.

#### MR. RAMSEY MACDONALD RESIGNS

Mr. Ramsey MacDonald's resignation of the Secretaryship of the Second International was not unexpected; as he had intimated at the recent London conference his intention to relinquish his task.

The International Secretariat was reorganized at the Geneva Conference two years ago, when M. Camille Huysmans agreed to continue in office on the understanding that the British movement appointed a Secretary to undertake the work of restoring unity in the international working-class movement.

At the conference in Prague last week, over which Mr. Arthur Henderson presided, Mr. Tom Shaw, M.P., was appointed Secretary in Mr. MacDonald's stead.

### DENMARK

#### CHURCHES AND INTERNATIONALISM

The Conference of the World Alliance for Promoting International Friendship through the Churches, just concluded at Copenhagen, urged that the paramount duties of the Church are to strive for a mental and spiritual disarmament of the people in all countries, and to lead them to insist on a rapid and universal reduction of armaments and the adoption of arbitration in international disputes.

### INDIA

#### TO FORM POLITICAL PARTY

There is a movement on foot here to form a Political Labor Party, which will contest the various elections. The president will probably be Baptist.

### IRELAND

#### IRISH WORKERS DEMAND PEACE

The Irish Trades Union Congress delegates have passed a resolution unanimously demanding that the elected representatives of the people shall be called to meet immediately as a step preliminary to the ending of the present fratricidal strife.

In the event this demand not being responded to, and a meeting held on or before Saturday, August 26, the Labor Party members will meet their constituents and hand back the mandate given them by the electors and resign their seats.

Mr. Cathal O'Shannon, Chairman of the Congress, in moving the resolution said that the Labor members returned at the election had been denied the opportunity of carrying out their mandate.

In welcoming the delegates to the Conference, the Lord Mayor of Dublin said that he looked to Labor to bring peace to Ireland.

## Educational Comment and Notes

### Extracts from a Report Submitted to the Conference of Sixteen of the National Trade Unions of Great Britain

(Continued From Last Week)

#### The Workers' Educational Trade Union Committee

The W. E. T. U. C. consists of a central committee and seven divisional committees, which operate over all parts of England, Scotland, and Wales in which there are branches of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation. Each of these committees consists of representatives of the Confederation and the W. E. A., the Confederation in each case having the majority representation. The practice is for a member of the Confederation to be appointed as chairman and for the W. E. A. district secretary to be appointed as organizing secretary. Each divisional committee is responsible for organizing the educational activities of the Confederation within its own division. They submit to the central committee schemes of work with estimates of cost, for which, if approved, the costs are met from funds provided by the Confederation.

By this method the Confederation has established an organization which enables it to utilize the service of all educational organizations and institutions. It is thus able to organize and make provision for the most varied demands of its members in all parts of the country, while public funds are made available to meet the cost of tuition of those of its members who are unable to comply with the Board of Education regulations. It retains control over finance, policy and the kind of education provided for its members. It has avoided the heavy costs and dislocation of trade union business involved in building up an educational organization of its own by using the W. E. A. organization for this purpose, while retaining complete control over its own educational machinery.

This remarkable development of educational activity amongst the members of one trade union is indicative of the possibilities in the scheme.

The constitution of the W. E. T. U. C. provides for other trade unions participating in the scheme under such conditions as will enable them to meet the needs of their members in an effective and economical way. Each union can determine the amount it desires to spend, the way in which it shall be spent, retaining control over its own finance and the kind of education provided. The constitution provides the means whereby trade union educational activities may be co-ordinated while leaving to each union complete freedom to decide its own educational programme.

#### THE POSITION OF TUTORS IN ADULT WORKING-CLASS EDUCATION

(A) Selection and Training.—One of the most difficult problems to be dealt with in any widespread extension of the movement for adult working-class education is that of the proper selection and training of tutors. Adult working-class educational work requires from the tutor quite special qualifications and forms of knowledge, and difficulty has already been experienced in finding, under the conditions now afforded, a sufficient number of tutors for the work which is actually being carried on. Moreover, it is not always easy to

make such bodies as universities and the local education authorities understand the character of the qualifications which are required. There have been many instances in which the universities have been inclined to treat tutorial class work as a means of making up the inadequate salaries paid to the university lecturers, without sufficient regard to the question of whether its lecturers are suited to the extra work which they are called upon to undertake. Similarly, local education authorities have sometimes been inclined to take the view that any teacher who is willing to add to his inadequate income by taking a one-year class will do for the work to be undertaken on behalf of working-class students. It will be necessary for the voluntary bodies concerned in working-class education to continue to insist that the fullest regard shall be paid to the special qualifications for the type of work to be undertaken by the tutors proposed. This clearly involves the devising of means for the recruitment of tutors for the very big expansion of the work which is contemplated.

#### SPECIAL ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM

As already explained, there is now available a wide range of working-class facilities for the study of the history, methods, and theories of the economic and political systems, a general knowledge of which is the first necessary step towards exercising in an effective way a governing voice in political and industrial affairs.

Much more than this is required. Trade unions must aim at being as fully informed on all matters relating to the industry with which they are particularly concerned and the industries related to it as the employers or board of directors. Very little has yet been done in this direction. Indeed it opens a field for research which as yet has hardly been tapped. We are of opinion that trade unions ought to utilize the services of the Labor Research Department for this purpose, and that trade union members should be assisted and encouraged to become students, not only of the industrial system as a whole, but of the particular industry in which they are engaged. The most complicated balance sheets of trusts and combines should be familiar reading to the trade union leaders concerned with these industries. Not only the permanent officials, but the young delegates, work committees, branch officers, and also the members should endeavor to acquire as comprehensive a knowledge as possible of markets, prices, problems of management and administration, as well as the many other technicalities governing production and distribution within the industry with which they are concerned.

#### SEAFARERS

We are of opinion that the largest measure of help would be given by the preparation of simple syllabuses, so far as possible, in narrative form, with a short bibliography attached to each. These might be used as a basis of a system of correspondence tuition, suited to the needs of individual students or study groups. Where possible, however, study groups

## Opening of Our Unity Centers

On Wednesday, September 6th, our eight Unity Centers, located in Manhattan, Bronx and Brooklyn, will open for registration.

In every Unity Center an excellent program of work has been planned.

In addition to the classes in English, arithmetic and physical training, courses have been arranged in psychology, economics, and labor and labor unionism.

The course on labor and unionism will contain classes in the history of the labor movement in the United States, trade unionism in the United States and in present-day Germany, and current problems and tendencies of the labor movement with special emphasis on the development of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

Instruction in our Unity Centers will begin on Monday, September 11th.

Members are urged to register at once at the offices of their local unions, at the office of the Educational Department, 3 West 16th Street, or at any of the Unity Centers given below:

#### EAST SIDE UNITY CENTER.

F. S. 63, Fourth Street, near First Avenue, Manhattan

WAISTMAKERS' UNITY CENTER,  
F. S. 40, 329 East 26th Street, Manhattan

#### HARLEM UNITY CENTER,

F. S. 171, 103rd Street, between Madison and Fifth Avenues, Manhattan

#### BRONX UNITY CENTER,

F. S. 61, Crotona Park E. and Charlotte Street, Bronx

SECOND BRONX UNITY CENTER,  
F. S. 42, Washington Avenue and Clermont Parkway

LOWER BRONX UNITY CENTER,  
F. S. 43, Brown Place and 135th Street, Bronx

BROWNVILLE UNITY CENTER,  
F. S. 84, Stone and Glenmore Avenues, Brooklyn

WILLIAMSBURG UNITY CENTER,  
F. S. 147 Bushwick Avenue and McKibbin Street, Brooklyn

ought to be formed, for the benefits derived from study in association with others are always greater than those derived from individual study. In addition, we think that the services of teachers approved by such bodies as the W. E. A. and W. E. T. U. C. might be secured for short voyages during the summer season.

#### WOMEN TRADE UNIONISTS

(4) Consideration of the problem of providing educational facilities for women trade unionists was referred to a special women's committee representative of trade unions catering to women workers, and their report will be found in Appendix III.

Throughout our inquiry we have been repeatedly reminded that most of the work done by the working class colleges and educational organizations is of too advanced a character to enlist the interest of the great majority of trade unionists, and that, while it is necessary to maintain the standard that has been attained, it is equally necessary to make provision for the more elementary interests of the great majority. We entirely concur with this view. Much excellent work is already being done by means of lectures, courses of lectures, and

week-end schools. But the amount is inadequate to the need. It is in this direction that trade union funds could be used with very great advantage to themselves and to their members.

Meantime, we desire to report that in our opinion the phenomenal growth in the membership of trade unions during the last twenty years, and the equally striking development of social and industrial power and responsibility during the same period, makes it incumbent on all national trade unions to give serious consideration as to how best to provide for the varied educational needs of their members. We are of opinion that the most effective and economical means of doing so is by utilizing the services of the existing working class colleges and national working class organizations on such lines as will enable them adequately to control their own financial disbursements and the kind of education provided.

We are further of opinion that, in the sphere of adult working class education which is now rapidly developing, it is imperative that the working class educational organizations should insist on retaining control over their own movements.

(Continued Next Week)

## Students' Council Arrange Hike for September 10th

The Students' Council of our Workers' University and Unity Centers are making arrangements for the final outing of the season to take place on Sunday, September 10th. It is to be a hike. And Staten Island was chosen for its pleasant roads and beautiful lakes.

All those wishing to join meet the Committee at the Staten Island Ferry at 10 a. m. Sunday, September 10th.

Come and bring your friends, and help make this outing, the biggest and most interesting one of the season.

## Reception in Honor of Fannia M. Cohn upon Her Return from Europe

An informal reception will be given by the Students' Council of our Workers' University and Unity Centers in honor of Fannia M. Cohn, Secretary of our Educational Department, upon her return from Europe, where she attended the First International Conference on Workers' Education at Brussels, August 16th and 17th.

The reception is to be held in the Council room of the I. L. G. W. U. Building on the first Saturday after Miss Cohn's arrival.

Miss Cohn left on August 1st as a delegate of the Workers' Education Bureau of America to the International Conference. Following the conference, she planned to spend a few weeks in England and Scotland visiting their labor colleges and studying conditions in general.

The students are looking forward with great interest to Miss Cohn's return. It is expected she will have much interesting and valuable information on workers' education abroad.

## WAIST and DRESSMAKERS

### ATTENTION!

## LABOR DAY

(Monday, September 4th)

Is a legal holiday. Under no circumstances are workers of the locals affiliated with the Joint Board of the Waist and Dress industry to work on this day.

Under our agreement all week workers are to be paid for this legal holiday. By order of the

JOINT BOARD,

Dress and Waistmakers' Union.

JULIUS. HOCHMAN,

General Manager

M. K. MACKOFF,

General Secretary.

## Labor Spies Inc.

(Continued from page 5)

The Commission deemed the facts an spying to be "a typical spade out of the subsoil of business enterprise."

The spy network enveloped the Commission and got badly torn in the process. The church investigation was a new phenomenon to the steel magnates in the east, and "steps were taken" of a familiar sort to feather-bed its impact — quiet warnings, social influences, professed willingness to supply facts coupled with "inability" to produce them. The Commission, however, marched right ahead into the distant steel towns. Soon business men, who were friendly to the Commission and sick of the spy business, began showing to the clergymen copies of a spy report on them — allegations that the clergymen were really "reds" and their investigators were "Bolsheviks." This anonymous production was shortly circulating everywhere. The Commission records that when attempting to mediate the strike in conference with Mr. Gary, that gentleman insisted first on cross-examining them relative to the secret document:

While he rang for his copy, one of the members of the Commission supplied another from his own pocket. No one at the conference offered any suggestion as to the origin of the report. Mr. Gary's secretary said that their copy had been received in a plain envelope without signature. About the same date the interchurch investigator of under-cover men was sitting in the office of a steel company in Monaca, and at the request of the manager of the concern was

opening recently mailed plain envelopes and taking out unsigned spy reports. The manager explained that this was an operative's usual method of reporting.

Later, in reply to a letter from three interchurch officials, asking for information concerning the origin of the report, Mr. Gary wrote that he knew nothing about it, and was surprised that inquiries should be addressed to him concerning a document which he had shown to the commission "in confidence." The report was dated November 12, two days after the Commission's first interview with Mr. Gary. Then the false document began appearing in privately circulated official bulletins of manufacturers' associations. The Interchurch forced apologies from some of the publishers, but the good work went on.

Document No. 2, by another spy, with new (and equally absurd) allegations about the Commission, began coursing the country. This time the spy worked under the cloak of the National Civic Federation, an institution which includes in its membership men like Judge A. B. Parker (once presidential candidate) and Samuel Gompers. The Federation's secretary, Ralph M. Easley, first sent the document to Mr. Gary with a letter advising that such clergymen be "kicked out of their positions," and reminding him that the Interchurch Movement was collecting millions of dollars for church work, including industrial investigations. Easley denied the letter for weeks, but finally owned up.

Document No. 3, from the same system and circulated the same way, rehabilitating the same falsehoods, came to light some months later. But the purpose had been accomplished. The co-operative financing of the churches managed by the Interchurch Movement, under which \$176,000,000 had been subscribed, was wrecked. The

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## Ladies' Tailors, Sample Makers & Alteration Workers' Union, Local No. 3

### ! LADIES' TAILORS—ATTENTION !

The last season in the ladies' tailoring trade was a very poor one. Our members worked very little and therefore their earnings were small. The cost of living, instead of going down, went up in some cases, and these conditions made the struggle for existence for our members much harder.

The fall season is approaching and we must prepare ourselves to meet any emergency which may arise.

Therefore we have decided to call a GENERAL MASS MEETING for all Ladies' Tailors for TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5th, at 5:30 P. M. sharp, in Bryant Hall, 725 Sixth Avenue, where the present situation and future plans will be discussed by the following speakers:

I. Feinberg—General Manager of the Joint Board Cloak, Suit, Skirt and Reefer Makers' Unions.

Salvatore Ninio, First Vice President, I. L. G. W. U.

S. Yanofsky—Editor "Gerechtigkeit."

J. Rubin—Manager Protective Division and Uptown Ladies' Tailors' Shops.

S. Lefkowitz—Manager-Secretary Local No. 3.

By order of the

## JOINT BOARD CLOAK, SUITS, SKIRT & REEFER MAKERS' UNIONS

L. LANER, Secretary.

meeting of the Interchurch executive which finally adopted the voluminous steel report also passed the resolution that the movement be disbanded.

Three documents emanating from an industrial spy system or habit, therefore, were circulated with the objects of damaging the Steel Report and the Interchurch Movement. Others were heard of, but only these documents and their histories were furnished on the Interchurch. In addition the files of a high official in the Interchurch offices were ransacked.

The methods used against the church were methods used in opposition to working men. The sweep of the industrial spy system was simply extended to cover the "intruding" church. The same sort of documents were used—and in one case apparently the same map—to report on clergymen as on labor in steel towns.

A year afterwards the documents were used by steel manufacturers at a Senate hearing to block distribution of the Interchurch reports; a last appearance, as they were laughed out of court. "Manufacturers were caught" in that plight because their industrial spy system got out of their control."

\*"Public Opinion and the Steel Strike," pp. 51-52.

Members of the I. L. G. W. U. who wish to join the Unity Centers where English for beginners, elementary, intermediate, advanced and high school English, History of the Labor Movement, Applied Economics and Physical Training are taught can register at the offices of their Local Unions, or at the office of the Educational Department, Fourth Floor, 3 West 16th Street.



## PERFECT EYE GLASSES MEANS CORRECT VISION

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## RAILWAYS WANT

"OPEN SHOP"

(Continued from Page 3)

For these reasons the winning of the shopmen's fight is part of the struggle of all organized labor. From the temper of the skilled men who are in a serious mood now for a "knock down and drag out" battle with the roads, it is evident that the breaking of railroad service under the heavy load of farm products and of the mines will come sooner than the breaking of the strike.

# The Weeks News in Cutters Union Local 10

By SAM S. SHENKER.

Nearly six hundred members voted unanimous approval of the Executive Board's recommendation for the continuation of the Sanitarium Assessment and the creation of a Tuberculosis Fund, at the special general meeting, which was held last Monday night in Arlington Hall, 23 St. Marks Place.

That, and the reaffirmation by the membership of their previous decision in granting Manager Dubinsky and Brother Perlmutter, manager of the downtown office of the Cloak Joint Board, two weeks' vacations, practically constituted the night's business in a close meeting room on a hot night. Of course, there was enough business on hand to go on with the meeting. For one thing the appointment of a constitutional committee was important enough business.

The chairman succeeded to get order for long enough amid the clamor for adjournment to appoint the committee. What, with the creation of the T. B. Fund and the recent suggestion by the members for the reorganization of the Executive Board, the appointment of the committee was imperative.

The first proposition that was presented to the members for approval was the sanitarium fund. The Board recommended that (1) the one dollar per year the members now pay towards the assessment, should be continued; that, if upon examination by the Union Health Center a member is found to be tubercular, he should be sent to a sanitarium for a period not exceeding twenty weeks. The organization of course will pay all expenses including medical.

An alternative is offered to those who happen to belong to beneficiary organizations, such as the Workmen's Circle. This alternative is the payment to the afflicted member of \$200 for himself and \$100 for his family.

The three or four men who spoke up the question highly lauded the Executive Board upon its recommendation—as one of the men put it "This is the finest recommendation that any Board has ever placed before the members." The speakers said that the most critical could do nothing but approve it unanimously, which was how the recommendation was adopted.

The sanitarium proposition was slightly criticized for the alternative that it offered. It should have been pointed out that the Executive Board's plan was not thought out haphazardly. The secretary, Brother E. Fish, received four replies to a questionnaire he sent out to various locals which have maintained comprehensive funds. Three locals organized this fund from seven and a half to nine years ago.

All of the locals in their replies have practically the identical alternatives. The variations are very slight. They all highly recommend the same plan.

It should be mentioned that the reason why the union took the steps that it did in the matter of the sanitarium tax is that the Cleveland Convention of the International decided that the assessment be discontinued and the money collected be refunded to the locals. There naturally arose for Local No. 10 the question as to what it should do with this money and whether it should discontinue the collection of the assessment.

The very logical argument was presented that to refund the money to the members would be foolhardy, as the individual amount would be very small. Then it was felt that an assessment of one dollar per year per member is not a burden. Hence the only feasible way out is the way it was decided.

As soon as this proposition was disposed of motion was carried which brought up before the members the matter of Dubinsky's and Perlmutter's vacations. The debate on this matter was partisan and somewhat heated.

It is necessary first to mention that this question was decided upon some time ago. Immediately following the 1921-22 cloak season the Executive Board recommended to the body that vacations be granted the two officers for the excellent work they did. This was approved of by the membership at a general meeting on January 30th of this year.

Because of the urgent need for Dubinsky's presence in the office following the great struggle and probably because of the intervening cold days that followed Dubinsky and Perlmutter very likely decided to wait for the summer before taking advantage of the decision of the members.

Whatever may have caused the men to wait did not deter officers from arguing that the lapse of time justified the Executive Board to again refer this matter to the membership. By a vote of five to four the vacation salaries were referred to the meeting for approval.

The chairman was about to put the matter before the members. He brought forth from Dubinsky the question as to whether there was any other course open to the Board but the passage of the bills in view of the January 30th decision of the members granting the vacations.

The chairman ruled that in view of the fact that this matter was decided upon as long ago as eight months, the Board was justified in referring this matter to the members. And, the chair stated, the members have a right to reconsider it.

There was no other course open but to appeal against the ruling. And Dubinsky appealed. His argument was just that which he presented in his question which led to the ruling. He maintained, in effect, that since the members gathered at a general meeting constituted the highest governing body in the union, their decisions were final and binding until reconsidered by them. To prove this Manager Dubinsky cited a number of instances, all tending to bear his point out.

It was the manager's contention that when the bills for salaries were presented to the Board they should have been passed because the members had voted to give the vacations. And since there was no higher body but the members at a general meeting the bills should have been O. K.'d. President Stoller, on the other hand contended, just as he pointed out in his ruling, that the Board was not acting contrary on any decision when it decided to refer the matter to the membership because of the lapse of eight months. The ruling was voted down by more than a two-to-one vote.

Following this vote the chairman announced that in accordance with the decision in the matter of the Tuberculosis Fund and the suggestions of the Board, he would appoint a Constitution Committee which is to revise the constitution in the light of these matters.

Those whom the president appointed on the Committee, which met the approval of the members, consisting of ten members, are Brothers Julius Samuels, David Dubinsky, Benjamin Sacks, Charles Stein, Meyer Tumick, Joseph Fish, Charles W. Serrington, Harry Berlin, Harry Friedman and Jacob Fleisher.

It will be the duty of this com-

mittee to revise the Union rules and regulations in line with present conditions. Probably the biggest task before it will be the framing of the clause governing the T. B. Fund.

Provisions will have to be made as to when and how a member stricken with the plague may be entitled to benefit. The locals which have this fund have provided length of time of membership before those who come under it will get its benefit. Then there is the matter of the standing with regard to dues. Should a member get it who is more than three months in arrears? Or should he get it even though he is six or nine months in arrears, are some of the questions that the committee will have to decide.

According to present rules, the committee is required to report to the members as soon as its work is completed, and the necessary number of special meetings will have to be called for the reading of the amendments before they can be adopted finally.

## LABOR DAY LEGAL HOLIDAY

Attention of the members is called to the importance of abstaining from work on Labor Day, Monday, September 4th. The agreements with the various associations in every branch of the ladies' garment trades grant this holiday to the workers with full pay.

Cutters should also remember that in the event that they secure jobs in the middle of next week, that is of the holiday week, they are satisfied

to a pro rata share of pay. Pay for next week, in other words is at the rate of 36 hours per week. Those who fail to receive pay at that rate should file complaints with the office.

As usual the Executive Board has appointed a committee of 50 which will picket the entire district and members apprehended will be disciplined.

## MEETINGS FOR SEPTEMBER

The cloak and suit cutters will hold their regular meeting on the coming Monday, due to the observance of Labor Day. All the other meetings, as will be seen from the notice on this page will be held in the proper order.

## CUTTERS

Are cautioned against working on Labor Day, Monday, September 4th. Disciplinary measures will be taken against those who violate this clause of the constitution. Every cutter who works next week must be paid in full. Those who work part of the week are to receive a pro rata share of pay for the holiday.

By order of

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD  
PHILLIP ANCEL, Chairman,  
JOSEPH FISH, Gen. Sec'y.

## Telegraphers Granted Charter for Co-operative National Bank

Word has just come from Washington that the Comptroller of the Currency has acted favorably upon the application of the Order of Railway Telegraphers for a co-operative national bank with a capital of \$500,000 and \$50,000.00 surplus. Application for the charter was made by the Telegraphers two months ago, and after detailed investigation the Comptroller of the Currency could see no valid objection, either to the bank or to the able men behind it. He has accordingly granted the charter, although previously opposed to co-operative banking.

The Telegraphers Co-operative National Bank will be situated in St. Louis, the national headquarters of the Union, and will be officered by E. J. Manion, President, L. J. Ross, Secretary-Treasurer and other Grand Officers of the Order of Railway Telegraphers. Until a competent manager can be obtained, Walter F. McCaleb, Vice-President and Man-

ager of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers' Co-operative National Bank of Cleveland, has consented to act in an advisory and managerial capacity for the Telegraphers' bank, which closely follows the co-operative plan so successfully followed by the Engineers' bank in Cleveland, the resources of which now exceed \$17,000,000.00.

The Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks are completing plans for the organization of their co-operative bank in Cincinnati, the railway employees of Spokane, Washington, are forming a \$200,000 co-operative labor bank, and similar co-operative institutions are in process for Birmingham, Alabama, Los Angeles, California, Port Huron, Michigan, and other industrial cities, according to the All-American Co-operative Commission of Cleveland, which is promoting co-operative banks for workers and farmers throughout the country.

## CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10

### ATTENTION!

#### NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETINGS

Wait and Dress. 10:00 P.M. MONDAY, Sept. 11th  
Miscellaneous 10:00 P.M. MONDAY, Sept. 11th  
General 10:00 P.M. MONDAY, Sept. 11th

NOTE—There will be no meeting of the Cloak and Suit Division in September, as the first Monday falls on Labor Day.

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