

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

—Job 27:6

# JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

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## CONFERENCES CONTINUE WITH CLEVELAND CLOAK EMPLOYERS

BOARD OF REFEREES MET IN NEW YORK LAST SATURDAY AND SUNDAY—  
ANOTHER CONFERENCE WITH EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION  
THIS WEEK IN CLEVELAND.

On Saturday and Sunday last, December 9 and 10, there took place in New York City, in the chambers of the New York Bar Association, at West 44th Street, a meeting of the Board of Referees in the Cloak Industry of Cleveland, a continuation of a number of previous sessions held between the representatives of the Cleveland Cloakmakers' Joint Board and the Cleveland Cloak Manufacturers' Association in connection with the present controversy between the workers and the employers in the industry.

As reported in these columns, the employers' organization of Cleveland notified the Board of Referees some time ago that it would not renew the agreement with the Union when it expires on December 31, 1922. This decision was made by the employers as a move to forestall the demands of the workers for an increase in wages, better control of the small sub-contractors' shops in the Cleveland suburbs, and a number of other minor improvements.

In response to the threat of the manufacturers the Cleveland workers began to make preparations for the coming hostilities. But the Board of Referees, anxious for the preservation of peace in the Cleveland cloak trade, intervened and called both sides to a conference in the hope of averting a final break. Last Saturday and Sunday the meeting took place in New York and a sharp exchange of opinion between

the representatives of the Union and the manufacturers' association marked both sessions from beginning to end. The spokesmen for the Union bitterly reproached the employers for their belligerent attitude which brought about the present tense condition in the industry by declaring in the letter to the Referees that they would refuse to renew the agreement with the Union. After the issues had been thoroughly aired by both sides it was decided to have another conference this week

in Cleveland between the Union and the Association directly.

Representing the Union at the conference were: Vice-President Meyer Perlstein, Abraham Katovsky, chairman of the Cleveland Joint Board, Sister Esther Swetzer, secretary, and Harry Greene, member of the Joint Board. In addition to the committee of the employers' association the meetings were attended by the full personnel of the Board of Referees under the chairmanship of Judge Julian W. Mack.

## Jean Longuet at Students' Council Dance To-Morrow

WILL ADDRESS CLOAK JOINT BOARD NEXT FRIDAY, DEC. 22

Tomorrow, Saturday, December 16th, at 8 p. m., will be held the first dance and entertainment, given by the students of our Workers' University and Unity Center, in the beautiful auditorium of the building of our International, at 16th Street.

According to the arrangements of the sub-committee, we may expect that our members and their friends, and the teachers, will spend a few pleasant hours in sociability and good fellowship. There will be dancing and singing, and refreshments will be

served. Jean Longuet will be the guest of our students. They will have a chance to meet him socially and send through him a message of greetings to his workers in France.

Although the auditorium has been obtained free, a charge of 10 cents will be made to cover some expenses involved in running the affair. Tickets may be obtained at the office of the Educational Department, 3 West 16th Street, and on Saturday afternoon at the Washington Irving High School. They will also be sold at the door.

## Baroff, Ninfo, and Perlstein at Cleveland Conference for Progressive Political Action

SCHLESINGER ELECTED ON NATIONAL COMMITTEE

The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union was represented at the National Conference for Progressive Political action which met in Cleveland, Ohio, during the early part of this week, through General Secretary Baroff, First Vice-President Ninfo, and Vice-President Perlstein.

The conference, a sequel of a meeting held at the beginning of this year in Chicago which resulted in the formation of a National Provisional Committee charged with the calling together of a nation-wide conference in December, was attended by several hundred delegates, representing la-

bor unions, farmer organizations, and various liberal and radical political groups. The conference had in view either the formation of a "third party" or the consolidation of the progressive political forces in the country in anticipation of such a move in the near future.

The conference adjourned on Tuesday evening, December 12, after having decided to forgo for the time being the launching of a third political party but to organize a "progressive bloc" in the next Congress farmers' and liberal elements of the composed of Senators and Representatives elected by the workers' country, "pledged to progressive policies and to the principles of genuine democracy in agriculture, industry and government."

The conference effected a permanent organization and adopted a short practical program. The conference elected a National Council consisting of the best known progressive and radical leaders in the country and prominent labor leaders, among them President Benjamin Schlesinger of our International Union.

## Baltimore Organization Campaign Well Under Way

Last Wednesday and Thursday were busy days for the members of the Baltimore Cloakmakers' Union, Local 4.

Vice-President Halperin, manager of the Out-of-Town Organizing Department of the International, accompanied by Vice-President Joseph Breslaw, spent Wednesday and Thursday in Baltimore attending meetings and conferring with the active members of the local on the reorganization campaign waged at present by the International among the cloak shops of that city.

The drive for a one-hundred per cent union in Baltimore is proceeding quite satisfactorily, the local gaining new members daily and enlisting one shop after another under the control of the Union. The campaign will culminate toward the beginning of the new year when agreements will have to be renewed in the trade and an attempt will be made to sign up every cloak employer in Baltimore, especially if possible, or through the means of a general walkout, if necessary.

## Pres. Schlesinger Arrives at Los Angeles

TAKES UP LOCAL CLOAK SITUATION

Last Sunday evening, President Schlesinger arrived at Los Angeles, Cal., from Chicago, on his tour to the Pacific Coast cities in the interest of the local organizations of the International.

As our readers know, a conflict has recently occurred between the Los Angeles Cloakmakers' Union, Local 82 and the local Cloak Manufacturers' Association. For a time it looked as if a general strike was imminent and half of the cloakmakers were actually out of the shops. Local 52, managed by Vice-President Max Gorenstein, then decided to call in President Schlesinger to aid them in straightening out the situation.

A temporary truce was patched up through the intervention of some influential local persons in order to enable President Schlesinger to come to Los Angeles and to take up the grievances of the organization with the employers and to come to a definite and stable arrangement in the form of a permanent agreement.

## TOPICS OF THE WEEK

By N. S.

### PRESIDENT HARDING'S MESSAGE

**P**RESIDENT HARDING'S message to Congress last Friday is generally interpreted as meaning a change in the Administration's policy from the amiable drift on the wave of normalcy to the stern, iron-clad rule of a determined pilot on the tumultuous seas of American politics. For the first time the President seems to have discovered that "the world has been passing—through a great crisis."

It therefore appeared before Congress, exhibited a large number of proposals that must be dealt with by the legislators and outlined the Administration's program of dealing with them. But in no case did the President express such definiteness and precision as when he came to stating his labor program. Despite the defeat of Senator Poindexter and Pomerene in the last election on the sole ground of their advocacy of anti-strike legislation, the President demanded that very thing. He suggested a new tribunal for labor difficulties—a sub-committee of the Interstate Commerce Commission with no partisan representation on it—to take the place of the present Railway Labor Board. The President declared that "public interest demands that ample power shall be conferred upon the Labor Tribunal, whether it is the present Board or the suggested substitute, to require its rulings to be accepted by both parties to a disputed question." A little further he stated that "it is an important civilization and an inadequate government which lacks the genius and the courage to guard against such a menace to public welfare as we experienced last summer." In other words, the President is after anti-strike legislation. He is determined to rob the workers of their most effective weapon in their struggle for better conditions. Not only does the President want to make strikes illegal in the railroad industry, but he proposes to make this law applicable to all public utilities.

The President also tried to drive a wedge between the worker and the farmer. The growing strength of the farmer-labor alliance is the political fact which more than any other thing has disturbed the President's belief in normalcy. He realizes that this alliance will in the next Congress endanger his pet measures and policies. And he came forward by ruthlessly attacking labor and making sweet promises to the farmers and thereby rending the bond between them. He recommended Congressional enactments for giving relief to the farmers through loans and cheaper transportation. He expressed some pious generalities as to the important role the farmers are occupying in the economic life of this country.

Apparently the American institutions are still in danger of being overthrown. For the President declared that "there is a recrudescence of hyphenated Americanism which we thought to have been stamped out when we committed the nation, life and soul, to the World War." It is therefore recommended that the aliens should constantly be under the official eye by passing a law requiring every alien to register.

The President sounded an alarming note regarding the widespread violations of the Prohibition Law. He referred regretfully to the fact that the booze issue had become predominant in politics but suggested no direct remedy, though he announced he meant to call a conference of the Governors of the States to talk over their mutual responsibility, and formulate plans for the enforcement of this law.

The message also contained a feeble promise to liberals by recommending a constitutional amendment prohibiting child labor. There were also some vague hints regarding America's duty in international affairs. Clemenceau is highly pleased with these. Wiseacres at Washington say that the Harding Administration is about to plunge into European affairs. But the President was too nebulous on these points, and it is therefore unsafe to predict what the next step in international matters will be.

The President's message was a plea for the Republican Administration. He tried to wield together the Prohibitionists, the farmers, the manufacturers, and the 100 per cent patriots. He tried to please all interests—save one, that of labor. There is no equivocation on this point. He resolutely set himself against labor. But whether he will in any way succeed in his war on labor depends upon labor itself.

### THE STRUGGLE IN IRELAND

**A** WEEK ago the British Parliament, amidst impressive ceremony, passed the Irish Free State Constitution bill, the King affixed his signature, and Ireland formally became a Free State within the British Empire. Immediately after the ceremony, an announcement was made of the appointment of Timothy Healy, a native-born Irishman, famous as a parliamentarian and lawyer, as the first governor-general of the Irish Free State.

It seemed for a while that a new era of peace and reconstruction has been ushered into Ireland. The appointment of Tom Healy, who has long been one of the leaders of the Irish Nationalists, and a lawyer for the Sinn Féin, has been generally regarded as a long step toward pacifying Ireland. But only a few days had passed before the world awoke again to the reality that war is still raging there. This became clear when two Irish deputies were assassinated by Republican forces. This was the answer of the Republicans to the appeal for peace and cooperation made by President Cosgrave in the Irish Parliament a day before.

The news of the assassination shocked and stunned the Parliament. And on the following day four Republican leaders were executed by the government without trial. These leaders were taken from Mountjoy jail, where they had been imprisoned since their capture during the Republican revolt last summer. Their execution was therefore a simple case of reprisal on the part of the government. A proclamation has been issued to the effect that a conspiracy exists to "assassinate the members of the nation's parliament, which has already claimed many victims," and that "to safeguard the lives of the people's representatives, is safeguard the life of the nation itself, the sternest measures are necessary and will be adopted."

The labor members of Parliament denounced the vendetta policy of the government. One labor deputy characterized the execution of the four Republicans as the greatest crime committed in Ireland in ten years. But the government was sustained by a vote of 39 to 14, and is going to pursue the policy of a life for a life. The Republicans do not seem to be deterred by the government's action. According to press report the latest manifesto of the Republicans reads as follows: "The fight will go on as long as there is a war in Ireland. It is war to the death."

## The Hearst Papers Announce as a Regular Contributor

# Lloyd George

Former Prime Minister of England

who will cable his views of news events and European crises as they arise during 1923. Lloyd George's next dispatch will be published in

Next Sunday's New York

## Sunday American

It will constitute an answer to  
President Poincare of France.

### LONDON AND LAUSANNE

**F**OR the last three weeks the Allies, Turkey and Russia are trying to reach a settlement of the problems in the Near East. Who is to control the Dardanelles? How should Constantinople be administered? Who is to get the oil concessions in Mosul? These are some of the questions which the conference is trying to solve.

Great Britain wants the "freedom" of the Straits for her warships. Turkey is inclined to rule over the waters around Constantinople without any interference from the Allies. But under Allied pressure Turkey would give way and enter into compromises with them. Turkey had hoped that the threatened split between England and France would end in an unbridgeable chasm, then she could reap the fruits of victory. But the British and French delegates have so far succeeded in showing a solid front, and Ismet Pasha, the Turkish representative softened.

It is the Soviet delegation, headed by George Tchicherin, that is taking a bold and vigorous stand against British imperialism. Tchicherin is outworking the Turks in his demands. When Ismet Pasha is becoming hesitant and yielding, Tchicherin spurs him on, remonstrates with them, begs him, chides him to uphold the Turkish cause. He summons the Turkish correspondents through which he appeals to the Turkish people to watch over their representative at Lausanne. Per to Tchicherin the Russian and Turkish interests in the Straits question are identical. That is why he is so insistent that Turkey alone should control the Dardanelles and that no Allied warships should be allowed in the Straits. England on the other hand is determined to have her way. Hence the deadlock at the conference.

## Saul Metz Resigns

(Continued from Page 1.)

not be persuaded to change his decision and remain with the organization and continue rendering his services for the benefit of the organization and the membership at large in the future as he has done in the past.

**BE IT RESOLVED, THEREFORE,** that Brother Metz' resignation be accepted, and that our Joint Board express its gratitude and appreciation to Brother Metz for his unceasing work and effort in the upbuilding of our organization, and,

**BE IT ALSO FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Joint Board wish

Brother Metz the greatest measure of success in all his future endeavors, feeling confident that Brother Metz' spirit and sympathies remain with the Labor Movement in general and the Cloakmakers' Union in particular, and,

**BE IT ALSO FURTHER RESOLVED,** that a copy of this resolution be printed in all labor papers, the standing of which is unquestionable in the Labor Movement.

PHILLIP LEVINE,  
H. ZASLAWSKY,  
E. MOLISANNI,

The Committee.

# A Letter from England

By EVELYN SHARP  
(London Daily Herald Service.)

November 29, 1922.

The new Labor Party has made a vigorous start in the House of Commons. On the very first day of the new session, Labor, now recognized as the official Opposition, led by Ramsay MacDonald with J. R. Clynes as deputy leader, made a fine attack on the whole policy of "tranquillity," on which the Conservative Party got returned to power. In the general debate on the address in reply to the King's speech, Mr. MacDonald denounced the system "which one week blocks the streets with Rolls Royce cars and the next blocks it with processions of unemployed." His lead was well followed by speech after speech from the Labor benches. Mr. Walton Newbould, the Communist M. P., being called for after applying the term "Tom Fool Show" to the royal opening of Parliament, saying it would have been better to spend less money on that and more on unemployed schemes. Other speakers emphasized the terrible conditions under which their constituents in industrial districts were struggling to live, gave shocking instances of bad housing and adjured the Prime Minister to rescind his refusal to see a deputation from the great army of unemployed who at that moment were waiting in London, after marching from all parts of the country, to lay their case before him.

It was noticeable that no effective reply of any kind came from the Government benches. It was merely intimated by Mr. Bonar Law that he could not alter his determination to refer the unemployed to other Minis-

ters, and that the Government's statement on unemployment would be reserved for the debate on the Labor Party's amendment to the address next week. And this with the men clamoring outside for a hearing, and the police ready with truncheons to now them down if they allowed their desperation to lead them into the slightest appearance of a riot!

## THE RED PLOT

But for Labor's daily newspaper and the strength of the Labor opposition in Parliament, it is probable that Mr. Bonar Law's press tactics might never have been exposed. These are a slight variation on those adopted by the late Prime Minister, but are no better than Mr. Lloyd George's method of providing the press with "inspired" statements. Mr. Bonar Law, as soon as the hunger marchers reached London, sent out a statement purporting to contain facts proving the existence of a "red plot," made by the leaders of the marchers, who were described as criminals—technically correct only in the case of one or two men out of many thousands, and those not the real leaders. But these damning facts were supplied only to certain newspapers, the "Daily Herald" being conspicuously left out because, as Mr. Bonar Law lately said when attacked on the subject in the House, it was not thought that this paper would be of any help to the Government. But it now seems that the "Morning Post," the organ of the Conservative die-hards, also omitted from those privileged to learn that we were threatened with Red revolution, to say nothing of the whole of the press

agencies who are responsible for disseminating news, and the whole of the provincial papers, including the "Manchester Guardian." So, if Mr. Bonar Law's object was to warn England of impending danger, he chose a very ineffectual way of doing so. What he has done is to discredit the publicity methods of the Conservative Government in the first week of the new session.

Meanwhile, the evil of unemployment, typified in those thousands of hungry looking men who have come to London as a last despairing hope, continues to grow. On November 20, the number of registered unemployed rose to 1,578,000 or 1,847 more than the preceding week.

The number not on the register is not stated, nor that of the many thousands who are on short-time work. The new Parliamentary Opposition has had at least the effect, aided by the presence of the marchers, of making the Government see the railway managers with a view of accelerating their improvement schemes; it is also reported that it is intended to spend seven millions on road work. The longer these schemes are delayed the more chance there is of a real Red plot being hatched. For the misery of the people is seen in the daily increasing number of suicides, generally of women who cannot bear the strain of seeing their families starve any longer.

## LABOR AND FOREIGN POLITICS

The opposition has not confined its protests to the industrial situation. What is more startling about the new Labor M. P.'s than their vigorous unemployment policy is their knowledge of foreign affairs. In the general debate on the address, during the question time, it is quite clear to an astonished majority in the House that their leaders can be easily demolished in debate by a dozen or

more of the men on the Opposition benches when it comes to questions dealing with the Near East, with Russia, with reparations. The attacks of men like Charles Roden Buxton, Ben Spooner, E. D. Morel, to name only very few, upon the Government's foreign policy at last reduced the inefficient Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Ronald McNeill (hitherto only known as an Ulster die-hard) to the confusion that he had not yet had time to discuss these things with his chief, Lord Curzon! Perhaps, if his chance of earning his daily bread depended as much upon foreign policy as does that of the thousands whom the Opposition M. P.'s represent, he might have found time for this elementary duty of his position!

## THE POSITION ABROAD

Perhaps, too, the World Peace Conference of the Trades Union International, to be held at the Hague on December 10, will tend to spread the principles of a constructive world peace, though many are now cynical about conferences of any kind. It is surely time that a less vague notion of government should supersede the kind of administration that, in Greece and Ireland, this week alone, has discovered no other way of dealing with mistaken patriots than that of shooting them. If it was just to shoot unknown rebels against the new Irish Free State, if it was just to shoot Eskine Childers; if it was just to execute the Greek Ministers and Generals responsible for Greek disaster, why are Lloyd George and Winston Churchill living who were responsible largely for that disaster? Killing is useless because it is unending, when once you begin, and it propagates instead of satisfying revenge.

## It Sometimes Happens at the Health Center

About two months ago there came to the Clinics of the Union Health Center, a short, weasened little man, who very evidently had just come through a long illness. He had received his sick benefit and had come to be examined to see if he were able to go back to work. He was an eager fellow, and only the keen burning eyes that peered forth from a wan, drawn face indicated that he still had a spirit for the rest of him. He was so drawn and so emaciated that it was hard to believe that he had at one time been a presser.

He had come from London several years ago, where life had been far from easy for him, where he had lost his three children. He came to America with his wife, in the hope of starting anew and having better luck, for he was still young. He became a presser and a member of Local No. 35 of the I. L. G. W. U. After he had been able to save a little money there came the period of industrial depression, the strikes, the loss of work, and the eating up of his savings. Suddenly he was taken ill with what the doctors diagnosed as typhoid fever and diphtheria. For weeks his life was despaired of, but gradually the desire to live pulled him through and he was left a shadow of his former self, with just the bright burning eyes to indicate his spirit. The doctor of the Health Center diagnosed the case as general debility which means general weakness, and also indicated that the man was in no condition to work. He had lost too much and gained nothing as a result of his illness. What could be done?

It was very evident that the man was too weak to work, that he must have rest and excellent nourishing food, and that he must be well taken care of. Immediately those interested in the case at the Union Health Center set the wheels of action into motion. The office of Local No. 35 was called up, a presentation of the case was made before the relief committee and it was decided that because this worker had been a conscientious, regular member of the Union and because he needed this rest more than anything else in the world, the relief committee would see to it that the expenses of this man were paid if the Health Center would send him away to some place where he could get the necessary attention and care. This was done and the worker was sent away for six weeks. At the end of that time he came to see the physician of the Union Health Center. He had gained 17 pounds in weight, looked strong, healthy, and happier and his one desire was to get back to work. The doctor examined him again and found that he was in excellent condition. But, as he left the Health Center, thanking every one with tears in his eyes and grateful for all that had been done, he expressed one doubt that worried all of us who are interested in the health of the worker.

"Now that I got my health I hope I should get a job soon so that I can keep my health, because milk and eggs cost money; and if I begin to accept about a job, then I begin to lose all that you did for me." And we all realize the problem. We can help the workers regain their health, but the assurance of their livelihood and freedom from worry is a problem which they must solve themselves.

## News From Canada

By SOL SEIDMAN, Vice-President

Our work is progressing in Toronto quite satisfactorily. We have started the work here a little earlier than in Montreal and have consequently made greater progress to date. We have taken in about two hundred new members—a few small shops in a body—and, of course, we already have some victims on our hands, i. e. some workers who were discharged for having joined the Union. But this does not seem to intimidate the local workers in the least. Right now we are tackling the Eaton Company, the largest women's wear concern in Canada, and we hope to be able to make headway there too. We had called a meeting two weeks ago and over 150 workers of this shop came to the meeting; next Thursday we shall have another meeting of the entire shop in addition to branch meetings of the various departments. As a matter of fact we already have had stoppages in two departments of this factory.

There are elections here now in the locals and the members are showing more interest in it than they had displayed in a long, long time. I also called a meeting of embroidery

workers and had quite a successful attendance.

Now a few words concerning Montreal. Since the last three or four weeks that I have been visiting that city, things have improved there a great deal, though we have to contend with some disruptions. Between Toronto and Montreal I am kept quite busy and have meetings practically every night including Sundays. I am inclined to judge that the Toronto employers will not prove antagonistic towards dealing with the Union, though the time for official conferences is not yet ripe.

Those of our members who wish to study the History, Problems and Aims of the Labor Movement, Trade Union Policies, Applied Economics, Literature or Psychology, should register at once for the Workers' University or Unity Centers.

Further information may be obtained at the office of the Educational Department, 5 West 16th Street.

## JUSTICE

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# America's New Mania—Football

By J. CHARLES LAUE

Along with such extraordinary developments of American life and enterprise, as its far-flung industrial organizations, such as the Standard Oil monopoly, the Steel Trust, the automobile industry whose products can be found in all quarters of the globe, its present dominance in international affairs as the world's chief money mart and creditor nation, is a phenomenal interest in athletics and sport.

Just now has closed the college football season after eight hectic weeks during which more than 500 teams and 6,000 young men have striven for mastery, risking life and limb for athletic glory. At least as many more high school and private school boys joined as fray which was waged with the intensity if not the scale of real warfare. It is estimated that more than 1,000,000 spectators were thrilled by these contests. The concluding matches between the big Eastern universities drew crowds that rivalled in numbers those that were drawn from all over the world to witness the spectacles staged by the Caesars in the Coliseum on festal days of Ancient Rome.

This mania for variety football is distinctly American and is peculiar to this country. It is regarded as the most intense of all games, for in it 22 young men, in the prime of health and the pink of condition, contend not merely as individuals, but as a unit, a mass and a machine to evolve collective strength or deception or skill that will permit them to advance a heavy leather ball, oval in shape and about the size of an overgrown baseball for the distance of 100 yards across a chalk marked field and over the coveted goal line of their opponents.

It is not the purpose of this article to explain the game for it requires about five years for a spectator to fully grasp the details and he has to brush up his knowledge each year for the rules are constantly changed.

But in this devotion to an intricate sport, the popular appeal of the contest, the huge amount of money that is spent and the general interest that has been aroused in the public, that prefers sport to affairs more directly concerning society, lies a phase of American psychology that is worth noting.

The football that is played here is distinctly a national product. It is played nowhere else, although there are variations of the game, the English rugby and the more international of all games, association football that is sometimes confused with the American sport.

Once it was exclusively played by the big eastern colleges, Yale, Harvard and Princeton. That was about 40 years ago. The game then was crude, the success of the winner depending almost entirely upon brute strength and physical endurance. Since then it has been developed to a science so advanced that a coach and many assistants are paid as high as \$10,000 a season to drill a squad of students for the eleven who are to play the big games and to perfect them in the kicking, passing and handling of the ball, the tackling which consists of a flying leap to bring down an opponent carrying the ball and the mass formations that are hurled at the opposing team to break it apart so as to make the distance required in four attempts in order to retain possession of the ball and thus eventually advance it far enough to cross the opponent's goal line.

With the development of popular education the game has spread so that it is played now in the West, the Far

West, the Mississippi valley, the South and the South West, by jersey clad warriors, caparisoned with shoulder guards to protect the collar bones from being fractured, with canvas pants reinforced with steel, to protect the heavy wear of an hour's contact. And leather head guards to protect skulls and ears as they smash their way through the opposition.

When the game was in its infancy in American colleges and the rivalry less intense, the average student who weighed from 180 to 200 pounds was considered good material for the team. Colleges were attended by men in those days rather than youths and they were big men tending toward hulk of shoulder and strength of limb.

But as the nation grew in wealth and the older families lost their vitality and physical supremacy through easy living and too much luxury, the sons of the arriving swarms of immigrants who were able after years of toil in agriculture, industry or trade to send their sons to college began to arrive. New institutions sprang up, adopted the game and today such colleges as Chicago, Michigan and Wisconsin and the famous University of California, are frequently more than a match for their eastern rivals.

The game was broadened so that it is no longer a rich man's game. The hard working student, the farmer boy that goes to an agricultural school, the city boy who leaves paved streets and white lights behind to attend college in some rural community or small town may achieve that moment of fame and glory that comes to the exceptional or the lucky player on the football field, that is if he can find the time to take part in the arduous preliminary training. If he shows prowess the path through college is frequently made easy.

An amazing proportion of the public, considering that football is supposed to be a college game, talks, reads and eats football, a phenomena that was accentuated this year. The attendance figures were overwhelming.

On one Saturday afternoon in October, when the season was still young, about 215,000 persons saw five games. These figures grew larger as the season advanced to its close on Thanksgiving day. On a certain Saturday late in November 500,000 persons attended a group of contests and 100,000 more clamored for admission. Tickets had to be restricted to the favored few and the prices of the rest went as high as \$20.

Fortunes are gained on the admission price alone, it being common for the receipts in one game to range from \$150,000 to \$200,000. It is this extraordinary desire of the paying public to witness these games that has fostered the comparison of this sport with that which attracted the multitude in the days of Rome.

The Coliseum was dedicated by Titus, A. D. 80 in a grand festival of 100 days, at which 5,000 beasts were slaughtered in combat with armed men or with each other. The successive tiers of seats, reaching from the arena to the summit gave room for 80,000 spectators. For more than 300 years gladiatorial contests were waged there until stopped by the Emperor Honorius.

These exhibitions have been dwarfed by the turnout of the American public successive Saturdays in the football season showing 1,000,000 spectators keenly alert to watch the feats of skill and strength on the gridiron, as the striped football field is called. Within the last three years stadia have been built by the large

# The Living Wage in the Courts

The decision of the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia, handed down on November 8, declaring the Minimum Wage Law of the District unconstitutional, is now available in printed form, together with a dissenting opinion by the Chief Justice of the court. Taken together these two opinions are of tremendous import. They go far toward explaining the widespread hostility of labor to the courts; they reveal the fact that the members of a single court may hold utterly conflicting theories of the law; and they disclose, on the testimony of the Chief Justice himself, the danger that an important judicial tribunal may become a prey to partisan propaganda. The measure of the court's majority in this case means two out of three—contains in addition to an interpretation of the law, an extraordinary pronouncement concerning wages, for which a careful study of the economic questions involved discloses no basis. "High wages," said the court in this majority opinion, "do not necessarily tend to good morals, or the promotion of the general welfare. The standard of virtue and morality is no higher among the prosperous than among the poor. Their worth cannot be measured in dollars and cents, or promoted by a legal subsidy. Never have wages been so high as since the outbreak of the late war, and never in the history of the republic has crime been so universal; and this condition, it must be conceded, has made a like unfavorable impression upon the morals of the people. A wage based upon competitive ability is just, and leads to frugality and honest industry, and inspires an ambition to attain the highest possible efficiency, while the equal wage paralyzes ambition and promotes prodigality and indolence. It takes away the strongest incentive to human labor, thrift and efficiency, and works injustice to employer and employee alike, thus affecting injuriously the whole social and industrial fabric. Experience has demonstrated that a fixed minimum wage means, in the last analysis, a fixed wage since the employer, being compelled to advance salaries to a wage higher than their earning capacity, will, to equalize the cost of operation, lower the wage of the more competent to the common basis."

The Chief Justice, in his dissenting opinion scores the majority for this statement which he considers wholly gratuitous. "The question presented by these cases is not one of economics. It does not call for a decision with respect to what constitutes thrift or lack of thrift. Nor is the wisdom or non-wisdom of the statute before the court. It is no colleges that eclipse in size the parks here professional baseball is played and that rival the Coliseum in proportions if not in beauty.

The Yale bowl accommodates 70,000 persons and there was a demand for 20,000 more seats than could be obtained. Princeton, Harvard and Pennsylvania have just finished structures that cost over \$1,000,000 each to construct, great arenas are springing up in the East, West and South which may some day be dug up by future generations who will marvel at the extent of these palaces of a sport that has its origin in some primal day.

Sport as typified by football, its spirit of competition unrewarded except by possible glory resulting from victory, its sense of fair play and the discipline that it develops and the general premium resulting from the search of the combination of brain,

part of our function to deal with such matters, and any discussion of them is quite beside the case. Our authority is limited to the single question, had Congress the right to pass the act? When we decide that, we decide everything we have any right to touch. All else that is said, no matter how vehemently, is merely obiter." To the sweeping statements of the majority opinion in denunciation of the minimum wage principle, the Chief Justice opposes a formidable array of facts: "Thirteen states of the union, either by a statute or a constitutional provision, Argentina, France, Great Britain, Norway, Austria, and eight provinces of Canada, by legislative acts, have provided for a minimum wage for women on the theory that it tends to safeguard their health. Students of the subject and public boards in different parts of the world have found and declared as a result of thorough investigation that minimum wage stimulates industrial efficiency and aids industrial peace, and the experience of other countries may be considered by Congress in enacting such legislation as Muller v. Oregon, 208 U. S. 412, 419. This shows that in the judgment of a large part of the world there is an intimate relation between a minimum wage and the public welfare."

Moreover, the Chief Justice points out that his associates on the bench, in citing this Muller v. Oregon case, quoted only the following: "It is undoubtedly true, as more than once declared by this court, that the general right to contract in relation to one's business is part of the liberty of the individual, protected by the Fourteenth Amendment"; and that they omitted the concluding part of the sentence—"yet it is equally well settled that this liberty is not absolute and extending to all contracts, and that a state may, without conflicting with the provisions of the Fourteenth Amendment, restrict in many respects the individual's power of contract."

In a passage that will doubtless be cited many times by labor leaders and sympathizers, the majority opinion declares that of the three principles for which government exists—the protection of life, liberty, and property—the Chief is property, because the interference with the free use and enjoyment of property leads to anarchy and revolution.

Answering, the Chief Justice says that the upholding of the Minimum Wage act would have no such evil consequences. "On the contrary I am convinced the opposite effect would be produced, because the deci-

(Continued on Page 9)

nervous and muscle that makes the modern athlete and the mass spirit that has been engendered among the crowds, these are manifestations of American life that should not be overlooked by those who expect to see a similar absorption in affairs more vitally affecting the future of mankind than football.

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# What the Labor Movement Means to Me

By ARTURO GIOVANNITI

The Editor of JUSTICE, following my admission into the staff of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, has asked me to write my own introduction to its readers, a sort of intellectual creed—if I understand him right—in order that my position in the labor movement may be directly authenticated and officially understood.

I really do not know why I should be made to talk about and to define myself, especially when fully eighty per cent of the members of the I. L. C. W. U. who have ever gone on strike during the last ten years, have heard me on numberless occasions, both on the platform and the picket line; but as I mean to write for JUSTICE (the paper and the ideal it represents) and as I am one who believes in discipline even when it is most exacting as in the present case, I cheerfully accede to the request. But let me say at the very outset that the flattering and undesired things that the Editor has said about me in the last number of JUSTICE make me quite self-conscious and render it extremely hard to speak with that impersonal detachment that is the main secret of journalistic efficiency.

Nevertheless, I shall try, in the hope that my future collaboration to

these columns will fill the gaps and the lacunae which perforce I must now leave wide open in the course of these hurried remarks.

I am, for I must speak of myself, a very hard man to tag and classify in the long and evergrowing catalogue of militants in the arena of social and economic movements—not that I have no definite ideas of my own, for I have precise and irreducible ones, but that these ideas were not preconceived. In fact, and as are not the masters but the servants and the menials of the labor movement. Whatever rigidity they possess they owe not to a predetermination of mine to function upon and a prior assumption that whatever I believe is right, but rather to the experience of many years in many fields where they have been born and nurtured and where they have found the practical corroboration of their essential truth. However, as the tendency is to clothe every civic function with the uniform or the livery of a political party or an economic program, and as no modern man may escape this tabulation, especially in the radical census—a condition which I neither desire nor am capable of maintaining—let me say at the very beginning that I prefer

to call myself a syndicalist, that is one who holds that the militant, direct and all-absorbing participation in the organized movement of the workers as workers, is the paramount function of any man who would march space with the great social forces of today.

I shall try to explain this viewpoint in a brief and cogently as I can, in a series of short articles.

I believe that the labor movement, is the organized effort of men and women who work by their hands or brains to establish their collective position in society, to define and secure their rights and to increase their power limitlessly by their own acceptance and admission of incapacity. I believe that as such the labor movement, by virtue of the autogenic force that has called it into being and the ideals it has engendered as means to the attainment of its potential hegemony in human society, is the sole heir and continuator of the now practically defunct democratic system of society, and the only one which can with any appreciable measure of success, lead forth to a higher plane the evolution of mankind. The elements of fact that sustain this belief are now apparent everywhere, indeed, they are so evident that no one, who is not afflicted with the acutest form of intellectual myopia, can deny them.

Whatever may be said of the labor movement, either in praise or condemnation, the reality is all too palpable that it is now the all-encompassing problem of this age, as truly an arc of the evolutionary parabola of human society as the movement for political representation was a few generations ago. It is as vast a problem as any which predicates the continuation of civilization and the perpetuation of mankind; it is, in fact, the only problem today which absorbs all others: the limitation of war, the regulation of exchange, the distribution of population, emigration, colonization and the control of births) and more than anything else a scientific management of all the auxiliary forces of life—industry, trade, finance, education, and the equitable distribution of wealth. Indeed, whoever says that any great problem of today, none excepted, is not a problem directly connected with the labor movement, is either an ascetic wrapped up in the abstractions of religion, transcendental ethics and "pure" art, or a fanatic self-whisperer like the holy Ghandi and the unspeakable Mussolini. Or else, if a third alternative be permitted as a matter of charity to that supreme freak, half-beggar and half-boofon, which is the conservative "pure-and-simple" American labor leader, he is just a plain and pleasant fool.

Outside these sub-categories of the human species, everybody admits today that the workingman holds the center of the world stage and that every intelligent effort to either preserve or modify or change the present form of society must reckon and deal with him, and that no man who would function as a leader or a plain soldier in the next social advance could taking the worker as a point of departure for his activity nor can help envisaging the supreme question of the workers' future position in life.

The League of Nations and the Federation of Churches, the Fascist and the Third International, the Pope and Mr. Daugherty—every movement and every sane man are preeminently concerned about the all-sweeping question of assigning an ideologically definite and a practically tenable place to the man of labor. He is the great question mark of our epoch,

but unlike the other question marks of the past—slaves, serfs, indentured servants, citizens—he knows his position, he is aware of his importance, he is conscious of his power and is intelligent enough to choose his leaders out of his own class, wisely at times and often emotionally, but always with the infallible instinct of his immediate position. He has no other spokesmen than his fellow-workers—he takes no chances on being misinterpreted by outsiders—if he is going to fall through them, he will know, at least, that he has not been misunderstood but that he has been betrayed.

Upon the attitude and the action of this man depends the entire future of the human race for even his enemies or his critics who may question his wisdom and his competence to rule himself, will not and cannot question, at least, the fact that four-fifths of humanity are made up of his kind. Yes, the permanence or the destruction of society, the very perpetuation of the human race, is conditioned as much by the viewpoint and the behavior of this man as by the telluric changes and the equilibrium of the stars.

That this man is, or has become, by virtue of the realization of his supreme indispensability to life, an autonomous force operating through unappealable laws of his own, and that he is beyond any organized resistance of society, and that his power is as dark and inscrutable as that which makes the typhoons and the earthquakes, stands now revealed and proved by the Russian Revolution which after five years, in spite of its blunders and its retreats, remains the supreme collective achievement of mankind in its upward march towards the realization of its final destiny.

The truth now no longer be demonstrated—it is as clear as a July noon and as visible and palpable as a mountain. No sensible man will deny that the labor movement is not the paramount issue of the day. Only a Salvation Army bawler, trumpeting lustily and unconsciously to the hereafter, will still contend that the regeneration of the world is an affair of the saints and not of the toilers; but even a Salvation Army bawler will blow and shut with a dampened enthusiasm if his enrolments are reduced and the daily bread of the Lord's Prayer is not sufficiently smeared with the butter that, thanks to the labor movement, everybody demands now.

There is no need of pressing the point further. The labor movement is the only real movement that commands immediate and undivided attention today. Nobody does anything worth while with his hands or brains, with the possible exception of poets, but he either tries to advance or to check that movement. It has divided the world into two great camps—those who speed it up to its ultimate triumph, and those who hope that it will die.

But all are agreed that it will go its own way and that ultimately it will get wherever it wishes to go. And so far as we can presage now, it will get to a state of society where only the workers will rule and those who do not toil, and are able to do so, either shall not eat and eventually shall die of their dreams of grandeur, or they shall beg the scraps of charity from the horny hands of their betters, as all beggars must.

This conceded, and I am sure there is no moral objection or theoretical reservation on the part of any of the readers of JUSTICE, I shall from time to time, and whenever our Editor allows me, attempt to describe why the labor movement, which is the father of all theisms and ideologies, is in my opinion, the only instrument of the emancipation of the working class, and through the working class, of all mankind.

## Bridgeport Corset Local Makes Rapid Gains

Fifty new members in one week! That is the record of a small but enthusiastic committee of four women, working very quietly in the corset shops of Bridgeport, in the effort to reorganize Local No. 33, Corset Workers' Union of Bridgeport. Within a month this same committee has brought the membership of the local to over 200 dues-paying members.

In spite of this record, the committee and the organizer, Miss Gluck, feel that the work will progress even more rapidly after the first of the year, when the workers have been rehired in the shop of Warner Bros. Every year there is a shut-down of two weeks for inventory taking, and many of the workers feel timid about joining the union, lest, in some way, their names become known to the "personnel and efficiency manager" and they lose their jobs. Once they are back at work, however, there seems no doubt in anyone's mind that

the workers will flock back into the Union, and that a membership of 500 will be reached within a few weeks.

In the near future all workers in the various corset shops will be circularized. The greatest bulk of the workers are employed in the shop of Warner Bros., in which the active campaign is being conducted.

Election and installation of officers will be held on Tuesday, December 12, at which time Vice-President Halpern will be present. The workers will be addressed by Mrs. M. Ornburn, Secretary of the Connecticut Federation of Labor. Coffee and cake is being contributed by the membership and after the meeting they will hold a dance and "get together."

The organizer in charge of the work, Miss Gluck, has also started a circularizing campaign among the corset workers in New Haven, and among waist- and dress workers in both centers.

## The United Workers' Cooperative Association

Several years ago, groups of enlightened Jewish workers, not being able to adapt themselves to living as boarders in private families, socially isolated from their friends and without any influence as consumers, decided to rent rooms and live collectively. When their number became large enough they rented houses of sufficient size to accommodate from fifty to sixty people. All the rooms in these unity houses were furnished for one or two members and one entire floor set aside for the cooperative kitchen, dining room, reception room and library.

For the purpose of managing their economic and social affairs the members of a cooperative house elect committees which take turns in performing the many arduous tasks necessary for running such houses. Only those are eligible as members who live by their own work.

Socially this cooperative life, with

its mutual influence of one worker on the other produced this inevitable result, that it gradually, imperceptibly has raised the intellectual standing of the members, thus showing the advantage of living collectively in an environment of fellowship. And in addition to this invaluable intellectual advantage, there is the material gain of living in light, airy rooms, eating fresh, nutritious food, well prepared by the cooperative kitchen.

Until now there were three such cooperative houses in different parts of the city, all independent and without any contact with each other. But a strong movement has been started to unite these three units into one composed of several hundred members, and now this laudable step has been achieved. The final aim of this cooperative group is to establish cooperative dwellings for families with cooperative laundries, kitchens, etc., so as to enable the housewife to become economically independent and socially free and useful.

# JUSTICE

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## EDITORIALS

### THE SITUATION IN THE CLEVELAND CLOAK INDUSTRY

It would seem that it is not an easy matter for the cloak manufacturers of Cleveland to extract themselves from the tangle they had created by their announcement, a short time ago, that they would abrogate contractual relations with the "Cloakmakers' Union of Cleveland." They realize already that they will have some unpleasant times ahead of them, if they choose to stick to their decision. On the other hand, it appears that they are either reluctant or ashamed to come out in the open, rescind their decision and declare that the agreement with the Union which is to end on December 31, will remain in force.

It was due to this state of mind that the several conferences held between both parties in the Cleveland situation, with the participation of the Board of Referees, have brought no results yet, despite the fact that December 31 is no close at hand. The truth of the matter is that the Referees, notwithstanding their eagerness to retain peace in the cloak industry of Cleveland, are quite powerless to do anything in view of this decision of the employers to abrogate the agreement and their unwillingness to recede from this stand.

The Cleveland cloak manufacturers would now have the Referees undertake the work of drafting the new agreement. There is, however, a small obstacle in the way of the fulfillment of this wish. First, the Union has to give its consent thereto, and this the Union will not do. The Union will leave certain definite disputes to the decision of the Referees, but it will certainly not submit to the proposal of the Referees preparing for it a ready-made code and gospel and swallowing it whole. Such an act would be in contradiction of all its principles and policies. The Union is ready to enter into negotiations with the manufacturers and reach with them an understanding. But the Union will never consent to a third outside party making this agreement for it.

Were the Union even to accept this approval, the Referees themselves appear to be most decidedly opposed to it. Professor Hollander, one of the referees, very aptly stated that "neither he nor Judge Mack wish to play the role of an Almighty in Cleveland," which rings as true as gold. These referees were appointed for one definite purpose only—to render, in case of disputes over some definite questions between both contracting parties, judgment by which both sides are to abide. But if there is to be no more agreement in the industry—what is there for the referees left to do? Surely, it is not for them to undertake the responsibility of creating a new agreement.

Before the Referees can offer any aid in the present tangle, both sides must, first, agree that they want to have an agreement, and, secondly, they must reach an understanding on its most important features. Only then might they leave to the Referees to decide on points of comparatively lesser importance on which they themselves cannot agree. Otherwise, the Referees, no matter how deeply they might regret to see the structure for peace they had reared in Cleveland crumble into a heap, are entirely helpless in this case.

Such is the situation at this moment, and it is difficult to foretell with any degree of accuracy what the next few days will bring forth. And while we cannot say definitely what the Cleveland cloak manufacturers feel and think right now, we can state quite definitely that the Union will stand determined by all the demands it had advanced. It is clear to us that the Union will insist that the manner and method used heretofore for fixing the time for the making of a garment must be changed if not entirely abolished. This is, as far as we can see, the principal subject upon which both parties must agree.

And what if not? Frankly, we do not feel too optimistic on this subject. It may mean a bitter struggle between the Union and the employers, though we cannot foretell what form this fight will assume. It may come to a general conflict in the Cleveland cloak industry, and again it may result only in a fight against individual shops. Nevertheless, the outlook in the Cleveland cloak industry is quite stormy, and we know too that our workers are fully aware of it and are ready for all consequences that this latest phase of the situation in Cleveland might bring.

Indeed, the workers will fight with might and main for their Union, for their right to be organized and for their right to live like civilized human beings. The Union, and this is an open secret to all, did not desire this fight. They, the cloak manufacturers of Cleveland, have declared war upon the Union. Their arguments, in that now famous letter to the Board of Referees in which they threaten the Union with severance of relations, are ridiculous as well as they are high-handed. Nevertheless, the Union, even after that letter became known, had done everything honorable to come

to an understanding with the employers and make them withdraw their decision. They have not done it yet, and if they fail to do it within the next few days, whatever happens in Cleveland will not be the fault of the Union but of the cloak manufacturers.

### THE LATEST ASSAULT UPON LABOR

We shall not dwell upon all the subjects covered in President Harding's recent message to Congress, interesting and important though they might be. We shall only point out one part of the message which affects very closely the American labor movement and with which our workers should be made thoroughly familiar.

President Harding in his message recommends no more and no less than the creation of a new tribunal in place of the present Railroad Labor Board which would have the power to forbid strikes. The existing Railroad Labor Board is useless because it lacks the legal power of enforcing its decisions upon the railway workers and the railway owners. The tribunal recommended by President Harding would be clothed with the power of enforcing decisions.

President Harding argues as follows:

"Let there be no confusion about the purpose of the suggested conferment of power to make decisions effective. There can be no denial of constitutional rights of either railway workmen or railway managers. No man can be denied his right to labor when and how he chooses, or cease to labor when he so elects, but, since the Government assumes to safeguard his interests while employed in an essential public service, the security of society itself demands his retirement from the service shall not be so times and related as to effect the destruction of that service."

In other words, it means that the tremendous effort of the railway workers to build up strong organizations for the protection of their interests, for the obtaining of a shorter work-day and living wages, has been entirely superfluous. If the Government is ready to take them under its protective wing, to worry for them that they get decent wages and that they be not overworked—why, indeed, bother about having unions?

Nevertheless, difficult as it is for us to disagree with the President of these United States, we must declare that whatever the railway workers have in the past obtained for themselves has not been due, in any degree, to the kind efforts of the Government but to their own powerful unions. It is the freedom to exercise their constitutional right to cease working whenever they deem it expedient for their interests that has brought them to that state of comparative well-being which they enjoy now. It is, for instance, admitted everywhere that had not the railway workers had the right to threaten a strike now and then, their work-day might have been even today twelve hours. If not for their right and power to strike these picked workers into whose hands we entrust our lives daily and hourly would have been earning the wages of unskilled labor as yet. Who, indeed, can guarantee these workers that if they give up their unions and place themselves under the protective arm of the Government, the fair treatment that is being accorded to them, their wages and all other rights which they have acquired through their united power, will remain as secure and unchallenged?

Let us not fool ourselves. As quickly as Congress passes a law for such a tribunal, and as soon as the railway workers as law-abiding citizens submit to it, their unions, with their entire machinery and treasures, will become a useless thing. For the unions have only one purpose and meaning for the workers: to protect their interests peacefully, whenever possible, and by fighting, whenever necessary. But if the protection of their interests is taken from them by the Government, and if the going out on strike is strictly forbidden by the law—the unions will lose every reason for existence. The workers will then have to look for their protection solely to the Government. Their right to protect themselves through their own united force will be taken away from them. And the question arises: What guaranty have the railway workers that the Government will truly protect their interests?

Heretofore, as far as we know, no Government has ever made it its business and duty to protect the workers and their rights. Quite to the contrary, we see the government constantly engaged in fighting against the workers under the pretexts of public policy, the protection of life, property, law and order, etc., etc. Why should we take it that, of a sudden, the government would change its character and become the protector of the workers?

There is, for instance, President Harding awfully incensed with the railway and mine workers because they had been striking for the retaining of their present wages. He considers it a great wrong, a "hindrance to progress." It would appear therefrom that between the workers and the Government there might arise from time to time a decided difference of opinion; that what the Government might regard as well enough for the workers, the latter might consider entirely unacceptable. How can it be imagined that under such circumstances the Government would protect the workers and their interests?

And that's precisely the gist of the situation. Should such a law as proposed by President Harding ever be adopted, the railway workers will have three ways left for them to follow. Either to act like law-abiding citizens and give up all their rights and liberties by becoming the chattels of the new railway tribunal; to undertake a fight against the Government and continue it until the latter is forced to give up the role of their protector and guardian; or to give up their occupation and seek work in other fields still unprotected by the wing of the Government, leaving the railway business to other men who would submit to the new laws on the railways of their own accord.

We aren't certain as to which of the two last ways the railway

# Harding Demands Abolition of Right to Strike on Railways

Special Washington Correspondent to Justice

By B. MAIMAN

In his last message to Congress on December 8th, 1922, President Harding came out in the open for compulsory arbitration of strikes. It is very doubtful whether the proposed plan can really be termed "compulsory arbitration." It has in it the element of compulsion right enough, but little if anything of "arbitration." The President's plan is to have just a government board that could issue various forbidding strikes, and that is about all there is to it.

The plan proposed by President Harding is not quite comprehensive, and does not fit all industries. That is precisely where the President is not quite content with the plan himself. He would very much like to invent a modus operandi that would make strikes entirely impossible. So far, however, he has not hit on such a miraculous plan, so he is content, for the time being, to do it piece-meal, on the installment plan. Says the President:

"I wish I could bring to you the precise recommendation for the prevention of strikes which threaten the welfare of the people and menace public safety. It is an impotent civilization and an inadequate government which lacks the genius and the courage to guard against such a menace to public welfare as we experienced last summer. You were aware of the government's great concern and its futile attempt to aid in an adjustment."

As you see, the President would very much like to propose a plan that would make strikes absolutely impossible, but he, "I wish I could," is still unrealistic. At any rate, he cannot do it with all workers in all industries, so he proposes the plan for the railway workers, where a beginning was already made and where, it seems to him, it is quite possible to go a little further. For the railway industry, the President proposes in his last message, that the existing Railway Labor Board be entirely abolished because it has been incapable of enforcing its decisions. In its place there should be four persons appointed by the President and these four shall render decisions which would be fully binding upon the workers and employers. These are the President's own words:

"Public interest demands that ample power shall be conferred

upon the Labor Tribunal, whether it is the present board or the suggested substitute, to require its rulings to be accepted by both parties to a disputed question."

Let me add that it was these two extracts from the President's speech for which the Congress gave him the greatest applause. Harding as a rule is not generously applauded in Congress. His highly "literary" messages are ordinarily accepted coolly by the public, by the Congressmen on the floor and the visitors in the galleries. These remarks referring to labor, however, were received with thunderous hand-clapping. There was only one other passage in his message that was received just as warmly and that was where he referred to the "foreigners" who are disloyal to "our" country and "our" institutions; to "our" sacred traditions, and who ought to be taught better manners in true American style.

I said before that the President's plan cannot be called "compulsory arbitration" because there is a great deal more of compulsion in it than arbitration. Let me add that the President dwelt at considerable length on the point of equal representation in industries of the people, the workers and the employers, and went on record decidedly against it. He styled such committees upon which the various above enumerated interests are represented as "partial," and called such committees as are appointed by the government as "impartial."

It appears to me that this term is becoming more and more in vogue and stronger efforts should be made to correct this error. Too often is the term "partial committee" applied to such committees which represent various parties or sides in the past, on the platform, from the pulpit, from the screen, in paid advertisements and even in "sneak" studies by hired writers. While parties appointed by the government are given the totally unearned stamp of "impartiality."

In his last message, the President applies this term with reference to the Railway Labor Board, calling it "partial" on the ground of its being composed of three representatives each of the workers, employers and "public," the latter appointed by the

government. The President says its decisions were not always just because it has three impartial persons against six who can be termed partial. His plan, nevertheless, is that the entire labor board of nine be abolished, and in its place he, the President, would appoint four "impartial" persons.

I shall not speak here of this specious brand of "impartiality," of this utter impossibility for any person, honest though he may be, to be impartial on important questions. It is as old as the hills, and perhaps the only poem in America who understand it are the working men and women. But this is not my point. What I desire to emphasize is that heretofore, when arbitration was being discussed, it was understood by friend and foe to mean that on such arbitration committees there would sit an equal number of representatives of each side; that if a third, or impartial, chairman would be required, that only such person would be appointed upon whom both conflicting parties would agree. Now an attempt is made to instill a belief in the minds of the people that equal representation is partial, and that the only impartial persons are those appointed by the government. The "arbitration" element is therefore entirely eliminated, and the question of bargaining is swept along with it. It is not any more a case of bargaining, but one of complaining and bringing charges.

The President's message recommends this labor board only for railway workers. For the coal industry there has already been appointed a commission to find out facts and recommend means and ways of avoiding strikes. This commission was appointed according to the latest ideas of "impartiality." There are no direct labor representatives on the coal commission and if a "court" is to decide for the railway workers when and where they are to strike, why should not the same method be applied to coal workers? Carrying out this idea to its logical end, the question arises: If this plan is workable on the railways and in the coal mines, why not apply it to all the other industries of the country?

The President's message of last Friday is quite a rude set-back to those of the laborers who are now patting themselves on the shoulder in the belief that in the last election they had scored a tremendous victory. They fought against the Industrial Court in Kansas and won. Now comes the President and proposes something similar to the plan defeated in Kansas after a few years of operation, for national legislation. In this light the victory of last November looks very small indeed.

Until the workers will begin to take cognizance of the things that are being done for or against them, until the workers will be heard from in a more distinct and unquestionable manner, and will be ready to fight for their rights, the politicians will find devious and multiple means of taking their rights away from them. The organized workers of America have every reason to beware of the contents of the President's message. Their right to strike is certainly confronted with imminent danger.

## Co-Operative Notes

### CO-OPERATIVE LEAGUE PROTESTS AGAINST FASCISTI

The Cooperative League, the national headquarters of the Cooperative Movement, with headquarters in New York, has vigorously protested to Premier Mussolini of Italy against the outrages committed by the Fascist upon the Italian cooperatives. According to authoritative information received by the Cooperative League, the black-shirted Ku Klux Klan of Italy have been conducting a vicious fight against cooperative societies. Through the rule of the bomb and the stiletto, the Fascisti have not only captured the government, but they have destroyed or confiscated the property of hundreds of cooperatives, and have seriously interfered with the operation of hundreds of other societies.

During the past year, there have been attacks upon cooperative societies in Ferrara, Bologna, Parma, Turin, Verona, Tuscany, Mantua, Padua and other provinces. Armed bands of Fascisti, whose operations are financed and supported by private merchants, have burned to the ground hundreds of cooperative establishments. Managers of cooperatives have been ordered to leave the places where they were employed, thus crippling the operation of the societies. Hundreds of cooperatives under the threat of destruction, were forced to turn over their property to the Fascisti.

In the meanwhile, the government did nothing to interfere with the outrages of the Fascisti, and in many cases, royal guards and police assisted in the destruction of cooperatives. Now that the government has been seized by the cohorts of Mussolini, the leader of the Fascisti, the situation is even more threatening. In the hope that international protests may be

instrumental in checking the excesses of the Fascisti, The Cooperative League, in conjunction with national cooperative federations of other countries, has sent a vigorous demand to Premier Mussolini, that he put a stop to the barbarous attacks upon cooperative societies.

### ASH'S "GOD OF VENGEANCE" AT THE PROVINCETOWN THEATRE

Rudolph Schildkraut, who is to make his debut as an English-speaking actor at the Provincetown Theatre on Wednesday night, December 20, has waited long enough for that event to have a large following among the theatergoers of the city, and not all his following has been confined to those who understood those languages. Many, whose linguistic knowledge ends with English, have gone to see him because his art transcended the barriers of language. For them it is good news that at last he is to appear in English.

For his first appearance, Mr. Schildkraut has chosen a role in which he is already familiar, having played it in both German and Yiddish. This is the part of Yekel in Sholem Asch's "The God of Vengeance." The production at the Provincetown Theatre is to be made by the Players' Company, which has taken over the theater for this season.

The Ash play is already well known to lovers of the theater who keep abreast of the times. It has been produced with great success at the Jewish Art Theater and has been available for some time in both the original Yiddish and the English translation by Isaac Goldberg.

In addition to acting the leading role, Mr. Schildkraut is directing the production of the play, which insures a sensitive and artistic presentation.

workers will choose. But we are certain that the railwaymen will not lovingly embrace the new law and forfeit all their rights as free men and workers. In the light of this conviction of ours, it seems to us, the efforts of President Harding in making this recommendation are entirely wasted.

The State of Kansas had attempted to carry out a proposition of this sort on a small scale. The miners, for whose well-being that law was passed in Kansas, never ceased to oppose and fight it. Instead of peace, this law brought incessant war to Kansas, and now the citizens of Kansas elected a new Governor on a platform which pledges the abolition of the Allen Industrial Court.

Which proves that this compulsory labor law was abhorrent not only to the workers but to the entire citizenry of Kansas. And what fails even in such an agricultural State like Kansas, will surely not work as a law for the railway workers of the entire country. We cannot believe that what the Kansas miners have fought against so steadfastly and at so much sacrifice will be accepted with meek readiness by the millions of railwaymen. And because of that we cannot believe that the Harding proposal will ever be realized.

Nevertheless, the best time to protest and to make clear to the public opinion of the whole country the stand of the railway workers and of all the workers with regard to this matter, is not after the law had been adopted, but now when it is being planned. It is much easier to prevent the passage of anti-labor legislation than to fight for its repeal after it is placed on the statute books. We hope and expect a powerful movement in this direction, a volume of protest that will lessen if not completely drive away the appetites of our legislators for such anti-labor measures.



## Health Education — Union Health Center —

### To All Members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union

This is the beginning of a series of articles on health education. It is inspired by years of study and experience not only in the supervision of sanitation and fire protection of shops in our industry, but in my capacity as doctor and confidant of tens of thousands of workers who have availed themselves of the clinical advantages of the Union Health Center. Some of you may be unfamiliar with the existence and the functions of the Union Health Center at 131 East 17th Street. To you I desire to say that the Union Health Center is a purely

#### UNION INSTITUTION

built and supported by the Union and its members. It is an off-spring of the Joint Board of Sanitary Control. My connection with it dates since after the strike of 1910, when upon the suggestion of Meyer London, I was chosen, together with Bro. Schlesinger, by the Joint Board Cloakmakers Union to represent it at the Joint Board of Sanitary Control for the supervision of sanitation and fire protection in the shops of our industry. We, however, soon realized that clean shops are useless unless the workers are healthy, and that the health of the worker is just as important as the sanitation of the shop.

This thought led to the establishment of tuberculosis and sick benefits at first, and later to the organization of a medical clinic of the Joint Board of Sanitary Control at 31 Union Square. Still later the dental clinic was established at the same place.

In the early stages of this work the responsibility for the institution was divided between the manufacturers and the locals through the Joint Board of Sanitary Control, but in 1919 the work of the medical and dental departments had grown to such an extent that it was felt that the only effective way to care for the health of the workers was for the workers to assume the entire responsibility. While it is understood that the employers should be concerned on matters of sanitation, there is no debate as to the fact that an institution caring for the health of workers should be controlled solely by workers. Therefore, in 1920, Locals Nos. 1, 6, 9, 10, 11, 23, and 35 bought the house in which we are at present situated at 131 East 17th Street. Not only did they pay the sum of \$30,000 for the building, but invested an additional \$50,000 to reconstruct and equip it for the purpose of maintaining it as a Union Health Center with medical and dental departments.

The last few years have seen a phenomenal growth in our general and special clinics. The medical department alone maintains a staff of twenty physicians and has treated about 15,000 workers annually. Our clinics are being continuously enlarged. We have a complete medical laboratory and an X-Ray department where laboratory and X-Ray work for our members may be done at nominal rates.

Our dental department which has grown from three chairs in 1917 to ten chairs at present, has increased its business 400 per cent between 1918 and 1922, is unquestionably one of the most unique institutions in the country. It is the first and only workers' dental clinic that is run on a purely cooperative basis, and when it is considered that in the current year its business will amount to about \$50,000, and that it is run on a co-operative basis. It may be readily seen what a tremendous saving this department has been to the membership of the International. A saving not only in health and the care of the teeth but in money as well. This is our introductory statement to you.

Each week for the next three or four months we will continue to speak to you through the *Gerechtigkeit* about some new phase of our institution.

For the present, acquaint yourself with the following facts: Our medical department is open from 10 A. M. to 7 P. M. every day except Friday and Sunday. Special clinics are held from 11 A. M. to 1 P. M. and from 5 to 7 P. M. The dental department is open from 10 A. M. to 8 P. M. every day except Sunday.

The aim of our Union Health Center is to become a medium for all health information and for medical assistance to you and your family. In subsequent statements to you we will develop more at length on the individual and collective advantages of your Union Health Center. For the present let us hope that the day is not far off when the Union Health Center will serve every member of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and his or her family.

DR. GEORGE M. PRICE, Director

HARRY E. WANDER, Chairman

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# LABOR THE WORLD OVER

## DOMESTIC ITEMS

### R. R. SHOP WORKERS COMPLAIN TO HARDING.

Believing that railroads are seeking all advantages and taking none of the responsibilities imposed on them by the Transportation Act, organized shop workers have appealed to President Harding to have the roads live up to the spirit and letter of a recent order of the Railroad Labor Board regarding the non-assignment of the fair jobs to the contractors.

### A NEW OIL BILL IN MEXICO.

A petroleum bill which is said to have the approval of the Department of Commerce and Industry and which will meet the approval of the American State Department, has been introduced in the Chamber of Deputies in Mexico and probably will be discussed this week.

### U. S. SHIPS NAMED BY CHINESE.

Andrew Furuseth, President of the International Seamen's Union sent a letter to President Harding declaring that government owned passenger and freight ships are being manned by Chinese in ever increasing numbers. Ship owners, he declared, expect the American man to work and sleep with Chinese coolies and the American will not do it.

### ALBERTA MINERS STRIKE.

Determined to force recognition of the organization in the coal field, 16,000 miners of Edmonton, Alberta, have been ordered to strike December 1st according to an announcement made at the local headquarters of the United Mine Workers of America.

### FOR TRADE UNION COLLEGES.

Completion of arrangements for a nation-wide program of adult workers' education of the A. F. of L. and the Workers' Education Bureau was announced. The plan includes a general appeal to American labor to join forces under the leadership of the Workers' Education Bureau to establish trade union colleges and workers' study classes throughout the country.

### GAS COMPANY IMMUNE.

An indictment charging violation of the Sherman Anti-Trust law returned last March against the United Gas Improvement Company, was formally squashed by Judge Knox, of New York. The motion for dismissal was made by the District Attorney's office at the direction of Attorney General Daugherty who reported that the evidence did not justify prosecution by the government.

### FARMERS FIGHT NEW MEAT MERGER.

Stating that it is emphatically opposed to the proposed merger of the Armour and Morris Meat Packing Companies, the National Farmers Union made public a letter to Attorney General Daugherty, which stated that the union in convention at Lynchburg, Va., adopted a resolution declaring that the merger would be contrary to the interests of the American people.

### "PATRIOTIC" BUILDERS.

Six additional suits seeking recovery of large sums alleged to have been misapplied in construction of the war time army cantonments were filed in as many cities by representatives of the Department of Justice. The six actions seek to recover \$29,000,000. This brings the total claimed by the government war contracts to more than \$50,000,000.

### CORNELL DEAN WARNS ENGINEERS.

Western civilization will surely collapse unless a more equitable distribution of the fruits of industry is attained soon, Dexter S. Kimball, Dean of Cornell University declared speaking before the 43d Annual Convention of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. "Unless we can in some manner change our industrial system so that we can more nearly attain universal well being and distribute the fruits of our industry more equitably, we have no reason for believing that our civilization shall endure," declared Mr. Kimball.

### NEW YORK BUILDING TRADES AT PEACE.

Permanent settlement of the controversy between the rival building laborers' union which threatened to embroil the 125,000 building craftsmen of New York was effected by the Lockwood Committee. The independent laborers' union by the agreement is to be dissolved and its members absorbed in the International Laborers' Union affiliated with the A. F. of L.

### UNITED STATES BIRTH RATE DECLINES.

The declining birth rate and an increasing death rate for 1922 as compared with 1921 were forecasted by the Census Bureau which based its calculations on records for the first six months of the year for the registration area of the country comprising about 82 per cent of the total population of the United States.

### POTTERS RETURN TO WORK.

The strike of employees of companies represented in the United States Potters' Association in Pittsburgh, Pa., was called off after a lengthy conference between operators and union delegates. The men agreed to return to work immediately.

### LABOR BANK PAYS DIVIDEND.

Directors of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers' Cooperative National Bank, in semi-annual meeting, voted to give shareholders a dividend of 4 per cent and depositors a dividend of one-half of 1 per cent as their share of the earnings of the bank for the last six months. Resources of the bank, which is only two years old, are about \$18,000,000.

The dividend brings the shareholders' earnings for the year to 8 per cent, and those of the depositors, including 4 per cent interest compounded quarterly, to over 5 per cent.

## FOREIGN ITEMS

### —SWEDEN

#### EIGHT-HOUR DAY IN SWEDEN TO RUN.

Sweden's eight-hour day acceptable to the laboring element but opposed by employers will be continued under provisional law in the next few years if the recommendation just made by the social board is accepted by the government.

### HOLLAND

#### GENERAL STRIKE IN CASE OF WAR.

The Congress of the International Trade Union Federation will be held at The Hague, December 16th. The task of the Congress will be to oppose war by all means at its disposal and the prevention of wars at their outbreak by the immediate proclamation for an international strike.

### ENGLAND

#### LABOR PARTY SHUNS COMMUNISM.

High officials of the Labor Party in the House of Commons in interviews with the Manchester Guardian emphasized the Party's strong objection to communism and to any communist member of the House who has not subscribed to the Party's constitution.

### ITALY

#### LEFT PARTIES DEFEATED IN MILAN.

The municipal elections in Milan have ended in a complete victory of the so-called reconstructionists, or constitutional bloc, over the Socialists, Maximalists and Communists.

In round numbers the final figures are: Constitutional bloc, 85,000 votes; Socialists, 45,000; Maximalists, 17,000, and Communists, 3,000. At the last municipal election in 1921 there was a straight fight between the Constitutionalists and the Communists, the former getting 70,000 votes and the latter 73,000.

While the Constitutionalists have gained 15,000 votes, this may be partly accounted for by the fact that the Catholic members of the party, who voted about 10,000, obtained from voting last time, while this time they voted for the Constitutionalists. The Socialists, Maximalists and Communists lost about 8,000 as compared to 1921. A noticeable feature is the decline of the more extreme elements and the rise of the milder ones of socialism. The Socialists did not present themselves at the last elections, knowing that it was hopeless.

### AUSTRIA

#### IDLE VIENNESE PARADE.

A noisy demonstration by unemployed, in which it is estimated 50,000 persons took part, caused a practical suspension of business here one day this week. The demonstrators, demanding "work and bread," assembled in the Schwarzenberg and marched to the Parliament building. Passing the big hotels, they boomed and shouted, threats that they would return. The police in large numbers finally herded the throngs out of the inner city.

It is estimated that there are more than 100,000 unemployed in Vienna alone, and the number is constantly increasing. The Government, in view of the situation, which is rapidly growing worse, is hesitating to dissolve Parliament and force elections.

## The Living Wage in the Courts

(Continued from Page 4)

sion would demonstrate that this government, as framed by the fathers, has ample power, and those invested with that power have the disposition, to protect the weak against the strong by administering justice to both. If the power did not exist and the government could not interfere but would have to stand suzerain by while wrong dominated right, there might be some basis for the contention that a change is necessary in our institutions; but with the recognition of the power, virile and efficient, the contention loses all force it might otherwise have."

The case has another serious aspect. It had been previously decided by the court in a majority opinion which upheld the act, but at that time a member of the Supreme Court of the District was sitting in the place

of a member of the Court of Appeals during the latter's illness. The decision, however, was rendered after he had returned to the bench and the case was reopened on a technical point which the Chief Justice declares to be without validity, citing specific precedent in support of his statement. After reciting the events leading up to the final decision in the case, the Chief Justice says: "It would seem from the foregoing that the appellants, finding themselves defeated, sought a Justice who had not sat in the case but who, they believed, would be favorable to them, and induced him, by an appeal directed to him personally, to assume jurisdiction and join with the dissenting Justice in an attempt to overrule the decisions of the court. It shall not characterize such practice—let the facts speak for themselves."

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## Educational Comment and Notes

### "The Effect of the War on the European Labor Movement"

Thursday, December 21st, at 8 p. m., I. L. G. W. U. Building, 3 West 16th Street.

On Thursday evening, December 21st, at 8 p. m., "The Effect of the War on the European Labor Movement" will be discussed by Lewis S. Gannett, an editor of the "Nation." This will be the first of a series of lectures to be given by prominent

men and women on Thursday evenings in the auditorium of the I. L. G. W. U. building, 3 West 16th Street.

The next lecture on Thursday, December 28th, will be on the question of "Indemnity and Debt Payment in Relation to Labor in Debtor Country and Creditor Country," by Mr. James MacDonald, Director of the Foreign Policy Association.

### The International Situation as Affecting Labor

Lectures and discussions on Thursday evenings beginning December 21st in the I. L. G. W. U. building, 3 West 16th Street.

The Educational Department worked out a series of topics under the general subject of "The International Situation as Affecting Labor" to be given on Thursday evenings in the building of our International. These will start on December 21st. The first lecturer will be Lewis S. Gannett, an editor of the "Nation." He will discuss "The Effect of the War on the European Labor Movement." Other prominent men and women, qualified to speak on the different phases of the subject have been invited to discuss them.

Workers, whether in America or Europe, are subjected and affected by the International Situation that is upsetting the world at present. Although the United States is self-dependent, it is affected a great deal by present conditions in Europe. One-third of the population of this country is engaged in the farming industry, which must have markets for its products. Due to the general depression in Europe with the credit of many countries broken down, the European market is closed to the American farmers. They, in turn, by virtue of their number and the character of their industry affect those industries

which depend upon them. For instance, they consume a large proportion of the steel industry; they use the railroads for the transportation of their products; consequently, if the farmers are affected by the general depression, the industries which depend upon them also suffer. And these involve every trade, and industry in this country and the workers employed in them.

The object of the Thursday evening discussions is to enlighten our members on this important question. The schedule includes the following topics:

The British Labor Movement with special reference to continental affiliations.

Effect of the War on the European Labor Movement.

Reaction upon American Labor of European collapse.

Indemnity and debt payment, in relation: (a) To labor in the debtor country; (b) in creditor countries.

Internationalism of capital and finance in relation to labor situation.

The tariff in relation to the American Labor Movement.

The Farming Industry and Labor.

The Work of the United States Coal Commission.

The Attack on the Workers' Compensation Law.

### PHYSICAL TRAINING CLASS IN THE WAISTMAKERS' UNITY CENTER MEETS ON WEDNESDAY AT 6 O'CLOCK

Last Wednesday a physical training class was organized in the Waistmakers' Unity Center, P. S. 40, 329 East 20th Street, with Miss Loretta

Ritter as director. The group will meet every Wednesday evening in this center at 6 o'clock. Admission free to members of the International.

### Survey of the Comparative Development of Industry and the Trade Union Movement in the United States

By THERESA WOLFSON

Description of course given at the Unity Center, I. L. G. W. U.—Season 1922-1923.

The working class of today, the proletariat, was created in the Industrial Revolution. One of the most interesting features of our economic life is the parallel developments of the organized working group and the industries in which these groups are engaged in earning a living. How many workers know how closely dependent is the history of labor in the United States upon the development of industries?

During the early period in United States history, labor and industry ran almost a neck to neck race. The small merchant class produced its apprentice and journeyman rule. The period of the entrepreneur and business undertaker marked the period of local Craft Unions. Business monopolies induced the formation of national unions, while trusts and large corporations induced the formation of international trade unions. The labor organization, particularly in the last quarter of a century, lagged behind that of the industrial ventures, but the forces of cause and effect played an important part. No labor genius, no extraordinary labor philosophy, no period of extreme exploitation brought forth the labor movement in America. But the combination of all these factors plus many more, are responsible for the kind of labor movement we have today.

These facts should be familiar to every conscientious worker. They will be discussed in this course, and discussed from the point of view of looking backwards upon our own history.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

**WORKERS' UNIVERSITY**  
Washington Irving High School  
Irving Place and 16th St.  
Room 603

**Saturday, December 16th**

**1:30 SOGAL FORCES IN LITERATURE.**  
Dr. J. H. Lyons—Prophecy in Literature.

**2:30 David J. Sapos—Trade Union Policies and Tactics.**

**Sunday, December 17th**

**10:30 a. m. A. Eichandler—Psychology of Current Events.**  
Social Psychology.

**11:30 a. m. Dr. H. J. Carman—Political and Social History of the United States.**

**UNITY CENTERS**

**Monday, December 18th**

**Waistmakers' Unity Center—P. S. 40**  
330 East 20th Street, Room 303.

**8:00 p. m. Dr. Margaret Daniels—Industrial History of the United States.**  
Industrial Unionism.

**Brownsville Unity Center—P. S. 84**  
Stone and Glenmore Aves., Room 310.

**8:30 p. m. Theresa Wolfson—Comparative Development of Industry and the Trade Union Movement in the United States.**  
The American Federation of Labor.

**Tuesday, December 19th**

**Harlem Unity Center—P. S. 171**  
103rd St. near 5th Ave., Room 400.

**8:45 p. m. Solon De Leon—Applied Economics.**  
Industrial Waste.

**Lower Bronx Unity Center—P. S. 45**  
Brown Place and 135th St., Room 305.

**8:20 p. m. Sylvia Kopald—Economics and the Labor Movement.**

**Wednesday, December 20th**

**East Side Unity Center—P. S. 63**  
4th St. near 1st Ave., Room 404.

**8:30 p. m. A. L. Wilbert—Modern Economic Institutions.**  
The Factory As An Economic Institution.

**Waistmakers' Unity Center—P. S. 40**  
330 East 20th Street.

**8:20 p. m. Loretta Ritter—Physical Training.**  
Bronx Unity Center—P. S. 61  
Crotona Park East and Charlotte St., Room 501.

**8:45 p. m. Theresa Wolfson—Comparative Development of Industry and the Trade Union Movement in the U. S.**  
Modern Forms of Trade Unions.

These courses will be continued throughout the season at the same place, day and hour.

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

**Williamsburg Unity Center—P. S. 147**  
Bushwick Ave. and McKibben St., Brooklyn.

Classes in Elementary, Intermediate and Advanced English—IN ALL CENTERS on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.

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**EXTENSION DIVISION**

**YIDDISH**

**Saturday, December 16th**

**\*Local No. 9—228 Second Avenue**  
Washington Ave. and Claremont Parkway.

**1:00 p. m. Max Levin—The Aims and Problems of Contemporary Labor Movements.**

**Local No. 1—Clubrooms, 1581 Washington Avenue, Bronx**

**8:00 p. m. Dr. Iago Galdston—The Worker and His Health.**

**Sunday, December 17th**

**10:30 a. m. Max Levin—The Economic Structure of Our Present System.**

**Thursday, December 21st**

**I. L. G. W. U. Building, 3 West 16th Street**  
**8 p. m. Lewis S. Gannett—The Effect of the War on the European Labor Movement.**

### Activities in the Clubrooms of Local No. 1 a Great Success

The activities worked out by the Educational Department together with the Educational Committee of Local No. 1, to be carried on in their Clubrooms at 1581 Washington Avenue, Bronx, started last Saturday evening.

The first lecture was given by H. Rogoff and the subject discussed was the "Relations Between the United States and the European Countries." The hall was filled with men and women who displayed great interest in the subject.

On Sunday morning at 10:30 a. m., Max Levin started a course on "The Economic Structure of Our Present System." This first session was attended by a large responsive audi-

ence. The course will consist of six lessons.

The Saturday evening lectures will be continued throughout the season. The second lecture will take place this Saturday, December 16th. It will be given by Dr. Iago Galdston, of the New York Tuberculosis Association, and the subject will be "The Worker and His Health." It is needless to emphasize the importance of health lectures for our members who work indoors. They are subjected to occupational diseases which are more easily prevented than cured. It is the object of these talks to inform our members on how to take care of their health.

Admission free to members of the International.

# With the Waist and Dress Joint Board

By M. K. MACKOFF, Secretary

(Minutes of meetings November 22 and November 29, 1922)

Brother Berlin in the Chair.

## MANAGER'S REPORT

Brother Hochman, manager of the Joint Board, reported that Brothers Berlin, Horowitz and himself had an informal meeting with representatives of the employers. In order that our Joint Board be ready to meet in conference with representatives of the associations, Brother Hochman suggested that the Joint Board elect a conference committee for this purpose.

Upon motion the Board of Directors recommended that the Joint Board elect a conference committee which should consist of one delegate from every local, the local secretaries, the managers and the president and secretary of the Joint Board.

Brother Hochman further stated that plans for the coming campaign are being worked out. In view of the fact that Local No. 23 controls a large number of shops, he believes that arrangements made should be binding upon Local No. 23 and therefore advised the Board of Directors to request the Executive Board of Local No. 23 to appoint a committee of equal number from our Joint Board, who should jointly work out plans as to the basis upon which Local No. 23 should be represented on the committees necessary to conduct the coming campaign. The proposal was concurred in.

The recommendation of the Board of Directors with regard to the Conference Committee was concurred in and upon motion a committee in conjunction with the local secretaries, the manager, assistant manager, president and secretary of the Joint Board was appointed.

Upon motion it was decided that the Conference Committee should appoint a sub-committee from among their members for the purpose of meeting in conference with the committee from Local No. 23.

Brother Berlin called the attention of the Joint Board to the death of Ricardo Flores Magon in Leavenworth Penitentiary. The story of Magon is one of neglect and inhuman cruelty. The authorities cannot plead ignorance of the dreadful conditions to which he was exposed and to which many of his comrades who fought for the same cause of liberty are still exposed in the shameful dungeons to which they are confined. Upon motion it was decided to send a letter of protest to the Department of Justice and a telegram to the friends of Magon expressing our sympathy for their loss.

## UNITY HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORTS

After the report of the Unity House Committee was read a number of delegates and officers asked for information on various items contained in the report. Brother Rothenberg was asked several questions and spent some time in explanation. He described the actual and practical workings of the Unity House, laying stress on the co-operative spirit which prevailed during the entire season.

The explanation made by Brother Rothenberg was well taken.

The Unity Committee was then asked what became of the negotiations of the sub-committee of the International which was appointed by the General Executive Board for the purpose of taking over the Unity House. A discussion arose and upon motion it was decided that a committee consisting of Brothers Rothenberg, Riesel and Gusman should ap-

pear before the General Executive Board which is in session now, on the day following this meeting for the purpose of learning whether or not they intend to take over the Unity House.

The committee was therefore instructed to request the General Executive Board to inform the Joint Board upon the adjournment of their meeting of their decision in regard to the Unity House proposition.

In conclusion Brother Rothenberg thanked the Joint Board for the confidence placed in him and also took advantage of the opportunity to thank the other members of the Unity House Committee for their earnest co-operation.

The report of the Unity House Committee was approved and it was decided that the recommendations of the Unity House Committee be taken up at the next meeting of the Joint Board and that the locals affiliated with the Joint Board should be requested to appoint one member of the Executive Board to serve on the Unity House Committee. It was further decided to appoint a member of every local interested in the Unity House, to serve on that committee.

Upon another motion a committee was appointed to express the appreciation of the Joint Board to the Unity House Committee for the services rendered by that committee during the season of 1922.

## MEETING NOVEMBER 29

A committee representing the Freie Arbeiter Stimme appeared before the Board requesting that the Joint Board help to make the arranged Ball a financial success by purchasing tickets for a liberal amount.

The request was referred to the Finance Committee.

In a communication Brother Abraham Baroff, General Secretary of the International informed the Joint Board that the New York members of the General Executive Board "had heard the request of your committee to endorse a general strike in the dress and waist industry of New York for the purpose of the introduction of the week-work system in the industry."

"I am instructed by the Board to inform you that after due discussion of your request, the General Executive Board reaffirmed its former decision in favor of week-work in the waist and dress industry. Before proceeding with any practical steps, the General Executive Board, however, deems it necessary to refer final decision upon this issue to a referendum vote of the membership of the locals affiliated with your Joint Board. As soon as the workers in the waist and dress industry will, by a substantial vote, approve the week-work proposal, the General Executive Board will undertake, through the President of the International with a representative committee of the Joint Board, to begin negotiations with the employers for the introduction of the week-work system, provision of a minimum scale and all other changes that go with it."

The Joint Board of Sanitary Control in a communication stated that they had resolved to call a conference of representatives of Civic, Labor and Business Organizations to consider in a fundamental way the most effective means of protecting the public and the workers in industry from the hazards of fire and other dangers. This conference will be held at the office of the Joint

Board of Sanitary Control on Monday, December 4th, at 4:30 p. m. Brothers Mackoff and Hochman were appointed to attend this conference.

Local No. 23 in a communication informed the Joint Board that they appointed a committee of three consisting of Brothers Praisant, Pinesky and Etkin to take up matters with the committee of our Joint Board relating to our general campaign.

In a communication Brother M. Moskowitz, business agent, tendered his resignation stating that this action is due to purely personal reasons which cannot be of interest to the Board. He requested that his resignation take effect immediately.

It was decided to accept this resignation with regret.

## MANAGER'S REPORT

Brother Hochman, manager, reported that he had made arrangements to collect as much data as possible on all those who are working week and piece work. Upon completion, statistics will be compiled which will be a guide for basing our minimum scales for week workers.

Besides, business agents were requested to visit the shops and a special control blank was worked out to be filled out by the business agents, describing the various conditions in the shops.

In regard to the preparations for the coming campaign Brother Hochman reported that at the shop chairman meeting held last week in the Rand School a number of members registered as volunteers to serve in various capacities during the coming campaign.

A meeting was also held in Brownsville for the same purpose and Brother Hochman reported that he had made arrangements to have district meetings held in all the outlying district for this purpose.

Brother Hochman also reported that a meeting of all the Executive Board and active members was held at the Rand School, November 29th for the purpose of securing people to serve on the various committees in our coming campaign. Over 200 people attended that meeting and we may expect to have their co-operation when they are called upon to assist in the 1923 campaign.

In regard to the embroidery shops, Brother Hochman reported that from information received, a good many embroidery workers are at present working on samples and the outlook in that part of our industry is quite bright.

## WAGE SCALE COMMITTEE

The report of the Wage Scale Committee was as follows:

The committee decided to request Brother Hochman to compile all the available data for the purpose of working out statistics on the minimum wage scale.

Brother Hochman stated that he was not ready to submit this data as yet but would do so in the near future.

The committee considered the advisability of having the various crafts

*Reckless  
Cafeteria to  
Restaurant  
1 East 15th St.  
-where people gather  
for the noon and  
evening meals & talk-*

represented in our industry voice their opinions as to what the minimum scale of wages should be. With that in view, the committee decided that every member should urge the Executive Board which he or she represents to put this question on their order of business and discuss the minimum wage scale with the craft they represent. It was also the opinion of the committee that when this question is taken up by the Executive Board the entire committee should be present at that meeting.

The report of the Wage Scale Committee was approved as submitted.

Upon motion it was decided that the Joint Board make arrangements for maintaining and managing the Unity House for the next season. Brother Berlin, president of the Joint Board requested the delegations from the respective locals interested in the Unity House to name a member from their delegation to be on the Unity House Committee.

A committee consisting of Brothers Riesel, Hochman and Sister Sonnsky, was appointed to appear before the membership of the dress and waist division of Local No. 19 which will meet on the 11th of December at Arlington Hall, in order to urge them to become a party to the Unity House.

## UNION HEALTH CENTER NEWS

Friday evenings at the Union Health Center have come to be most popular events. The small auditorium has become so crowded that there has arisen the need for larger quarters. Arrangements are now being made to secure the auditorium of the I. L. G. W. U. headquarters.

On Friday evening, December 15th, Dr. A. Roncy, Gynecologist of Lehanon Hospital, will deliver a lecture on the "Physiology of Sex." Dr. Roncy is an extremely capable lecturer and will discuss the topic from the point of view of the anatomy and physiology of sex, and the need for every worker's understanding of sex hygiene. This lecture will start promptly at 8:15 P. M. Doors will be closed at 8:30 P. M.

## The Objection and Examination Committee of the BONNAZ EMBROIDERY WORKERS' UNION

Local 66, I. L. G. W. U.

MEETS SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16th  
at the office of the Union, 7 East 15th St.  
1 P. M. Sharp

All candidates must appear before this Committee. Failure to appear will automatically remove candidate's name from the ballot.

EMIL AUERBACH, Secretary.

# The Week in Local No. 10

By JOSEPH FISH

## GENERAL

The Ball Committee is again taking the opportunity to remind the members about our coming affair, which will be held on January 6, 1923, at Hunt's Point Palace, 153rd Street and Southern Boulevard, Bronx. The members are aware of the fact that the proceeds of the affair will be appropriated to the Relief Fund of our organization.

This fund is composed not only of the proceeds of the various affairs given by our organization, but also of fines collected from the members found guilty of their own cutting. Since this local has joined the Joint Board, the fines collected for this violation have generally been given to the cutters employed in the shop, or if no cutter is attached to the house, turned in to the Treasury of the Joint Board.

The Ball Committee therefore feels that every effort should be made to make this affair a tremendous success, so that the Relief Fund for the next year will be able to meet all the cases with which it will be confronted and extend a helping hand to those brothers who will find it necessary to apply for relief.

The committee also wants the membership to know that we are printing a journal in honor of the occasion, and we wish the members to know that we are accepting ads. for the journal from business people, with the exception of manufacturers in our own industry. All those interested in securing ads. must turn them in not later than December 23rd. The journal will also carry individual ads. from members, officers, and well-wishers of our organization, the price for which will be \$1 and \$2, according to space. Those of our members and friends who wish to insert such complimentary ads. should get in touch with any officer or member of the Ball Committee, and they will be taken care of.

In conclusion, we want the membership to remember the date, January 6th, and to keep it open. The Ball Committee assures all those who will attend that they will spend a very enjoyable evening.

## ENTERTAINMENT

Speaking of entertainments, Miss Fannie M. Cohen, Educational Director of the International, has requested the writer to mention that a dance and entertainment of the students of the Workers' University and Unity Centers will be held on Saturday evening, December 16th, at 8 p. m. in the auditorium of the I. L. G. W. U., 5 West 10th Street. Miss Cohen would be very much interested to see members of our organization present and she assures them that a good time will be had by all, as there will be singing as well as dancing. It is also understood that Comrade Jean Longuet will pay a social visit at the above affair and will deliver a short address to those present.

All this can be had for the nominal price of ten cents per ticket which can be secured at the office of the Educational Department.

## ELECTIONS

The month of December is generally a month of elections in our International. Our local was one of the first to install the practice of electing officers at the end of each year. We therefore do not want our members to forget our own election.

Competition will be very keen in this coming election, all offices being contested, with the exception of those of General Secretary and In-

ter Guard. The offices of members of the Executive Board and delegates to the Joint Board in both the Cloak and Suit and Waist and Dress divisions, are most numerously contested. This is probably the first time in a long while that such a large number of candidates has signified intentions of running for these offices.

Judging from the number of candidates in the field, this election is expected to be a lively one, and we therefore urge our members to come down in numbers to express their wishes as to who should conduct the affairs of the organization for the coming year. Surely, they have a big choice from which to select.

The election will take place on Saturday, December 30th, 1922, at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Marks Place. The polls will be open from 12:30 to 6 p. m.

## WAISTS AND DRESS

At the last regular meeting of the Waist and Dress Division for 1922, the report of Manager Dubinsky, which covered the activities of the office for the past few months, was rendered. The first part of the report dealt with the question that interests the cutters mostly, and that is whether or not there will be a strike in the Waist and Dress Industry. As yet, the office is unable to report definitely as to the actual outcome of the present situation.

As the membership no doubt recalls, at a recent branch meeting the members decided to go on record as assessing themselves with a \$13.00 tax, in order to prepare a reserve fund, which may be needed at the time of the expiration of the agreement. At that meeting, the membership also ratified the demand for the installation of the week work system in the Waist and Dress Industry. This was not only ratified by our own local but by a majority of the locals composing the Joint Board, and not only by the executive boards of these locals, but by the respective memberships as well.

As a result of the locals favoring this change, a committee of the Waist and Dress Joint Board appeared before a meeting of the General Executive Board of the International, consisting of the vice-presidents of New York, and asked for the endorsement and sanction of a strike in the Waist and Dress Industry, should this be necessary in enforcing the installation of the week work system, and that the International assume the leadership of such strike.

The General Executive Board, after discussing the proposition thoroughly, expressed the opinion that so far as the International as a whole is concerned, they would heartily approve the change from piece work to week work, as this is not only their own opinion but also the expressed opinion of the last two conventions held in Chicago and Cleveland, where these conventions went on record as favoring week work in the Waist and Dress Industry, particularly since this system has been installed in the Cloak and Suit Industry in New York and the cloak centers throughout the country.

However, before officially endorsing a strike for week work, the General Executive Board expressed a desire that a referendum vote of the members employed in the Waist and Dress Industry should take place, in order to determine whether or not the people are not only ready to demand week work but are also ready to fight, if necessary, for the installation of this system. The cutters,

as a craft, have always been working week work and are surely acquainted with the benefits of it. Should the referendum vote show an overwhelming majority in favor of the new system, the cutters, although already working by the week, will have to aid the other crafts in achieving victory for their demands.

We therefore urge each and every waist and dress cutter to participate in the coming referendum vote, thereby expressing his desire for the installation of the week work system in the industry.

It can readily be seen that it is difficult for any one to say at present just what the outcome will be. It depends entirely on the results of the referendum vote, which will be conducted by the Joint Board in the very near future. Should the sentiments of the members employed in the industry be in favor of week work, then as soon as President Schlesinger will return from his trip in the West he will assume leadership of the situation, and we have all confidence that Brother Schlesinger, at the head of the International, will lead the waist and dress workers to victory, just as he has in the past the workers of various other trades

in the ladies' garment industry, including our own.

Brother Dubinsky also reported regarding the controllers, who have been appointed in compliance with the decision of the last General Meeting. Brothers Frahm and Kwiat were placed and have been controlling these shops for the past few weeks. The latter has resigned for personal reasons, and the Executive Board will place another man in his stead in the near future.

According to the reports of the controllers, they have visited 409 shops, of which 200 are working with cutters. In about 150 of these shops cutters are working part time, which means that cutters are connected with the houses. The remaining 80 shops are of a nature that have to be followed up, as we really have no knowledge of them employing any cutters at all. These houses are being followed up, although not much can be accomplished for the reason that there is absolutely no work in the shops, and if a cutter is being placed to work, it is only for a day. However, very few can be placed. We expect better results in the very near future when work will pick up again.

## CUTTERS' ATTENTION

The annual election of officers of Local 10 will take place on Saturday, December 30, 1922, at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place.

The polls will be open from 12:30 to 6 P. M.

## THIRTEENTH ANNUAL BALL

of the

## CUTTERS' UNION

LOCAL 10, I. L. G. W. U.

Saturday Evening, January 6, 1923

HUNT'S POINT PALACE, 953 Southern Blvd., cor. 163d St.

Tickets—50c  
in Advance  
Proceeds in Aid of  
Relief Fund

Music by  
Louis Zverling's  
Orchestra

## CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10

### Notice of Regular Meetings

MISCELLANEOUS ..... Monday, December 18th  
CLOAK AND SUIT ..... Monday, January 8th  
WAIST AND DRESS ..... Monday, January 15th

Meetings Begin at 7:30 P. M.

AT ARLINGTON HALL, 23 St. Marks Place