

"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. 38.

New York, Friday, September 15, 1922.

Price, 2 Cents

## CLOAK WAGE COMMISSION IN GRAVE CLASH

**"THE COMMISSION CAN ONLY TAKE UP THE WAGE QUESTION," SAYS VICE-PRESIDENT FEINBERG—COMMISSION HAS ANOTHER MEETING THIS WEEK**

It was reported already in these columns, two weeks ago, that at the very beginning of the session of the Cloak Wage Commission, Mr. William R. Bassett, the representative of the Protective Association, had raised a question which was obviously outside of the scope of the Commission. He, namely, demanded that the Commission investigate, in addition to the workers' annual earnings and average period of employment, also the volume of the workers' productivity; in other words, he would have the Commission become an agency for determining the amount of work cloakmakers are to produce for the wages they receive.

Vice-President Feinberg, who takes the place of President Schlesinger on the Wage Commission in the latter's absence in Europe, immediately protested against this construction of the duties of the Commission. "The agreement made between the Association and the Union," he said, "prescribes that a Wage Commission be created to investigate the average annual earnings of the cloakmakers. The agreement, however, says nothing concerning measuring the workers' productivity and it is not for the Commission to undertake such tasks." At the end of that session, it was understood that Mr. Bassett had dropped his demand.

Last Tuesday the Wage Commission had another session and Mr. Bassett came forth again with the same demand for an investigation of the workers' productivity. Vice-President Feinberg again replied in the negative and the session ended in a deadlock. This week there will be held another meeting at which this fundamental clash will be taken up for definite settlement. When seen before the meeting and asked as to what his intentions were with regard to this essential dispute, Vice-President Feinberg said as follows:

"I can take part and will take part in this Commission only on condition that it will do what it was created to do, namely, investigate the earnings of the cloakmakers. Should the representatives of the Protective Association insist upon bringing up new issues and charge the Commission with activities which are not prescribed by the agreement, I will be compelled to withdraw from it." These are plain and simple words. The Union does not intend to let the Commission stray from its original and only purpose.

## President Schlesinger at the British Trade Union Congress

**FRATERNAL ADDRESS MAKES DEEP IMPRESSION—LONDON TAILOR UNIONS GREET SCHLESINGER AT BANQUET. LEAVES FOR BERLIN TO ATTEND CONFERENCE OF INTERNATIONAL CLOTHING WORKERS' FEDERATION.**

The annual convention of the British Trade Union Congress began sessions at Southport, England, on September 4th, lasting a full week.

As our readers know, President Schlesinger was sent as fraternal delegate to this Congress by the American Federation of Labor. He attended the Congress as the official emissary of the American Labor movement and from information we have received, his message of greetings has produced a deep impression on all the delegates. We shall reprint this speech in full in next issue of JUSTICE.

In London, President Schlesinger was received with enthusiasm by the needle workers who elected him two years ago as the Honorary President of their organization. While in London, President Schlesinger met Vice-President Fannia M. Cohn who was on her way to America from the International Conference of Labor Education at Brussels. They were

both accorded a very warm reception at mass meetings arranged by the London garment workers which were addressed by both Brother Schlesinger and Miss Cohn. The unions also held a meeting of all the executive

boards of the branches, which was presided over by President Schlesinger. Before his departure, the London Tailors' Unions arranged a banquet and reception in his honor. From the British Trade Union Congress, President Schlesinger went to Germany where a conference of the International Clothing Workers' Federation was held on September 13-14. President Schlesinger is a member of the Executive Council of the Federation.

After the Berlin conference, Brother Schlesinger will leave for France and will spend a few days in Paris to study conditions in the French women's wear factories. We expect that President Schlesinger will return to America early in October.

## Vice-President Sol Seidman Leaves for Canada

At the Edgemere meeting of the General Executive Board, Vice-President Sol Seidman was appointed International Organizer for Canada. This week he left to take up his new duties in the Canadian city. Brother Seidman will make his headquarters in Toronto from where he will conduct his organization campaign.

His principal task will be to reorganize the Cloakmakers' Union of Toronto which has become greatly weakened in the last few years. There is a group of loyal and devoted union men in Toronto and they promise to help Vice-President Seidman in every manner possible in this work.

The conditions in the cloak trade in Toronto are very deplorable since the Union had lost control of the trade in that city. The situation in the other ladies' garment trade is not much better and in addition to his work among the cloakmakers, Vice-President Seidman will also devote part of his time to organizing work among waist and dressmakers and skirt makers.

There is a big field of activity in Toronto before Vice-President Seidman and all his friends in the East wish him success in this new and highly promising work.

## Vice-Pres. Fannia M. Cohn Returns from Europe

Vice-President Fannia M. Cohn, Secretary of the Educational Committee of our International, returned last Tuesday afternoon from Europe.

Her principal objective in visiting Europe was to attend, as delegate of the Workers' Educational Bureau of America, the first International Conference of Labor Education in Brussels, Belgium. She spent a few weeks on the continent visiting France, England, Switzerland and Holland and making a special study of adult labor educational work in these countries.

She met a number of prominent workers in this field of labor activity and brought back a wealth of information on this subject. While in London Miss Cohn met President Schlesinger and addressed, together with him, several mass meetings of the needle trade workers.

Reception by Students' Council This Saturday Evening

The Students' Council of the Workers' University and the Unity Centers have arranged an informal reception for Miss Cohn for Saturday evening next, September 16, at the Council Room of the International Building, 3 West 16th Street. Miss Cohn will, at this reception, report on what had taken place at the Labor Educational Conference in Brussels. Officers of our Union, teachers of the classes conducted by the Educational Department and members of the local educational committees, the Students' Council and a number of personal friends of Miss Cohn have been invited to this reception which promises to be very interesting and instructive.

Miss Cohn intends to review her impressions of what she saw in Europe in general and the labor movement in particular in a number of articles which will appear in "Justice."

## CLOAKMAKERS, ATTENTION!

Owing to the abnormal situation in our trade, you are called upon to follow out these instructions:

1. Ask from your employer pay for your work each week.
2. If, at the end of the week, your employer informs you that he has no pay because "he got no money from his jobber or retailer," report the case at once to your district manager and he will take necessary action in this matter.

Cloakmakers! Follow out the above given instructions and you will avoid a great deal of trouble for yourselves.

**JOINT BOARD OF THE CLOAKMAKERS' UNION OF NEW YORK**

L. LANGER, Secretary

New York  
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City of New York

Meeting  
the G. E. B.

last, September 8, there New York City a special the New York members of the General Executive Board in addition to Vice-President Perlestein of Cleveland who came specially to New York to consult with the Board on the demands put forth by the Cleveland Cloakmakers' Union, to be embodied in the new agreement which is now being negotiated with the Manufacturers' Association of that city.

A number of very important questions which arose lately in the organization were taken up at this meeting, among these the situation in Chicago, reported upon by Vice-President Ninfo, who just returned from a Western trip for the International; the New York cloak situation, reported upon by Vice-President Feinberg; the organization campaign in New Jersey, reported upon by Vice-President Halpern; and the situation in Baltimore—by Vice-President Seidman.

## TOPICS OF THE WEEK

By N. S.

### HOW LABOR FIGHTS THE INJUNCTION

**A**TTOENEY GENERAL DAUGHTERY'S sweeping injunction against the striking shompen evoked a storm of protests not only from the ranks of labor but from newspapers, senators and Administration supporters. Congressman Keller of Minnesota presented impeachment charges against the Attorney General and demanded his immediate removal. From different parts of the country denunciations are pouring in. Yet, on September 11, this injunction was extended for another 10 days by Judge Wilkerson. And contrary to forecasts the most offensive provisions in the injunction were left unmodified. Daughtery then continues in the name of law and order insolently to violate the rights of the people and to arrogate to himself powers denied him by Congress.

What is labor doing against this menace? The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor met last Saturday in Atlantic City to consider a plan of action. One of the possible measures which attracted nation-wide attention had been the general strike. No one of course had expected the federation to recommend such action. The fact that the question of a general strike has been discussed by the A. F. of L. heads is in itself significant. But it is questionable whether this meant a consideration for the formation of closer bonds among the unions, and the paving of the way for a solidarity of labor which is sadly lacking now.

The Federation heads realized that the only way to combat the injunction evil is through political action. It is a long established method. And they have now re-affirmed their belief in it. They still adhere to the so-called non-partisan policy whose futility is demonstrated after every election. Plans are announced for a campaign this fall to bring about a "rejuvenation of Congress" by electing "friends of labor." A more remote political plan is to launch a campaign in favor of Senator Robert M. La Follette for President in 1924. Some see in this a departure from the traditional A. F. of L. policy because the federation heads would support him on any ticket on which he might run. This is interpreted as meaning that workers would still be urged to vote for La Follette even if he should head the Labor Party ticket.

### AMERICAN-EUROPEAN RELATIONS

**B**ENEATH the polished surface of studied courtesy there is a good deal of hatred and hostile opposition among Europeans for America. It is the contempt of an impoverished aristocrat for the strong and wealthy upstart upon whose favors he depends. It is the hatred of the debtor who is forced to contract fresh debts. European statesmen are obliged to continually seek the advice from the American government upon matters of prime importance. The replies that they receive are far from brilliant or enlightening. They are rather narrow, provincial and bigoted. But they represent a great power. Hence the crassest platitudes are received as if they were great revelations of wisdom.

Once in a while Europeans speak their minds. An example of it was furnished by the Kipling interview in "The World" last Sunday. Rudyard Kipling is not only a famous English poet and story writer but a propagandist of chauvinism in France and England, of the divine right of kings, and of imperialism. Kipling said: "They (Americans) have got the gold of the world but we have saved our souls!" They lent us money at 8 per cent and made a great business out of it." America had come into the war two years, seven months and four days too late. America had forced the Allies into making peace at the first opportunity instead of insisting upon finishing in Berlin. America quit the day of the armistice, without waiting to see the thing through."

An outpouring of bitter resentment and anger followed the publication of this interview. Senator Borah wrote a long article denouncing Kipling as "ungrateful, self-worshipful, mercenary, vindictive" and proceeded patriotically to defend America. Secretary Weeks officially repudiated the statement that America profited in the war. Statesmen, politicians, military men, newspapers rose in arms to defend the fair name of America. Criticism is not only bitterly resented when made by a citizen but when it is aired by a foreigner in foreign lands.

Other Englishmen, however, are coming to the aid of America in repudiating the slanderous charges of Kipling. Many British Lords are attesting the fact that America has not lost the soul. It is true that it has the gold but that does not prevent her from possessing a spirit.

Europe cannot afford now to speak freely. America may send in an urgent call for her money. Europeans cannot be too careful. After all Kipling is only a poet. And his statements cannot result in diplomatic breaks. The breach that he might have pried open will doubtless soon be healed. George Clemenceau, one of the four old men who perpetuated the infamous "peace" three years ago, will soon come to this country to convey the friendship of France for America. He takes issue with Kipling of course and holds America in high regard. He expects something in return for this opinion. Is it cancellation of the French debt?

### HOW THE SENATE IS CREATING A COAL COMMISSION

**L**AST week two bills, the Cummins bill, intended to prevent profiteering in coal, and the Borah bill creating a fact-finding commission for the coal industry, passed the Senate. That does not of course mean that the bills are only awaiting the President's signature to become laws. They are still facing the committee where every constructive measure is as a rule buried never to see the light again.

In the past, numerous resolutions tending to bring the facts of coal production to the surface had been killed. During the recent coal strike this demand became universal. And in the agreements between the operators and miners in the hard and soft coal industries there is a provision for the creation of a fact-finding commission. Nevertheless, on the floor of the Senate opposition against it was vigorous. One Senator declared that the Cummins bill "is not only unconstitutional, but immoral." The clause in

the Borah bill directing the collection of data on which nationalization and government control may be based was particularly attacked. They tried to eliminate it from the bill but were unsuccessful.

It is as yet uncertain in what form those bills will emerge from the conference committee where they had been sent. There is no question but that numerous substitutes and amendments will be sought by the Senators to mitigate whatever is construed to mean radicalism.

### THE TURKISH VICTORY AND THE ALLIES

**R**EPORTS of military operations, offensives, retreats, evacuations and victories again appeared in the headlines last week. For years before the great war and after the armistice war between Greece and Turkey continued with short intervals of truce. And behind these two nations were aligned the great European powers who sought to gain control in Asia Minor. During the war, Greece was whipped into the war by the Allies to fight the Turks. This war ended last week with the defeat of the Greeks. Smyrna which was assigned to the Greeks by the Peace Treaty has been won back by the Turks.

But behind this conflict stood the Allies. England manipulated the Greek side, France was behind the Turks. In other words France and England have during the last few years of "peace" been fighting each other for greater supremacy in the East. The Turkish victory doubtless represents a victory for French imperialism. But the conflict has not yet come to a close. The question of the Dardanelles and Constantinople is still open. Should they be internationalized or should they be returned to Turkey? And if internationalized, how? These are questions, like the German reparations and Russian questions, which cannot be answered by the Allied diplomats. They will constitute a fruitful source for more wars, misunderstanding and chaos.

While the Turkish Nationalist Government gained new prestige and power in the Near East the Greek Government suffered a serious setback. King Constantine is said to be on the verge of abdicating. And with the shrinkage of Greece a new government is being formed. The late former Greek premier and Allied darling, is prepared to take reins of government again. This change will surely be followed by many others in and around Greece.

## Doings in Local No. 3

By S. LEFKOVITS, Manager-Secretary

Since the General Strike and Stoppage of the Cloak Industry took place we had no reports in our official organs. The reasons are threefold: First, we did not report about the samplers and cloak makers as they were out on strike and were involved in the general situation. Second, we could not report anything about the ladies' tailors as there was no work at all and the members were not in the shops. Third, I myself, was busily devoted to that work. But now that the stoppage is almost at an end and we expect the ladies' tailoring season to start soon, I can write and inform the members of the doings in both trades as far as they are concerned.

Before the General Strike and Stoppage, the Executive Board of our local put up a demand to all cloak manufacturers who belonged either to the Association or were independent in behalf of the samplers to the effect, that a sampler-maker should get all the rights and privileges in the shop as well as any other member of other local affiliations with the Joint Board of the Cloak, Skirt and Reefer Makers' Unions. This demand was of the utmost importance to our members who were working as sampler-makers as it would assure them of more stable employment and protection in the shop that they had had heretofore. We had tried many a time at each and every occasion which had arisen to have this demand granted by the employers but were not successful.

I am glad to be able to report that we have won this demand from the employers through this General Strike and Stoppage. The sampler-maker now is entitled to the same rights and privileges as the operators, finishers, etc., in the shops. In case he is discharged after the trial period, he should come to the office and make the complaint whereupon the Union will try to give him justice and protect him in his rights.

Last season the firm of Amsterdam & Sachs dissolved partnership and the firm of Amsterdam gave a han-

quet to the workers in the shop and asked them not to leave his place and go to Sachs. He assured them that if they remained they would have work all year round as heretofore. The firm gave this promise in order to keep all the workers in the shop. But the actual facts turned out differently. At present the firm of Amsterdam does not fulfill its promise and when the workers wanted the firm to divide the work equally to all who remained, meaning one-half week to each man, considerable trouble arose between the manager of the firm and the workers in carrying through this division of work. It reached a point where the manager of the shop prevented the shop chairman from carrying through this equal division of work. This incited the people to stoppages. During one of the stoppages the chairman was discharged. After he was reinstated the manager of the Association gave him some instructions which the workers of the shop as well as the Executive Board of the local resented and after we consulted Brother Feinberg, General Manager of the Cloakmakers' Union, we found that it was not correct. A new chairman was elected and at present the work is equally divided in the shop.

During the stoppage no local union affiliated with the Joint Board had any branch meetings, consequently our branches did not meet either.

The Downtown branch will have a meeting on Saturday, September 16th, at 1:30 P. M. sharp. I request all the samplers and piece tailors to come to this meeting. From now on we will have our regular meetings the first and third Saturdays of each month as heretofore.

I hereby call upon those of our members who are working in the tailoring shops to try and take up men who are unemployed in order to fill up any vacancies which they may have in the shop. In case the bosses ask them to work overtime, they should refuse until all the machines are filled.

(Continued on Page 12)

# A Letter from England

By EVELYN SHARP  
(London Daily Herald Service.)

It is not yet four years since the Armistice was signed to close the "War to end War." Yet to-day's news is of fierce war in Anatolia, where a battle rages between the Greeks and the Kemal Turkish forces; of a serious revolt against the mandate policy for which Great Britain is responsible in Mesopotamia (picturesquely called Irak in foreign official language); and of intrigues in the Near East over the dying agencies of Austria that contain the germs of another great European war.

While England is not at the moment directly involved in the Greek-Turkish conflict, this arises out of the disastrous foreign policy of the Versailles Treaty, for which Great Britain is partly responsible. The long delay in settling the Near Eastern question, consequent upon the Venice conference which might otherwise have given hopes of a settlement, seem to be the reasons for inducing the Kemal Government to take matters into its own hands and settle by force what can, of course, no more be settled by force than the Far Eastern question, or the chaos in Central Europe.

As for Mesopotamia, however conflicting the reports from that area, it seems perfectly clear that there is a strong Nationalist feeling directed against the British mandate, which is being met in the old, old way by the British High Commissioner, Sir Percy Cox, who is arresting "extremists," suppressing newspapers, arresting their editors, and otherwise applying the doctrine of force which has so completely failed in Europe. And if all did not exist in Mesopotamia, there might not be any troubled

waters at all in that part of the world.

## THE EUROPEAN CHAOS

"We might be able to trade our worthless debt for the priceless gift of peace," says Mr. W. Bryan, late Secretary of State in President Wilson's Cabinet, in a message to the United Press. There is a healing note in his communication that comes at an opportune moment. His view is that the crisis in Central Europe is so grave, and the responsibility of the United States so great, that President Harding and Congress would do wisely to send a Commission immediately to Europe, authorized to say: "Whenever the European nations can come together on terms satisfactory to themselves so that the world can simultaneously disarm, the American debt can be cancelled." These are fine words, but what chance is there of their realization? A little hope lies in the interview of yesterday between Mr. Lloyd George and Colonel House; also in Governor Cox's manifesto, suggesting America's participation in the discussion of the Reparations question. And the S. O. S. of the German workers, in the shape of their despairing appeal to the British Labour movement will be discussed at next week's Trade Union congress here. But the most depressing feature of the European outlook now seems to be that the wisest statesmanship in the world could not find a sovereign remedy for a state of chaos that has grown out of the evil passions and selfish policies of a whole generation, culminating in a disastrous war and still more disastrous peace. The utmost that can be done is, by a drastic cancellation of debt, causing in many cases an in-

crease of immediate economic suffering, and by actual help in credits at least to Austria and Russia, to stave off the actual bankruptcy now facing the whole civilized world, and then, having secured a breathing space, to set about building up a new world based on international friendship and not international suspicion. But how is that to be done?

The Little Entente is a Big Entente at the moment. Its policy of opposing the proposed understanding between Italy and Austria which shall include Hungary, and its move towards an Alliance against Italy between Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Roumania and Poland, does not promise well for peaceful relations in that cockpit of Europe. Unless Austria is relieved from the necessity to sell herself for bread to the highest bidder this kind of intrigue must continue to the detriment of European peace. Germany is rapidly drifting into the condition of Austria; and the postponed statement of the Reparations Commission, within which disagreements are known to be occurring, is not looked forward to with any confidence. I do not suppose it is any consolation to Mr. Norman Angell to know that all his prophecies, derided at the time, have come fatally true; but it is a devastating thought for every one else that, if his warning as to the consequences of a world-war had been heeded before the event, or even after it, at Versailles, the ruin of Europe, perhaps of our modern civilization, might have been averted.

## LABOUR AT HOME AND ABROAD

In Ireland, the death of Michael Collins, about which friends of Ireland do not know how to write calmly, seems for the moment to have held up the Irish Labour Party's action with regard to the continued postponement of the meeting of Parliament. It appears, however, from a published statement by Tom John-

son that the matter will be decided at a meeting of the Labour Party Executive in Dublin tomorrow.

The British Trade Union Congress, which meets at Southport next Monday, September 4, will be one of the largest on record, and will be attended by 300 delegates.

Organized International Labour has made two powerful protests this week in defense of the workers. Replying to the French threat to occupy the Ruhr, Edo Fimmen, secretary of the International Federation of Trade Unions, has stated in Berlin that the promise of the members of the I. P. T. U. made at the Labour Congress in 1920, still held good, and organized Labour would use all the means at its disposal to oppose the occupation of the Ruhr.

The same organization sent a strong message a few days ago to the Italian Government, protesting against their inaction towards the Fascist bands, which are daily destroying and burning with impunity the property of Trade Unions, Co-operative societies and of the Labour Press, and assassinating every day members and officials of Trade Unions. "In England, the dock and waterside workers have announced their intention of refusing to allow the Italian ship 'Accame,' alleged to be filled with Fascists and to contain no goods, to put into port, a demonstration of Labour solidarity that has greatly impressed Italian Labour.

French Labour appears to be really roused over the battle between strikers and armed police at Havre, which resulted in the death of three strikers, the imprisonment of all the strike leaders who survived, and the imposition of martial law under which there is reported to be "quiet." A general strike of 24 hours was carried out in Paris as a protest, and demonstrations of sympathy with the Havre workers are being held in other parts of France.

# Piece Work— A Health Problem

By J. CHARLES LAUE

While labor organizations, in particular the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, is on record against the piece-work system in many industries particularly in the unorganized semi-skilled operations, piece-work is still the only method of work. Faster and faster is the pace as the lash of economic necessity urges the workers on, stimulated by pace makers, threats of discharge and all the rest of the methods common to the speed-up system. In addition to the ingenuity of the modern inventor in the quickening of employers in this country to utilize modern machinery to increase production, it is the phenomenal effort of the American workers that has raised American manufacture to such a high pitch of efficiency.

Our workers when they return to Europe on a visit, if they are so fortunate as to have saved up enough of their earnings to do so, usually are struck with the leisurely manner in which they still toil in the old countries. A visiting building trades man from England or Germany on seeing our bricklayers working like mad on a New York sky scraper, setting twice as many bricks in an hour as is considered fast work in Europe, is always amazed. He will also marvel at the big steam shovels that disembow the earth for you "while you wait."

A visitor in the huge National Biscuit Company's works will see machinery doing everything with only a lot of tenders, feeding the rollers, the mixing vats and carrying off the

products of the ovens, wrapped and sealed in their paper cartons. Intense speed is necessary for a worker to keep up with the belt carriers that have grown out of the evil passions and selfish policies of a whole generation, culminating in a disastrous war and still more disastrous peace. The utmost that can be done is, by a drastic cancellation of debt, causing in many cases an in-

crease of immediate economic suffering, and by actual help in credits at least to Austria and Russia, to stave off the actual bankruptcy now facing the whole civilized world, and then, having secured a breathing space, to set about building up a new world based on international friendship and not international suspicion. But how is that to be done?

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The constant jerking or rhythmic isolation these piece workers make, frequently result in extreme fatigue and nervousness so that but little research is required to show that the system is a serious menace to the health of women workers.

The improvement of the system of work as contemplated in the waist and dress industry of New York by the International is the result of experience in the cloak and suit industry where the belt-breaking and nerve-racking piece-work system proved even too severe a strain on the men and it was eliminated by the union's efforts. How much more vital it is to extend this improvement to the waist and dress industry where women are employed in such large numbers, for if anything the health of the young women and girls is more important to the nation than that of the men.

Of course the familiar argument will be heard that women are employed only temporarily in the industry and that it is unlikely that many of them stay longer than five years in the trade. There is the "pin money" fallacy about paying women a decent wage. These absurdities the International, as the largest union for women in the United States has

crushed pretty well in the last 29 years.

A woman may and often does, have an equally heavy burden of dependents as the man bread winner, but this burden is not made lighter for her by the popular superstition that she is working for a little extra money and will soon get married and be on "easy street" for the rest of her life.

Of course the two greatest health measures in industry in addition to the proper system of work are the 8-hour day and the payment of a living wage. The International has advanced further in these two respects, firstly, the 8-hour day having been improved upon by the winning of the Saturday half holiday in most of the important needle trades centers and secondly the waist and dress makers wages are considerably above those of the unorganized workers in other industries. Allowance must be made for the seasonal nature of the work and the broken time for the worker in these trades even during the season.

But allowing this discount the benefit the union has been to the industry is easily ascertainable by the comparison with the earnings of the un-

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# JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

Published every Friday by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.  
Office, 3 West 16th Street, New York, N. Y. Tel.: Chelsea 2148

B. SCHLESINGER, President S. YANOFSKY, Editor  
A. BAROFF, Secretary-Treasurer ABRAHAM TWIN, Business Manager

MAX D. DANISH, Managing Editor

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

Vol. IV, No. 38.

Friday, September 15, 1922.

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

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

# Science and the Workers

By L. BORODULIN

# Letters from Poland

By DAVID MAYER

(Special Correspondence to Justice)

When the Bolshevik first captured power in Russia and formed the Soviet government, they began to persecute, among others, the former professors and scientists under the slogan: "Down with the bourgeois science!" The term "bourgeois science" is not a new one and has been used since the early days of the radical movement. The difference is that formerly it was a term that expressed only scorn for activities which served the interests of a small section of the human family; but the Bolsheviks, through multiple discriminations, by designed "neglect" and other coercive means have actually sought to rid the country of the former scientists and to put in their place, in the course of time, others who would be their representatives of a different, non-bourgeois science.

But does this name mean anything? Is there any such thing as a "bourgeois" science? Let us consider it.

Science means, of course, knowledge. It means knowing all that transpires in the universe and about the human species; it means knowing when certain phenomena occur and why; it means knowing the intrinsic relationship between one phenomenon and another; it means the knowing of the elements, materials and substances that make up our visible world; of its forces, the effect of these forces upon us and the things surrounding us. The knowledge of these things is necessary in order that we stimulate or be able to call forth or create in an artificial way such phenomena that might be useful or favorable to us or to eliminate and destroy such phenomena that might be injurious to us. We must know these things in order to make easier our existence upon this earth and to create for ourselves a better, more secure and more contented existence.

Science or knowledge is practically the principal weapon with which we wage the fight for our existence. All other living creatures wage the fight for an existence principally by physical means, sharp teeth, agile movements, strong muscles, etc., while man wages his fight for existence principally by mental methods, by the means of his mind and knowledge. If a scientist seeks and discovers the cause of diphtheria by bacilli; if he seeks and discovers the antitoxin to check the ravages of this disease, it is not because he belongs to the bourgeois section in our social system or because he would apply the results of his discoveries to the relief of the bourgeois elements only, but because as a man he is doing his beneficent and important work for humanity in general. It is groundless, therefore, to attach such a label as "bourgeois" or "proletarian" to science. The vagueness and the desire to know is a general human trait and science is the property of all humanity. The term "bourgeois science" is therefore an absurdity.

So much for science per se. It is altogether different, however, when we consider science in its applied form. Science, for instance, has discovered that when iron ore is smelted in coals, it will produce a material which is called pig iron. When this substance is subsequently smelted in other ovens, specially constructed and under certain conditions it will, in its turn, produce steel. Steel is a basic and important material of our age. Now let us see what steel is being used for.

Steel is being used in the making of ploughs and of various other agricultural instruments. Bridges, vessels and railroads are being built from steel. Machinery from the smallest needle to the largest and most complicated locomotive is made basically

of steel. Steel, however, is also used for the making of swords, guns and cannon, battleships and other instruments designed for the purpose of giving one group of men the power to destroy the other and to absorb its wealth and property. If the peoples of all lands were permeated by the spirit which is prevalent at present among the enlightened section of the proletariat, all the steel manufactured in our foundries would be applied for the making of things of the first category, that is for useful machinery and instruments. As the world is dominated today by the so-called bourgeois spirit, a part of the steel produced by us is applied for the making of things of the second category, i. e., instruments of destruction, of hatred and of subjugation of one nation by another.

There is another instance: Science has discovered a method of extracting from the air one of its elements and converting it into salt which is called saltpeter. Saltpeter can be applied to various purposes. It is used for fertilization, for the making of dyes for clothing and also for the making of explosives. These explosives can also be utilized for various purposes. They can be made to help in the digging of tunnels and canals, for the clearing of the ground, for agricultural purposes and for the destruction of wild and harmful animals. But these explosive materials can also be used for the waging of wars and this depends on the hands in whose hands the power lies to apply the results of science in one or another direction. As the power today lies in the hands of the bourgeoisie, a great part of our products are applied for the interest of this section of our society, even though it is frequently not in accord with the interests of the other elements of our social system and very often in direct opposition to their interests.

It is in this sense only that science can be termed "bourgeois." We must, however, have in mind that science itself is not "bourgeois" but that its products are applied for bourgeois purposes because the bourgeoisie has the power of such application in its hands. But science is a general human property and the bourgeois elements of society have by no means an exclusive monopoly on it. The proletariat too could utilize science to protect its interests. Science or knowledge can be applied or used only by a special group of persons who are trained for it by years of study and our engineers, physicians and the other so-called professionals are ready to serve anyone and to apply their knowledge, accumulated through years of study, for each and every social group that will pay them for their work and give them the opportunity to make a living.

Today it is the bourgeois elements that know how to appreciate the paramount importance of science and utilize science and its products, it will be principally because they will find it to realize the colossal importance of science and to evaluate rightly the tremendous role which science plays in our lives.

It must not be inferred from these remarks that the workers could, for instance, hire all the engineers in the world on condition that they cease making war weapons or war materials. The workers, however, can hire or maintain their own engineers or other professionals who could render them uncertain services, which would be of great benefit to the workers. The field for such work is very large and we shall discuss this phase in our next article.

## FACTS AND FIGURES

Towards the end of the 18th century, when capitalism began to develop in Europe, manorial and feudal Poland fell to pieces. Early in the 19th century the partitioning of Poland among Austria, Prussia and Russia became an accomplished fact. The former parts of the feudal Polish state were compelled to adapt themselves to the new economic and political conditions of their masters and serve their purposes and meet their requirements. Poland ceased to exist as a separate economic and social organism and the Polish state remained only in the hearts of its zealous patriots as an idea and an aspiration that demanded sacrifice and held out distant, nebulous hope.

The World War realized in the defeat of the countries among whom Poland was partitioned and this defeat affected deep social changes in Polish life. The smashing defeat of Germany and Austria and the breakdown of Russia made possible the reunion of the former parts of the Polish political organism and the building up of a single economic entity of these territories. The state life of Poland, interrupted in the feudal atmosphere of the 18th century, is being resumed now in the atmosphere of a highly developed capitalist order all over Europe. Thanks to its geographic position—on the road between Eastern and Western Europe—Poland is bound to play an important role in the economic renaissance of Eastern Europe. This fact alone makes it worthwhile and interesting to learn a few things concerning this new state which was resurrected after 150 years of political death.

There are substantial bonds uniting the workers of America—particularly in the needle trades—with Poland. Poland is the only large European country with a Jewish population of 13 per cent. The biggest Jewish cultural centers of Europe are found in Poland, Warsaw, Wlono—as well as the most important Jewish centers of commerce and manufacture, like Warsaw, Lodz, and Bialstock.

The boundaries of Poland are not yet definitely established—from an international point of view. Eastern Galicia is still according to the Versailles Treaty—temporarily under Poland. The affiliation of the Wlono district is not yet settled by the Entente. In our calculations we shall, however, figure Poland as it is today, taking the above-mentioned provinces too.

Poland occupies an area of 386,619 square kilometers. 55 per cent of this land is tillable; the forest take up 21 per cent; valleys and pastures 16 per cent; gardening occupies 2 per cent, while 6 per cent is unfit for cultivation. Poland is rich in iron ore which is estimated at over 300,000,000 tons. The production of zinc amounted before the war in what was known as Congress-Poland to 100,000 tons annually. There is a lot of oil in the southern countries of Galicia, and before the war the production of oil in Eastern Galicia amounted to a million tons annually—5-12 per cent of the world's oil production. There is also found in Poland a great deal of salt, copper, lead, silver, etc.

The timber industry occupies a prominent place in the economic life of the country. The extensive and thick Polish forests are being cut down annually for foreign export. As a matter of fact timber is for the time being the only commodity exported abroad on a big scale.

The population of Poland, according to the census of September 30,

1921, consists of 27,160,163 persons, with a density of 73 persons per square kilometer. Europe in general has a density of 43 persons per square kilometer and Poland is, consequently, quite thickly populated. Poland is the fifth country in Europe in area. It is somewhat bigger than Italy though it has 12 million persons less than Italy. Poland has twice as large a population as Czechoslovakia.

The official figures of the government statistical bureau show that the non-Polish population of Poland is only 31.4 per cent. In fact, however, the situation is quite different. In the September 1921 census the Ukrainians of Eastern Galicia refused to participate en masse. Their attitude was that Eastern Galicia is not an integral part of Poland, and this non-participation has materially brought down the figures regarding the non-Polish nationalities. The Jews, too, intimidated by the Poles, in many instances had put themselves down as Poles, while the census takers had put them down as such in numerous occasions upon their own initiative. In Warsaw, for instance, there are, according to this census, 831,716 persons, of whom 72.3 per cent are Poles and the remainder—27.7 per cent—of other nationalities. The statistical bureau of the Warsaw city government, shows, however, that there are in Warsaw 35.8 per cent of persons besides other nationalities. The number of the non-Poles in Poland could safely be raised to other 5 per cent—more than one-third of the entire population and consisting largely of Jews and Ukrainians.

The Ukrainians live in compact masses in the villages of Eastern Galicia and are in the majority tillers of the soil. There are more than 3 million of them. The Jews live largely in the cities and towns of Crown Poland and Galicia and are engaged in commerce and small industry. Of the 114 cities of former Congress Poland the Jews have an absolute majority in 66; of the 235 smaller towns the Jews have a majority in 135. There are towns where the Jews constitute more than 99 per cent of the entire population. The total Jewish population of Poland consists of 3-1 1/2 million souls. A large number of Germans, about 5 per cent of the total population, live in the provinces of Posen and Pomosch. On the Eastern border there are about 5 per cent of White Russians, Lithuanians and other nationalities.

58 per cent of the entire population of Poland is engaged in agriculture. The small land-owning middle-class peasant, and the small landless are the prevalent features of Polish agrarian production. 18 per cent work in the mines, 9 per cent are engaged in commerce and transportation, and 16 per cent in other occupations. The country in general has a distinct agrarian aspect; agriculture is the chief element of the state economy; while modern industrial capitalism is just beginning to develop.

Industry is developed principally in former Congress-Poland which used to belong to Russia. Thanks to the limited Russian productive market Poland has obtained in the past tremendous possibilities in the realm of manufacturing production. The upper Silesia and the Chemo districts, small parts of which have now been ceded to Poland, are also highly industrialized.

The textile industry is pretty well developed in Poland and is concentrated in the cities of Lodz, Bialstock, Bielsk and their vicinities. Before the war the textile industry of

(Continued on Page 5)

# Some Phases of American Labor History

By ALGERNON LEE

## III.

No doubt one of the principal causes of the peculiarities of the American labor movement is to be found in the fact that the United States is a comparatively young country and that consequently, until very recent times, there were far better opportunities for the individual to prosper by his own unaided efforts than in almost any portion of the Old World.

At the present time, taking this country as a whole, it has less than 40 inhabitants to the square mile, while most of the European countries have 80 to 150, or even more. Our center of population has been moving steadily westward throughout the whole of our history, but it has not yet got beyond the state of Indiana. Though nearly two-thirds of the country's area lies west of the Mississippi, nearly two-thirds of its people yet live to the east of that river. Let the reader examine a map of the United States, and he will better realize what this means—that even now, three centuries after the country began to be settled, and almost a century and a half after it became politically independent, it still has large stretches of sparsely inhabited territory, great quantities of unused land, and vast undeveloped or half-developed natural resources.

Consider, then, what must have been the conditions a hundred years ago. At least nine-tenths of the whole population then lived within two or three hundred miles of the Atlantic seaboard. Even this narrow strip was by no means so thickly peopled as it now is. Back of it a great "No-Man's Land" spread away to the Pacific, largely unexplored, but known to be rich in cultivable soil as well as other natural wealth, and occupied only by two or three hundred thousand wild Indians, who could not effectively resist the onward

march of civilized man. Those who would go out and possess even the nearer portions of this hinterland must be prepared for danger, for hardship, and especially for arduous toil. To leave the old settlements and invade the wilderness was difficult, but it was always possible.

Thus there was ever a safety-valve to relieve the pressure of population in the older parts of the country. Year by year, decade by decade, the settled country grew and the frontier was pushed back. But until near the end of the nineteenth century there was always a frontier, and always a "backwoods" beyond it where land was to be had for the taking or at any rate for a very low price.

Three things followed from this.

In the first place, the new lands were always being "taken up" by the strongest, the boldest, the most enterprising elements drawn out of the population farther east. Individual self-reliance was an indispensable qualification of the pioneer. And in each successive region it was the pioneers who gave the keynote to the new society which began to grow up there. The tradition of Daniel Boone and Davy Crockett and their like—adventurous explorers, woodsmen, hunters, and Indian fighters, breakers of virgin soil, men who could stand alone—this tradition lived on long after the conditions which gave it birth had ceased to exist. Children and young folk revelled in the legends of pioneer days, which inspired them with an ideal of life that found expression in such sayings: "Fiddle your own cane," "Let every man stand on his own bottom," and "God helps him who helps himself."

In the second place, even after the era of the actual explorer and backwoodsman had passed away, it was in most places a long time yet before the population became dense enough to give rise to big cities or to sup-

port any large-scale industry. One generation had cut farms out of the forest. The task of the next generation or two was to "improve" those farms, to get rid of stumps and stones, to build barns and fences, to accumulate stock and equipment. They worked hard, in the constant hope of attaining for themselves or for their children a comfortable economic independence, based partly on the material fruit of their own labor and partly on the rising prices of produce and of land which would result from the continued growth of population. This hope was fulfilled in at least a large enough number of cases to keep it alive for a long while in the hearts even of the less fortunate. These folk were workers, but they were self-employing workers and property-owning owners of small property, indeed, but of property which promised to grow and perhaps in time to relieve them from the necessity of toiling for a livelihood. They worked with hand-tools in the main—for even the simplest of agricultural machinery did not come in till the middle of the nineteenth century, while the use of any mechanical power in farm work dates back only about thirty years. In most parts of the country no great works of drainage or irrigation were required. For a long time each farm household produced nearly all the goods it consumed; and of the few things not thus produced on the farm, the greater part were obtained by direct trade from self-employing mechanics in the neighborhood. There were few rich men, few propertyless persons, few wage-workers, few rent-payers, not much economic or social inequality, and not much need of organized action.

In the third place, while in the older and more thickly settled regions to the east all the good land had been appropriated, while the rural population in the regions far beyond more or less clearly divided into land-lords, working farm-owners, and tenant farmers, while cities of considerable size had grown up and capitalist industry had begun to develop, creating classes of employers and wage-workers—yet even here the self-em-

ploying artisan disappeared but slowly, the amount of capital required for starting a business was relatively small, and the propertyless working-man who wished to escape from the wage system still had the chance to "go west and grow up with the country."

These are the material factors which, throughout the colonial period and far into the history of the republic, were most potent in moulding the sentiments, ideals, and thought-habits of the American people. So long as these economic conditions prevailed, their whole tendency was to breed in natives and immigrants alike an intensively individualistic psychology—to produce and perpetuate a national character and tradition marked by optimistic self-reliance, indomitable energy, and boldness of initiative, and by an idealization of material success and of private property as a means thereto, which too often passed over into contempt for culture and for all gentle or generous feeling and into ruthless disregard for the welfare of competitors and for the general interests of society.

In portions of the Old East, the conditions I have tried to sketch were clearly beginning to pass away as early as the 1820's or '30's. In what we now call the Middle West, they remained in fairly full force down to the Civil War. In many parts of the Far West, essentially similar conditions still existed even in the closing years of the nineteenth century. And since men's mental and moral habits are as a rule formed during the period of growth and change comparatively little in later life, it is easily understood that in each section of the country the psychology first of the pioneer and then of the small farmer and the hand-worker tended to survive for at least twenty or thirty years after the passing of the social-economic regime out of which it had grown.

It is obvious that such a psychology was unfavorable to the formation of a labor movement and would for a long time hamper and distort its development, even after a change in the economic system had given it reason to exist.

## Letters From Poland

(Continued from page 4)

Poland has made great strides but hostilities wrought havoc in the textile factories of the country. First the Russians and later the Germans have stripped these plants of their most valuable machinery. Only now the textile industry is beginning to come back to its former state, and even though the disastrously low Polish exchange robs it of the opportunity to compete with foreign producers, it is steadily gaining new markets abroad. The Lode textile products are finding a market in the Balkans and Rumania; Germany buys Polish textile products for reselling abroad, and lately commercial relations are being resumed with Russia from which country the Polish textile industry used to derive its raw materials before the war and where it found its best market for its manufactured goods.

The development of the metal industry is considerably weaker, and even before the war it was not a sizable industry. To-day it is only 25 per cent of what it was before 1914, and the bad transportation facilities only add to its difficulties. For while passenger traffic on the Polish railways is now relatively not bad, according to local standards,—at any rate not much worse than prior to the war—freight traffic is in a deplorable state. There is a shortage of freight cars that are required for the proper development of the country's industries; there are no means for the transportation of coal, iron ore and

of the other raw materials for the bigger and heavier industries.

The strained relations between Poland and its two big neighbors, Russia and Germany, also serve to retard the development of Poland's national industries. Until this day Poland has no commercial treaties with these countries and Russian-Polish commerce cannot therefore continue to develop normally. It is still going on in an illicit manner, and Germany has forbidden the export of technical products into Poland which hampers considerably the productivity in the latter country. Nevertheless, the manufacturers and business men of Poland are doing pretty good business for the time being, and dividends amounting to 50 per cent are regarded here as small profits. Some stock companies pay their stockholders 200 per cent in dividends on their investments. Here are a few examples: "The Lode Wholesale for Textile Products" has earned in 1921 on a capital of 6 million marks 16.7 million marks; "The Kasheniov Stock Company" earned during the same year on a capital investment of 6 million, 11 million marks. The "Fater Company" has distributed on a capital of over a billion marks—100 per cent dividends to its stockholders.

Workers' wages, however, are very small on the average. The worker, to be sure, receives a considerable amount of Polish marks in pay, but owing to the depreciated currency and the high cost of living necessities, he can purchase but little with it.

The Government too is very poor, and its expenses far exceed its income. After Russia and France, Poland has the biggest standing army

in Europe which costs the nation huge sums of money. The land-owners, the nobility and the rich and middle farmers do not want to pay high taxes, while commerce and industry are still poorly developed and yield the Government but small revenues. As a result the treasury is empty, and the budget for 1922 is expected to result in a deficit of 500 billion Polish marks. To cover the annual deficits the Government is issuing hundreds upon hundreds of billions of new paper money which depreciates the value of the mark, increases the cost of commodities, sends the deficits up still higher, etc., etc.

After the close of the World War

Poland has waged wars on its own account, against Germany and Russia. It borrowed munitions and the means for waging these wars from other countries which had a surplus of them. Now Poland must pay back its debts; it owes America 184 million dollars, England 4,734,000 pounds sterling, and France over a billion French francs. This, however, is only a part of the national debt which this young state, not yet four years old, has managed to pile up. It owes large and small sums to some of the smaller European countries Italy, Switzerland, Holland, Norway, Denmark and others.



Drawn by ART YOUNG.

When an editor writes an editorial expressing the thought of the "American People" guess whom he means?

# JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

Published every Friday by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

Office, 3 West 16th Street, New York, N. Y. Tel: Chelsea 2148

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

Vol. IV, No. 38. Friday, September 15, 1922.

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

Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage, provided for in Section 1102, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized on January 25, 1919.

## EDITORIALS

### THE OUTLOOK FOR A GENERAL STRIKE

Theoretically, there is nothing impossible about a general strike. If hundreds of thousands of men in one industry can stop work concertedly and go out on strike in support of certain demands, it would seem to be just as feasible for the workers in all the industries of the land, at a certain moment, when threatened by a common danger, to determine to go out on a general strike.

The possibility, or even certainty, of sufferings and deprivations that are likely to be caused to them by such a general walk-out, would hardly deter the workers once they are convinced that the issues at stake are enough to warrant a general strike. We believe that the spirit of self-sacrifice and the sacred power of resistance to brutal and unwarranted invasions of elementary human rights is not yet extinct among the organized workers of America.

Only recently we had a glorious example of this spirit of resistance and self-sacrifice among the hundreds of thousands of workers involved in the mine strike. To be sure, from a material point of view their gains did not amount to much. It is true they have succeeded in retaining their former wages; but it is just as obvious that during the months of the strike they have suffered more than their gains might compensate them from a purely money point of view. These considerations have, nevertheless, not weakened in the least the fighting spirit of the miners. They understood that it isn't a question of mere wages; they knew that it is the life of their union that was at stake, their right to be organized. And for this right they were ready to fight and suffer long months until they compelled the coal magnates and all the entrenched dark forces behind them to say—enough!

Well, then, if it was possible for the 600,000 miners to stay in the fight for many months, why is it not just as possible for the workers of the entire country, when stirred by an extraordinary great event, to go out in a general strike?

The uneasiness which spread in the press and among the capitalist interests represented by it right after the talk about a general strike became prevalent, after Attorney General Daugherty had obtained the injunction against the shopmen, is partly explained on this account. Soon, however, the question arose: Can such a strike be carried out as a practical proposition? Are there men ready to lead such a strike? Are the workers themselves ready to go out on a general strike? And after these matters had been duly considered, the press and all the others who became alarmed over the possibility of such a strike, calmed down again.

There never was a more opportune moment for a general strike of all the railway workers than on the day the shopmen went out on strike. Had the Railway Brotherhoods joined this strike at the very beginning of the shopmen's walkout, or had they even given notice that they were ready to do so, the present strike would have been a matter of history long past. The Brotherhoods have failed to do so because they failed to realize that the strike of the shopmen was their own strike. It would be bad strategy, therefore, to expect that the self-same workers, who were so indifferent to the struggle of their fellow workers on the railways only a short time ago, would of a sudden become ready to walk out in a sympathy strike at this hour.

And what is true of the Railway Brotherhoods, whose interests are closely interwoven with the railway shopmen, is even more true of the millions of other workers who are "strangers" to them. Why should all these millions be expected to lay down their tools and enter into a fight in which they are not directly concerned?

It is true Daugherty's injunction has stirred deeply very large sections of the American masses and has made clear to them that the government is openly and definitely on the side of capital as against the workers. The injunction proved that the elementary rights and the so-called protective legislation of the workers aren't worth a tinker's dam when capital is seriously involved or interfered with. But, of course, this is not an entirely new affair in American industrial history and yet no general strike has ever followed similar brutal trampling of workers' rights in the past.

The history of the American labor movement, its prevailing fighting methods, its egotism and shortsightedness make a general strike at this hour entirely unthinkable. Not that such a strike is impossible, or that it could not bring the desired results; quite to the contrary. If there is anything that could bring the workers important and durable results, it would be a general strike. But when we consider the human material we deal with

in this country, the peculiar American conditions, and the state of the mental development of the American worker, we can conclude nothing else but that such a general strike, desirable as it might be as a fitting reply to unbridled reaction, cannot be realized.

The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, which is now in session at Atlantic City, need not, therefore, be expected to come out even with a mild recommendation for a general strike, whatever the feelings and thoughts of the individual members of the Council might be and however strongly they might sympathize with this idea. As practical men, as men who are in touch with the sentiment of the masses of the workers in this country, as leaders and not as dictators, their attitude towards a general strike at this time cannot be anything but negative. They know that any other action would place them in a ridiculous position. They know that the miners cannot be called out again at this time after a strike of six months and they know equally well that the Railway Brotherhoods are not ready to oblige such a call.

Of course there will be found persons who, running to their true form, will come out with the silly clamor: "Traitors! Reactionaries! Misleaders!" and who will point to the fact that several unions here and there have demanded, in one way or another, a general strike but that their leaders ruled otherwise and thus "came to the rescue of capital." This is fundamentally false. The unions which demanded a general strike are infinitesimal in size as compared with the great majority of workers. The fact that we have such unions in America is in itself, it is true, a sign of progress, but it must not be falsely interpreted as an index that such a general strike is a practical possibility today.

The American workers are not yet ripe for a general stoppage of work. We should feel immensely gratified if the leaders of American labor will prove equal to the task of being ready to suffer in their fight against the injunction, even to the extent of going to prison for it. We are not altogether confident about it. It is true we have witnessed individual examples of such readiness in recent American labor history but it still remains to be seen whether this spirit of self-sacrifice is present among the greater numbers of the leaders of American labor.

### MAKING CLOAKS AS A SIDE-LINE

Several weeks ago we have touched upon a subject which, in our opinion is of considerable importance to the workers in the cloak industry. We have in mind the type of a cloakmaker who was engaged all year round in other occupations but entered the cloak factory during the season and disappears again, after the rush is over, until the next season.

We stated that such a cloakmaker, even though he carries a union card, cannot be a real union man; that he is out to make a few extra dollars during the season and cares little for the union, its struggles and problems. We asked our readers to express their opinions concerning this type of cloakmaker and to suggest what to do with him.

We received several letters from our readers anent this matter and we must admit that their correspondence has failed entirely to enlighten us. It appears to us that they have misunderstood the gist of the whole subject.

We did not have in mind the cloakmaker who, during the slack period of the year, seeks to make a few dollars here and there on the side. Such a worker cannot be regarded as a "side-line" cloakmaker. To him the making of cloaks is the principal occupation and he is driven to look for an additional hard-earned dollar because of want and inability to make ends meet on his earnings in the cloak shop.

The person we have in mind is of quite a different type. There are cloakmakers who have, after years of saving, managed to buy a stationery store, a cigar stand and similar other businesses from which they are able to derive a living. Nevertheless, these men, when the busy season comes around, invade the cloak shops to earn a few hundred dollars in a hurry, taking advantage of the short work hours, and the comparative high earnings during the season. It was this type of cloakmaker that we termed "parasite" upon the union and the cloak industry.

If there are only a few individuals in this category, it is, of course, hardly worth while discussing it. But persons familiar with the industry inform us that there are at least 20 per cent of such men in the trade. In other words, of every hundred cloakmakers, there are twenty, one-fifth of the total employed in the industry, who are making a living from other occupations, and if this is the case, this matter certainly deserves earnest consideration.

If one-fifth of the cloaks manufactured in New York City are made by persons who are not dependent upon it for their living, it would stand to reason that had these cloaks been made by the regular cloakmakers, that their slack seasons would be shorter, their work-seasons longer, and their earnings bigger.

And in order not to be misunderstood again, we want to state our opinion in clear and unequivocal terms. It is true that the amount of cloaks made in this country could be produced by a much smaller number of cloakmakers. Nevertheless, we shouldn't like to see a single cloakmaker driven out of the trade. Every man in the industry has just as much of a right to make a living from his work as the other and the industry owes him as much of an opportunity to make a living at it. But this all refers to men whose existence depends upon the cloak industry, and not to "side-line" cloakmakers, to such who come to the cloak shop only during the few rush weeks of the season in order to "cut a melon," whom we cannot regard as an integral part of the workers in the industry. The union must, first of all, take care of the bread and butter of the regular, all-year-round cloakmaker.

# Labor at the Forefront in Washington

By B. MAIMAN

(Special Washington Correspondence to "Justice")

Never yet in American history has the government been so wholly preoccupied with industrial problems to the practical exclusion of all political questions. Never yet in American history was the Capital so thoroughly absorbed, two months before a national election, in strikes to the extent that all candidates, political issues and campaign literature are entirely forgotten and all and everybody is talking nothing but strikes, possible settlements, injunctions, labor unions and their leaders, the rights and the "tyranny" of organized labor, etc., etc.

Washington is the pivotal point of American politics. And Washington used to bother about labor questions only insofar as, from time to time, would become necessary to pass some new labor law or to decide upon an "investigation" or a similar project. Occasionally the elevation of a labor leader to a high place in the government as a sap to organized labor would engage the attention of the Washington public. That much was the extent of Washington's interest in labor problems. All the rest of its time Washington would devote to politics, politics and once again politics. Today, however, the capital seems to have forgotten entirely its great perennial mission and is, from head to foot, involved in labor questions, among which the most absorbing one is the problem of how to settle the railroad strike.

It must not be inferred therefrom that the coming November elections are not of great importance to the Republican or Democratic parties. While not a presidential year, the congressional poll of this year is of tremendous significance to both the old parties. First, the control of the Senate and the House is in itself of great importance. Second, should the Republican party lose its majority in both houses, it will inevitably lose the presidential election of 1924 or at least its chances of success would be decidedly reduced. Third, it must be kept in mind that to each congressman and Senator his own campaign is more important than anything else in the world. If he falls through, if he loses in the primaries of his own party or in November in the general election, it means to him a greater personal loss than his party's loss of gain in general. Nevertheless, today, on the eve of the political day of judgment, Washington is worrying

not about politics but about the labor question. How is this explained?

Very simply. There is a war on between capital and labor and the government is taking definite sides in this conflict. There was a war in Europe and the American government did not wish to, or could not, remain neutral and took part in that contest. At once all other problems were put on a shelf and all the resources and energy of the country were centered on the persecution of the war against Germany which was quite natural too, as in times of war all other problems appear small and insignificant and all that is vital and capable in to hand is placed in the service of there is a war between capital and the war-waging machine. Today labor in our own country and by its actions the American government has already shown that it is partisan in this conflict. All other problems have automatically been pushed to the background and the industrial conflict that is raging occupies the first place on the agenda and everything else has been dwarfed and lost sight of.

The railway shopmen's strike is no any longer a strike of several hundred thousand workers against a number of employers in a certain industry. It has transcended the ramifications of one union or industry and has become the fight of all the workers against all employers. The government is more than anyone else responsible for it. The government has lifted the strike from the limited frame of a certain union against certain capitalists and converted it into a class conflict.

The blunder began when the government, through the Railway Labor Board, had made the first decision concerning the wages of the shopmen. It will be remembered that when the Board was first appointed, assurances were given that it was not the intention of the government to make this Board a dictator in labor questions. The Board was only to serve as a go-between and an investigator and reporter on facts in the railroad industry for the government. Of a sudden the government assumed dictatorial powers and the right to enforce its decisions. After the executives of the railroad had refused, time and again, to accept the mandatory decisions of this Board, it could hardly have been expected that the workers would submit to the rulings of the Board with-

out a fight. The second mistake made by the government was when the President declared that the strike was not a fight against the railroad owners but against the entire country. With this statement he encouraged the die-hard employers to stand fast and not to think of any concessions or compromises. And now comes blunder number three, the biggest and gravest of them all. It is the Daugherty injunction which has brought out in bold relief the fact that the fight is not merely a contest of the railway shopmen against some railway-syers but a challenge of the entire employing class in America against organized labor, a challenge supported by the government which seeks to strangle the strike.

It must be obvious by this time to the government that it has made a grievous error. To be sure, the government might charge up the consequences of this error to John L. Lewis, the President of the United Mine Workers, strange as this may seem. When under the Wilson administration, Attorney General Palmer obtained an injunction against the striking miners, John L. Lewis bowed his head, promised to obey and the strike petered out. The present administration had therefore a right to expect a similar turn in the shopmen's strike. It had hoped that the workers would meekly obey the almighty mandate of the injunction and would return to work. Instead of that the injunction acted like a trumpet call to the passive and half asleep masses of American workers who have become aroused over this act of judicial fight as never before in the history of our industrial conflicts.

Daugherty and some of the other leaders of the present administration, far from being consistent leaders, belong rather to the "bully," terrorizing type of fellows, the kind that is awfully brave against their weaker brethren but who become quite cowardly when their acts meet with the proper sort of repulse. Daugherty must have thought he could throw a genuine scare into the entire working class of America. When the echo of the injunction had reached him, however, he all but lost his head.

It is difficult to say what will be the administration's next step. One thing is certain that there will be less threats, and attempts will be made to get from under as gracefully as possible. This experience will, at all events, teach the government a lesson not to make quite so readily and openly a strike of workers against the employers its own fight.

And not only the executive department of the government is busy with strikes and labor. The legislative branch is not less concerned with it and Congress has devoted most of its time lately to plans how to prevent "the recurrence of such strikes in the future." Bills are being introduced in the House of Representatives and the Senate, investigations

are being proposed and committees appointed to seek ways and means of preventing strikes.

While the Senate adopted Senator Borah's resolution to appoint a Fact-Finding Coal Commission, several Senators attempted to strike out from the bill any reference which indicated that the investigation be made with the purpose of reporting about the advisability of "the nationalization of coal mines." The Senate, however, decided that these words remain in the resolution. It is remarkable that even some conservative Senators voted for it. It would seem that the thought that nationalization is the only means of preventing strikes in such public-necessity industries like coal is beginning to find a response even among hidebound minds.

If the railway shopmen's strike has proved anything, it has shown conclusively that a strike cannot be settled by injunction or threats of violence. It is to be hoped that our government has seen the light already, and that explains the uneasiness which prevails in tight places. That's why they have for a time given up all other questions and are devoting their attention solely to the one problem,—the most important of all the problems of our national life—the labor problem.



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

## Wisdom of the Poor Fish

By ART YOUNG

The Poor Fish Says:

It's all right to organize, but not to belong to the unions. He says he would approve of unions if they would only stop antagonizing the best people.



## Piece Work—A Health Problem

(Continued from Page 4)

organized. A recent investigation of the Federal Women's Bureau showed that the most common wage paid to women in Kansas in 1919, during the war boom was \$12.00 while the average weekly wage was not less than \$9.00. In the South, where the textile industry is composed mostly of Negro women, more than half of the women in 1920 received less than \$11.70 a week, according to a Federal census.

All health authorities agree that women in industry require special protection. This would apply to union regulations as well as to the law. Long hours in the factory are as serious for woman as for the man.

The latter is through work when he leaves his job at night, while the woman often has several hours of house work to do after she gets home.

This of course applies particularly to the married woman in industry who is forced to work because of economic necessity and must moreover take any job she can get without too much question of wages and hours. In the unionized trades these things are regulated. In the local waist and dress industry it is now proposed to make a basic improvement by changing the piece-work system into week-work. The effect upon the workers health will be worth observing.

We believe that, now, after we had made the subject clear, our readers will be in a better position to contribute their opinions and suggestions on this matter. Let them say whether they believe that the "side-line" cloakmaker has a right to make cloaks as well as regular men in the trade, or that he constitutes a real menace to the industry and must be eliminated.



# LADIES' TAILORS, SAMPLE MAKERS & ALTERATION WORKERS' UNION, LOCAL NO. 3

## ATTENTION!

A regular Branch Meeting of the Sample Makers and Cloak Tailors will be held on Saturday, September 16th, at 1:30 P. M. sharp, in Labor Temple, 14th Street and 2nd Avenue.

A regular Branch meeting with the Ladies' Tailors will be held on Tuesday, September 19th, at 8 P. M. sharp, at the Harlem Socialist Educational Center, 62 East 106th Street.

All of our members are requested to come to these important meetings without fail.

By order of the Executive Board.

S. LEFKOVITS, Manager-Secretary.

## UNION HEALTH CENTER DENTAL DEPARTMENT IS BEING ENLARGED

In keeping with the plans for making the Union Health Center of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union a larger and more complete place, one of the first things that is being carried out is the extension of the Dental Department. To meet the needs of the ever-

growing number of patients several more dental chairs are being installed and plans for continued development of the department are being made.

Dr. George M. Price, director of the Health Center, who has just returned from Europe, intimated that there were other plans to be carried out in the policy for the "bigger and better Health Center" for the workers, which will be discussed at a later date.

## THE MODERN FASHION SCHOOL

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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

### USELESS COMMISSION.

The Denver Labor Bulletin is conducting an agitation against the Colorado state industrial commission. Candidates for governor, representatives and senators are called upon to state if they favor abolishing the commission or amending it. Under the law workers cannot strike until they have submitted their grievance to this commission.

"The industrial commission," says the Labor Bulletin, "has signally failed in the purpose for which it was ostensibly created and has exerted absolutely no influence in stopping strikes. It is costing the taxpayers a huge sum to maintain it as now constituted and has become nothing more than a political pawn."

### UNEMPLOYMENT IS INCREASING IN MANY PLANTS.

Employment in 1,428 plants normally employing 500 or more persons each, and having a total of 1,600,000 employees, as reported to the United States Employment Service, showed 1,381 less persons employed on August 31 than on July 31.

On the other hand, of 65 industrial cities, 39 reported increased employment in August over July. The 26 cities where unemployment was worse in August than in July included St. Paul, Birmingham, Sioux City, Pittsburgh, Peoria, Youngstown, San Francisco, Kansas City, Johnstown, Detroit, Portland, Ore., Toledo, Trenton, New York, Bayonne, Albany, Grand Rapids, Passaic, New Bedford, Bridgeport, St. Louis, Falls River, Providence, Indianapolis, Niagara Falls and Springfield, Mass.

### PITTSBURGH FURRIERS SECURE TWO-YEAR CONTRACT EXTENSION

A renewal of all agreements with the manufacturing furriers in which the existing 44-hour week and wage scales have been continued for a two-year period, has been announced by Morris Kaufman, president of the International Fur Workers' Union.

All legal holidays, time and a half pay for overtime, and the setting of a minimum wage scale are among the terms of the renewed agreement.

### LABOR BANK FOR BUFFALO.

As a direct outcome of the "open shop" campaign and the Buffalo street car strike, the Central Labor Union of Buffalo has voted to proceed with the establishment of a co-operative labor bank. A committee of local trade union leaders has been appointed to arrange the details of organization, and a large number of individual trades unions and small business men have already promised their financial and moral support.

The immediate occasion for the Buffalo labor bank was the discovery by local trade unionists that the big bankers of Buffalo were taking the workers' deposits and lending them to the most prominent union busters of the city, including the street railway corporation. The Committee on Banking and Credit of the All-American Co-operative Commission of Cleveland has already tendered its assistance to the Buffalo workers in the formation of a sound and stable co-operative bank.

### CANADIAN MINERS WIN.

United Mine Workers of this District (No. 18) have won a clear-cut victory and their long strike, starting April 1 has ended. The coal owners attempted to cut wages 50 per cent. The men returned to work with a 15 per cent reduction until at least 75 per cent of the miners in the central competitive field in the United States re-established their old scale. This means that the Alberta men will not be compelled to accept any reduction.

### TEXTILE WAGES LOW.

"Employees insist that a 170 per cent wage increase was given during war time, but they refuse, or are ashamed, to state the basic price paid pre-war prior to the war in the cotton mills," says Textile Worker, official magazine of the United Textile Workers.

"Less than 8.00 per week was the average price paid in the cotton plants of the United States.

"The cost of a pound of cotton can be gauged, and if our federal government was fair it would investigate this industry and find out the frauds that have been committed under the caption 'Americanism.'"

### TO STUDY INDUSTRY

The National Personnel Association, inaugurating a move toward the study of the human factor in industry, as a means of promoting both social and economic progress, appointed a committee to make inquiries into various fields of industrial relations with the object of advancing the understanding of the principles, policies and methods of creating and maintaining satisfactory relations between commerce and industry.

### ORGANIZE, BUT NOT AGAINST GOVERNMENT

The First Assistant Postmaster General Bartlett in an address before the annual convention of the National Association of Post-Office Laborers now holding in Boston, Mass., declared that "postal workers may organize for the public good and for their mutual benefit but no group of men and women anywhere at any time has a right to organize against the government itself."

### FLUCTUATIONS

Living costs throughout the United States rose six-tenths of 1 per cent from March 1 to August 1; and 55.6 per cent from the beginning of the war. A drop since the peak in July, 1920, for total cost of living is 23.9 per cent. Food is still advancing, but the prospects of a future rise in fuel, clothing and rent are uncertain.

### LABOR CIVICS IN THE SCHOOLS?

A Labor Day appeal for teaching labor civics in schools and colleges has been issued by the Institute for Public Service in their weekly publication. Labor civics are defined as "information and straight thinking about Labor's dignity, Labor's right, Labor's duties and Labor's needs."

## FOREIGN ITEMS

### ENGLAND

#### GERMAN WORKERS' S. O. S.

The German Federation of Trade Unions has sent a telegram to the Trades Union Congress in London, stating that the fall in the Mark signifies the economic collapse of Germany and the beginning of an economic chaos, which will mean increased unemployment for Great Britain. The telegram concludes: "Salvation is still possible, but only on condition of immediate intervention by the Trades Union Congress." C. W. Bowerman, secretary of the Congress, has stated that this telegram will be considered at the next meeting of the General Council of the Trades Union Congress.

#### NEW ILLEGITIMACY BILL.

The new Labor Bill, for which James Wignall is responsible, to amend the English and Welsh laws concerning illegitimacy and unmarried mothers, is now published. It will, if passed, raise the maximum weekly amount for which an affiliation order could be made, and allow birth of a child, though it could not be paid till after the birth. The present requirement of "corroboration" would also be abolished, and most important of all, marriage of the parents of an illegitimate child born after the bill came into operation would legitimate the child as from birth.

### RUSSIA

#### SOVIET GOVERNMENT AND FAMINE.

In reply to the request from Dr. Nansen's representative in Moscow for an official statement concerning the famine and the harvest in Russia, the Soviet Government state that although this year's crop is a fairly good one, in some of the Volga districts drought and locusts have again spoiled the prospects of the harvest and in those districts the condition promises to be worse even than last year. In addition, they emphasize the fact that, "as a result of war, revolution and famine, the peasants in many districts have been completely ruined, and gigantic efforts must be made to restore them to their former well-being."

### IRELAND

#### LABOR AND MICHAEL COLLINS.

At a national conference of dock and waterside workers, held in Essex Hall, London, a resolution was unanimously passed, the delegates rising as a mark of respect, to express the deep horror of the Transport Workers at the death of Michael Collins, and their sympathy with the Irish Nation "in the loss of two of her noblest sons in the passing of Michael Collins and Arthur Griffith." The resolution added that "sanity and statesmanship were never more needed than now."

### GERMANY

#### THE PRESENT CRISIS.

The most important fact in the present crisis so far is one obvious impotence of the Government to face its financial burdens and the obvious will to power of German industrial capital to step in, in the place of the Government, and become the middle-man between the Entente belligerents and the mass of the German taxpayers. This, incidentally, brings the German trusts one stage nearer to direct relation with the French trusts, which is the development so keenly desired for so long by the German Stinnes group and the Loucheux party in France. With the new proposal is connected an agreement just reached between the German miners and coal owners for working one hour overtime and six days a week from September 1.

As the result of representations by the German Trade Unions and Labor movement, the German Cabinet has decided to take definite steps with regard to the increased cost of living. It is going to restrict the import of articles of luxury, increase export duties and attempt to stop speculations in Marks.

### AUSTRIA

#### FOR A UNION WITH ROME.

In the event of the League of Nations meeting next week failing to produce a substantial scheme for Austria's relief, an agreement between Vienna and Rome will be concluded. In this agreement Italy will stipulate for a Customs and Currency Union with Austria, which would virtually transform Austria into an Italian Protectorate. While it is premature to state the concrete nature of these plans, it appears certain that Austria's relations with her neighbor is about to undergo a drastic change, which will profoundly affect the whole Central and Southeastern European constellation.

### HUNGARY

#### HUNGARIAN TERRORISTS FROWN ON ATTEMPTS TO LIBERALIZE STATE

In his attempt to establish a more moderate conservatism in Hungary, the Prime Minister, Count Bethlen, is incurring the pronounced disfavor of the Extreme Right.

The "Awakening Magyars" and other terrorist groups threaten to take governmental affairs into their own hands.

Meanwhile, Count Bethlen has appealed to the Hungarian Social Democratic party to adopt a milder tone in their parliamentary opposition.

It is reported that the Socialists have submitted the following conditions as sine qua non for their co-operation with the government: Ample guarantees of liberty for the labor movement; permission for Socialist and Liberal emigrants to return to Hungary without fear of molestation; and an energetic campaign against the soaring cost of living.

## 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)

#### APPENDIX IV.

##### THE LABOUR COLLEGE AND THE PIEBLS LEAGUE

The objects of the Labour College are "to educate and train trade unionists in social science and to take part in the political and industrial life of the Labour Movement."

The point of view of its founders is given in a statement of their aims issued at the time.

To the organized labour movement we appeal for support on a question which lies at the very foundation of working-class organizations. We do not trust our economic security to the good intentions of the possessing class. We do not rely upon the politics of our employers for measures of progressive legislation. We establish our own economic fortifications, we have our own political weapons, we control our own literature. Why, then, should we not as independently manage our own educational affairs? Even as we have a platform of our own and a Press of our own, let us have educational institutions of our own.

The Working class must achieve its own salvation. It must develop its own social intelligence.

Our aim is simply "the education of the workers in the interests of the workers."

The supreme control of the college is vested in a board, membership of which is limited to labour organizations which are eligible for affiliation to the Labour Party establishing scholarships at the college. The board meets quarterly, and between board meetings the college is administered by the Staff Committee, which comprises the officers and lecturers appointed by the board.

The course of lectures given at the college includes political economy, industrial history, the history of social movement, English, formal logic, the theory of knowledge, literature, elocution, and sociology.

Correspondence tuition is an integral part of the work of the college. It also conducts "lateral lecture classes."

Note.—The above appendix was submitted to the Labour College, by its request we have to say that "the Labour College, London, is not in any way connected with the W. E. T. U. C., and did not forward to the Enquiry Committee any material for evidence, although asked to do so. This statement of its aims and policy is summarized by the authors of the report from publications."

With the Labour College there is closely associated the Piels League, which is an association of ex-students and supporters of the college. Its object is to further the interests of independent working-class education as a partisan effort to improve the position of labour in the present, and to assist ultimately in the abolition of wage slavery. The League exists to propagate the educational principles and policy for which the college exists.

Its activities include the formation of classes, whenever possible, under the auspices of trade unions and trade councils, etc.

Note.—The above was submitted to the Piels League, but at their re-

quest we have to say that the Piels League is in no way connected with the W. E. T. U. C., and did not forward to the Enquiry Committee any material for evidence, although asked to do so. This statement of its aims and policy is summarized by the authors of the report from the Piels publications.

#### APPENDIX V.

##### RUSKIN COLLEGE, OXFORD

Ruskin College was founded in 1899. It is a residential institution for adult working-class students—the first of its kind in the country—"where a course of education in the social sciences of most value to the working-class movement, untrammelled by the conventional outlook of any one school of thought or section or party, could be obtained. This policy of undertaking purely educational and not propagandist work has been maintained to the present day." The object of the education provided is "to equip the students in such a way as to increase their usefulness to the labour movement in general, and to the societies who send them to the college in particular."

The college now provides for both men and women students. In October, 1931, a hostel for women was opened, which is known as Queen's Gardens, where the women students live, while they are taking at the college the same courses of study as the men.

The fees are now £60 a year for a college year of thirty-three weeks, but it has been found necessary to raise them to £100 a year from October, 1931. This sum will cover board, lodging, and all educational facilities at the college. An additional allowance is required for books, travelling expenses, and the necessary personal expenses of the students during both term and holidays.

The college has a correspondence department. The fees charged are £2.2s. for a course lasting twelve months; £1. 1s. for a course lasting six months; and 10s. 6d. for a course lasting three months, with reductions in each case on payment in advance of the full sum. The aim of this department is to provide for corresponding students as far as possible the same courses of study as are given to the residential students. The department is supervised by the principal of the college, and all tuition is given by the teaching staff, who correct the essays sent in and give advice as to reading.

The governing body of the college is a council, which consists of representatives of working-class associations. Any working-class body, providing at its own expense a social scholarship at the college, has a right to representation on the council. The only endowment the college possesses brings in some £30 a year, and it is mainly supported by trade unions, co-operative societies, and the Working Men's Club and Institute Union.

The staff of the college consists of a principal, vice-principal, and four resident tutors (including one lady tutor, who resides at the Women's Hostel). There are also four visiting lecturers: Professor Hall, of the Co-operative Union (Co-operation); Mr. H. H. Slesser, Barrister-at-Law

(The New York Times of September 10, 1932, contained a description of the educational work of the International. Among other things, it stated that "The educational work of the International has attracted the attention of the Labor Movement throughout the country.")

This statement is very significant. Those of us who remember the small beginnings of the educational work of the International, know that six years ago few expected that our work would so soon grow to such proportions as to attract the attention and as to be imitated by many other labor organizations.

And yet this has come to pass. Our sixth session is commencing under most favorable auspices. Plans have been made to increase and improve the work of the past years. A larger number of courses have been arranged. Excellent teachers have been engaged for the work. More opportunities than ever will be given to the members of the International to obtain such education as will make them stronger and more enthusiastic trade unionists and fighters in the battle for human freedom.

Plans have been made to reach more members than ever before in

various sections of our city and in other cities of America. Our members will have an opportunity to listen to teachers not only in English but in other languages, which they can best understand. This is indeed a splendid point in our history. Our work so far has been successful. We hope to make it even more so in the future.

Very inspiring indeed are the reports that come from all sections of the country telling of labor educational organizations conducted by numerous labor bodies. The spread of such organizations is the hope of the labor movement. Give the working class a thorough education in the subjects which are related to their economic and political welfare and their strength will be increased tenfold. This will enable us to pass undoubtedly with the development of the Labor Education Movement in America.

And most gratified of all should the members of the International feel that their union was the pioneer in this splendid movement and that to a large extent whatever will be accomplished in the coming years will be due to the efforts of our own unions.

## Unity Centers Are Open

The educational season of the I. L. G. W. U. is now in full blaze.

The Unity Centers with their many classes in elementary, intermediate, advanced and high school English, are being conducted throughout the city. Our members, no matter in what section of the city they live, can find a Unity Center situated conveniently, where they can obtain instruction in the English language.

Is it necessary to tell our members how important it is for them to attend these classes?

Does not every one of them know that a command of the English language is essential for success and well being in this country?

We live in America. We work in America. All about us of interest and importance is conducted in the English language. Our members who are interested in their own welfare and that of the entire working class must realize that if they are to accomplish anything at all, if they are to improve the living and working conditions of the working class, they must command the language of their country.

It is the duty of every American worker, of every member of a trade union, and particularly, of every member of the I. L. G. W. U., to acquire a good knowledge of the English language just as soon as possible.

Not only is this essential for their personal happiness, but because it will enable each worker to be more capable of contributing to the advancement of the American labor movement.

If you have not already joined one of our classes, do so at once.

Go to the nearest Unity Center. Tell the person in charge that you are a member of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and that you wish to join the Unity Center in that building. You will meet your brothers and sisters, members of your own union. You will re-teacher, who is specially selected for active instruction from a competent group of members. You will be instructed in English according to your needs.

Join at once!

## Reception to Fannia M. Cohn on Saturday, September 16th

The educational activities of the American Labor Movement were represented at the First International Conference on Workers' Education at Brussels by Vice-President and Secretary of the Educational Department, Miss Fannia M. Cohn. She spent her summer in Europe, and in addition to attending the sessions of the Congress, made a careful study of the Labor Education conditions in a number of countries.

Many of us are very eager to hear Miss Cohn's first report of her ex-

periences. This will be given at the informal reception tendered to Miss Cohn by the Students' Council on Saturday evening, September 16th, at 7:30 p. m., in the Council Room of the International Building.

All those who took advantage of the educational activities offered by the International in the past few years, and also those who are interested in the whole movement, are cordially invited to attend this reception. There is no doubt that Miss Cohn's report will be extremely interesting and inspiring.

the residential work and the correspondence department, the granting of scholarships, etc., can be obtained on application to the Secretary, Ruskin College, Oxford.

(Trade Union Law); Mr. E. C. Fairchild (Marxian Economics); Mr. E. T. Hunt, F. I. P. S. (Trade Union and Co-operative Bookkeeping). All information with regard to both

# With the Waist and Dress Joint Board

By M. K. MACKOFF, Secretary

Meeting, Wednesday, September 7, 1922

Bro. Harry Berlin, Chairman,

## OUTSIDE COMMITTEES

A committee of the Fatima Dress Company, 147 West 23d Street, headed by J. Shapiro, appeared before the Board and stated that their shop was called out on strike ten weeks ago. Prior to the calling of the strike this shop was operated on a week-work system. The firm, however, decided to change the system to piece-work. To this the workers refused to consent. They finally reached a tentative agreement to put the piece-work system in operation for a four-week period.

The trial, however, proved unfavorable to the workers inasmuch as they were unable to get an amicable adjustment of prices and as a result the workers demanded the restoration of the week-work system. This the firm refused to do and consequently the strike was declared.

This firm is working for Dorfman & Wiesen, jobbers, and is connected with two non-union shops, one in Plainfield, New Jersey and the other in Bayonne, New Jersey.

The two out-of-town shops are being supplied with work and financed by the firm of Dorfman & Wiesen so that while the workers of the Fatima Dress are on strike their work is being done in the two non-union shops above mentioned.

There were several attempts made to reach a settlement; the workers having even agreed to accept a reduction in wages but the firm would not listen to any proposition either than the establishment of the piece-work system.

The committee, therefore, requests that the strike against the Fatima Dress Company shall be continued until the firm will be compelled to agree to the restoration of the week-work system and that in the meantime the manager shall see to it that Dorfman & Wiesen shall not send any work to the two out-of-town shops.

The Manager, Brother Hochman, gave a detailed outline as to the situation of this strike, stating at the same time that as far as the Plainfield shop is concerned none of Dorfman & Wiesen's work is being made there at the present time, while in the Bayonne shop the firm of Dorfman & Wiesen is financially interested and they promised to unionize this shop as soon as an agreement is reached with the Fatima Dress Co. In conclusion, Brother Hochman recommended that the Joint Board agree to a settlement with the Fatima Dress Company on the piece-work system as a temporary arrangement until the general campaign for the establishment of the week-work system throughout the entire industry is taken up in 1923.

After a thorough discussion in which most of the Joint Board members and officers participated a motion was made that the strike against the Fatima Dress Company shall continue until the firm will agree to restore the week-work system and that a committee of the workers of the shop shall be retained to conduct the strike. The motion was carried.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REPORT

The following report of the Board of Directors' Meeting of August 21st was read and acted upon:

### Communications

The communication referred from the Joint Board which was received from Local No. 25 in regard to assigning a business agent to attend exclusively to the waist shops was tak-

en up. The Board of Directors, considering that Local No. 22 has to send an additional business agent, it was therefore decided to postpone action till Local No. 22 has filled its vacancy.

In regard to a chairman for the arrangement of the meeting of shop chairmen, the Board of Directors, considering the advisability of appointing one to be responsible for conducting the meeting which was called for Thursday, August 24th at Webster Hall, decided to appoint Brother Berlin as chairman of that meeting and that the order of business should be the recommendation adopted August 2d by the Joint Board.

### Manager's Report

Brother Hochman reported that the Monarch Dress Company, a jobber and member of the association, was found violating the agreement by giving out work to a great number of non-union contractors. Hochman thereupon took up the question with the Jobbers' Association which resulted in making the firm pay as liquidated damages to this Union, \$1,500. Furthermore, the firm had to deposit with Mr. Siegel, President of the Jobbers' Association, \$5,000 for the faithful performance of the Union.

In regard to Dorfman & Wiesen, Brother Hochman reported that after the Union conducted a strike against that firm for more than two weeks and after negotiations which were brought about by a certain Jessie Cohen, an agreement was reached whereby the firm was obliged to pay to the Union \$1,000 as liquidated damages and the firm deposited with Goldstein & Goldstein, lawyers, an additional \$5,000 for living up to the agreement reached and in case of violation, each and every case will be acted upon by the arbitration of Mr. David Goldstein, lawyer.

When reporting this settlement Brother Hochman emphasized the fact that he is aware that the settlement effected with Dorfman & Wiesen is not an ideal one. However, he believes that under the circumstances it was the best possible and according to the moral effect it had on other jobbers it helped a great deal to make a good many jobbers understand that the Union is out to enforce the agreement we have with the jobbers, to an extent, if necessary, of stopping contractors from doing work for them.

In regard to rules and regulations for the shop chairmen meetings, the Board of Directors, considering the decision reached by the Joint Board, that the Board of Directors should work out rules and regulations for the shop chairmen meeting, therefore appointed upon motion a committee consisting of Brother Berlin and Sisters Goodman and Walkowitz to work out rules and regulations and submit them for approval to the Board of Directors.

### Plans and Activity

Brother Hochman further reported that there are a number of unscrupulous jobbers who continually violate the agreement by giving out work to non-union contractors. He therefore advised the Board that he made the necessary arrangements in order to make them live up to our agreement.

In regard to Local No. 66, Brother Hochman reported that up till now about sixty-five embroidery shops settled, in addition to all the Union embroidery shops which were taken

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down on strike about thirty-nine non-union shops were also taken down.

The spirit of the strikers is praiseworthy. On the whole, the strikers are quite a happy lot.

Brother Hochman then reported that the Embroidery Manufacturers' Association backed out of an understanding agreed upon. Brother Hochman, however, assured the Board that the necessary ways and means would be employed in order to oblige them to settle with the Union.

As for the Dress Association shops, Brother Hochman reported that the investigations made in the Association shops are closed. There are no cutters in about one hundred shops. This was taken up by Brother Horowitz with Mr. Rubin, the manager of the Association and an understanding was reached with the Union whereby the Union sends up cutters to the shops and those who will be engaged in the work will be considered under the same provision as they are when working in a shop two weeks. The Association objects to one point, and that is, in case the Union demands damages should one lose his position.

### Secretary's Report

Brother Mackoff, secretary, reported that he intends to leave for two weeks' vacation and that he had made arrangements with Brother Jacobson to attend to the Joint Board and Board of Directors' meetings. As to the financial part of the secretary's office, Brother Mackoff, reported that he had made arrangements to get in touch daily with the office and all transactions in connection with the office will be attended to in the meantime.

A motion was made by Brother Frubling to approve the report except the decision on denying the request of Brother Katz for compensation for loss of time. An amendment was made to approve the report as a whole. After thorough discussion the amendment was carried by ten votes against three.

### Communications

The following communications among others were read and acted upon:

Local No. 89 called the attention of the Joint Board to an item of expense in the July statement paid out to the Joint Board of Sanitary Control. Local No. 89 feels that said Board of Sanitary Control does not function at all; it is their opinion that they can just as well do without it. They therefore request the Joint Board that union the Joint Board of Sanitary Control for which it was created the functions for which it was created that we might as well cut out this item of expense. Upon motion this communication was referred to the Board of Directors.

Local No. 89, in a communication dated August 19th, informed the Joint Board that after a thorough discussion of the Joint Board report of August 2nd, especially that part relating to the introduction of the week-work system, the preparation for the 1923 general strike and the levying of the special assessment of \$20, same was approved.

Local No. 89 further informed the Joint Board that they received an invitation from the Jean Longuet American Tour Committee to arrange a lecture for their members engaging Comrade Longuet for the lecture

Local No. 89 feels that a lecture by this noted European Socialist would be of great interest to the members of all the locals affiliated with the Joint Board and they therefore recommend to the Joint Board to arrange a mass meeting for that purpose.

Sister Kronhardt amended the motion by suggesting that we request the Educational Department of the I. L. G. W. U. to arrange the lecture. The amendment was carried by twelve against eleven.

A communication was received from the Trade Union Conference on the Hias campaign requesting the Joint Board to send two delegates to the conference of all the labor unions which will be held on Sunday, September 16, 1922, 10 a. m., at the Hias Building, 425 Lafayette Street, for the purpose of discussing ways and means of raising a fund to enable the Hebrew Immigrant Aid to continue in its activities on behalf of the stranded immigrants in the European countries.

The communication was approved and Brothers Berlin and Reisel were elected as delegates.

A communication was received from the Joint Distribution Committee requesting our Joint Board to co-operate with them in the sending of parcels and remittances to Soviet Russia through the American Relief Administration. Upon motion the communication was placed on file.

The Amalgamated Textile Workers of America, 7 East 15th Street, sent in an appeal for financial aid on behalf of the textile strikers of Pawtuxet, R. I. Upon motion this communication was referred to the Finance Committee.

A communication was received from the Socialist Party of the Bronx, requesting our Joint Board to elect a committee of five to participate in the active work of the coming political campaign. Upon motion this communication was placed on file.

The United Hebrews of North America sent in a communication informing the Joint Board that the Sarnoff Hosiery Company, who for years used the Union label on their hats, have severed their connections with the Union and that they are no longer employing members of the United Hatters of North America. A motion to give this communication the widest publicity among our members was carried.

The Window Cleaners' Protective Union sent in a communication informing the Joint Board that some of the employers who have contractual relations with our Union are employing non-union window cleaners and they therefore request our co-operation in helping their members to get the preference. The communication was approved.

A communication from the Central Union Labor Council of Greater New York, requesting the Joint Board to purchase copies of the Union Products Directory and Purchasing Guide was referred to the Finance Committee.

Brother Abraham Baroff, general secretary-treasurer of the I. L. G. W. U. sent a letter of inquiry to our Joint Board as to their action on his previous communication with reference to initiating Local No. 36 as a member of our Joint Board in accordance with the decision of the Cleveland Convention. Upon motion the communication was referred to the Board of Directors.

# The Weeks News in Cutters Union Local 10

By JOSEPH FISH

## GENERAL

The Ball Committee, which was appointed some time ago, held its first session on Saturday, September 9th. The first order of business for the meeting was the organization of the committee itself. The following brothers were elected to serve as officers of the Committee:

Jacob Lukin, Chairman; General Secretary Joseph Fish, Secretary; and Al Wright was elected Treasurer. An Arrangements Committee was also elected, consisting of Brothers Fruhling, Evey, Perlmutter, Nagler and Sosen.

The first proposition that took up considerable discussion was the printing of a journal. Our readers will recall that we have not had a journal printed for the past number of years. After discussing this question from all angles, the committee came to the conclusion that it would pay to have a journal printed. The secretary of the committee, Brother Fish, was instructed to get in touch with various printers to secure estimates for the printing of both the tickets and a journal. Upon receipt of these estimates the committee will act upon the price of advertising per page in the journal.

All our members are urged to secure ads for the journal, as the Ball Committee will pay a liberal commission on all ads secured in this way. By doing this our members will not only help make the financial outcome of the affair a success, but will also earn some extra money for themselves.

The Ball Committee, in its entirety, consists of the following brothers: Joseph Fish; Samuel Sadowsky; John C. Ryan; Jacob Lukin; Adolph Sosen; Samuel Perlmutter; Benjamin Evey; Sam B. Shenker; David Fruhling; John W. Settle; Henry Robbins; Julius Levine. 6285; David Dubinsky; Benjamin Sachs; Albert Wright; Max Silverstein; Isidore Nagler; Louis Pankin; Abe Reiss; Morris Steinberg.

However, there was not a full attendance at the last meeting. The members of the Ball Committee are urged that at the next meeting of the Ball Committee they make it their business to be present, as we are trying very hard to make this affair a success. Notices will be sent out by mail regarding the next meeting and all members of the committee should attend without fail. The meeting will be a very important one, as various questions will present themselves for action, such as the expenditure of money, the charge for admission, etc.

We wish to inform our membership that from now on they are going to encounter notices of the date of January 6th, 1923, in the columns of "JUSTICE" very often, if not in every issue, as we wish constantly to remind them that this is the date of the ball and they are to keep it open.

At the last meeting of the Executive Board the question with reference to the Cloak and Suit meeting was taken up. As is known, our meetings take place on Monday nights, that of the Cloak and Suit Branch being held the first Monday of each month. Since the first Monday in October is "Yom Kippur" night, it would follow that there will also not be a Cloak and Suit meeting in October. There was no meeting in September due to the first Monday of that month being Labor Day. The Executive Board therefore decided that all the meetings for the coming month be shifted one week, with the exception of the General Meeting, which will remain the same as usual, the last Monday in Octo-

ber. That means that the Cloak and Suit Meeting will be held on the second Monday of the month, October 9th, and that the meeting of the Waist and Dress and Miscellaneous Divisions will take place on October 16th.

## CLOAK AND SUIT

The Joint Board of Cloakmakers considers the stoppage in this industry as practically over, and all the business of the various strike committees has been terminated. What ever still remains will be conducted from the various offices of the Joint Board. The Chairmen of the various committees, i.e., Brothers Breslau, Heller, Metz, and others, have reported for their respective committees, which reports were accepted by the Joint Board.

The disposition of the wage question during this past strike was to the effect that a commission be appointed to go over the earnings of the workers in the industry. The first meeting of the commission was held a few weeks ago, and was presided over by Impartial Chairman Norman Hapgood.

This meeting was a bit stormy, as the question arose as to how the investigation is to be conducted. The Union was very important point on this question. Mr. Bassett, representing the Protective Association on the commission, demanded that aside from investigating the earnings of the workers in the industry they should also investigate the amount produced by the workers in the industry. This meant that the Impartial Chairman should have it in mind to measure the amount of work produced and to think of the introduction of a standard of production.

Vice-President Feinberg, representing the Union on the commission in place of Brother Benjamin Schlesinger, who is now in England as delegate from the American Federation of Labor to the British Trade Union Congress, protested against this suggestion. After a lengthy discussion the entire matter was dropped. It remained that the investigation of the earnings of the workers should not lead to an investigation of how much work they produce.

The question whether the commission should undertake the investigation of production consumed considerable time. Mr. Bassett, of the Association, declared that the object of the understanding, as agreed to by the manufacturers in renewing the agreement, is to ascertain the wages of the workers. This, in the mind of the Association, necessitates an investigation of how much work the workers produce.

The Union's attorney, Morris Hillquit, together with Israel Feinberg, also representing the Union, pointed out that this would be a new undertaking for the commission, as the agreement specifically states that the commission is to investigate the earnings of the Cloakmakers, and how much work the cloakmakers have during the year, and that this should be reported on at a conference of both sides by December 1, 1922. The question then arose as to the duties of the Impartial Chairman on that commission, since its sole object is to investigate the earnings. During the discussion it was brought out that the duty of the Impartial Chairman is to see that both sides should permit a thorough investigation and should not hinder the commission in that respect.

At this meeting of the commission those representing the Association were Messrs. Bassett and Lachman.

## WAIST AND DRESS

The regular meeting of the Waist and Dress Division, which took place last Monday, was a very quiet one and adjourned quite early. A number of the recommendations of the Executive Board were not entertained by the body.

The case of Brother Julius Gollubier, who was ordered censured by the Executive Board for testifying falsely in the case of a certain manufacturer charged with doing his own cutting, is now worthy. The brother in question testified before Brother Horowitz of the Joint Board and the representative of the Contractors' Association, to the effect that he, himself, cut certain garments; whereas, it was subsequently proven that the garments in question were cut by the manufacturer. When quizzed at the Executive Board, Brother Gollubier admitted his guilt but stated that he acted upon the request of one of our honorary members, Brother Nat. Baron.

The membership present at the meeting felt very much incensed over this case, and decided that additional punishment be meted out to Brother Gollubier in the form of a \$25.00 fine. As to the action of Brother Baron in this case, the body decided to refer same back to the Executive Board, and that should the statements of Brother Gollubier in this report be verified, Brother Baron's honorary membership be withdrawn.

The Executive Board, realizing the situation of the Waist and Dress Cutters, has decided to place Brother David Fruhling on the job for a few weeks, to go out and control shops under the jurisdiction of the Waist and Dress Joint Board.

Brother Fruhling, who is a member of the Executive Board, has proven his ability to represent our organization, as he has already worked a number of weeks, controlling shops under the jurisdiction of the Cloak and Suit Makers' Joint Board.

## Doings in Local No. 3

(Continued from Page 2.)

The ladies' tailor trade is going through a change but the change is not new. It is continually going on for many years. I refer to the fact that in former years there were many more ladies' tailors employed at the ladies tailoring trade than at the present time. Many shops which formerly had hundreds of ladies' tailors and few dressmakers now have few ladies' tailors and many dressmakers. This situation may be ascribed to many reasons. First and foremost reason is that women work longer hours and for smaller wages than men do. The style also has a very big influence in this change as there are less tailor-made suits and more dresses being made. These can be made by the women.

Most of the wraps and coats which are made are not order made but the ladies' tailors' bosses buy them ready made from the cloak manufacturers. All this tends to decrease the work for the ladies' tailors employed in those shops.

In spite of all this there are still thousands of ladies' tailors employed in the industry and it is our duty to safeguard the conditions of these men while Local No. 90 the Dressmakers' Union will take care of the women's part of the problem.

The ladies tailors' season is approaching and we must make all preparations to be ready for the renewal of the agreements with the houses. We have worked out different plans in order to be successful in our undertaking.

Last Tuesday, September 5, we had a mass meeting in Bryant Hall under the auspices of the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union, where the brothers Yanovsky, Feinberg, Mag-

navits, and myself have explained the situation to the workers and also informed them of future plans. Brother Feinberg, General Manager of the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union, stated in behalf of the Joint Board that the Joint Board will co-operate in our undertaking and will help us to bring the movement to a successful finish. Some of the members wanted to discuss some of the questions at the mass meeting, but it is a known fact to everyone that at mass meetings no discussions take place. The Executive Board therefore decided that there shall be ladies tailors' branch meetings every Tuesday night in order to give ladies' tailors the opportunity to discuss their matters. I, therefore, call upon every ladies' tailor to resolve to come to these meetings every Tuesday and take part in the discussions so that there shall be no misunderstandings in their future work.

We call upon those ladies' tailors who are working in new or old shops which have not signed agreements with the Union up to the present time, to give us their names and addresses, as we intend to make a general campaign and bring all the shops where ladies tailoring is made, into contact with the organization. We call upon all the ladies' tailors without distinction to put away their petty claims, if they have any, or grudges or differences in opinions for a few weeks until our campaign is over. If they still have them after the campaign, we will take it up in the regular way. Now, ladies' tailors, put your shoulders to the wheel and we will all work together to carry out the aims and goals of our members to a successful finish.

## CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10

### ATTENTION!

#### NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETINGS

General ..... Monday, September 25th  
Cloak and Suit ..... Monday, October 9th  
Waist and Dress ..... Monday, October 16th  
Miscellaneous ..... Monday, October 16th

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