

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

—Job 27.6

# JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

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

Vol. V, No. 5.

New York, Friday, January 26, 1923.

Price 2 Cents

## SPECIAL CONVENTION CALL FORWARDED TO LOCALS

ACTING PRESIDENT

SECRETARY BAROFF NOTIFY LOCALS TO SEND FULL  
QUOTA OF DELEGATES

WILL MEET FEBRUARY 15TH AT EMERSON HOTEL, BALTIMORE, MD.

On Tuesday, January 23, the General Office of the International forwarded the official call for the Special Convention to be held on February 15th, 1923, in the city of Baltimore, Md.

The convention call is signed by Acting President Salvatore Ninfo and Secretary-Treasurer Baroff and reads as follows:

### LECTURE ON "R. U. R." AND "THE WORLD WE LIVE IN" THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1.

On Thursday evening, February 1st, Dr. Alexander Irvine will deliver a lecture on "The World We Live In" and "R. U. R." in the building of the I. L. G. W. U. Admission will be free to members of the International.

Our members can obtain passes at the Educational Department which will entitle them to half rate tickets for "The World We Live In."

## N. Y. Cloak Joint Board Regrets Resignation of Brother Schlesinger

We received a resolution from the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union of New York which reads as follows:

The Joint Board of Cloakmakers' Unions of the City of New York, voicing the sentiment of its fifty thousand affiliated members, expresses deep regret at the retirement of Brother Schlesinger from the office of President of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

The name of Benjamin Schlesinger is indelibly inscribed in the brightest pages of the history of our International and particularly of the Cloakmakers' Union. Under his brilliant leadership our Union has fought its hardest battles and won its greatest

victories. His indomitable energy, and his unselfish and whole-hearted devotion to the interests of labor have been a powerful source of faith and enthusiasm to all of us.

The workers in our industry will sadly miss his inspiring personality and wise counsel. They will always think of him with love and affection.

Whatever new field of effort Brother Schlesinger may choose, we know that his activities will be beneficial and fruitful for the cause of the workers, and that he will always remain our friend and trusted adviser. Our sincere wishes for success and happiness will follow him in his future public career and in his personal life.

## SICKNESS INSURANCE CONFERENCE NEXT MONDAY, JAN. 29

There will be a special meeting of all the Relief Committees of the Locals belonging to the Union Health Center, on Monday evening, January 29th, at 8 P. M. promptly, at the Union Health Center, 131 East 17th Street. This meeting will be held for the purpose of discussing the new Sickness Insurance plan for members of the I. L. G. W. U. All those interested in this meeting are invited to attend.

## Conferences Started in New York Dress and Waist Industry

SECRETARY BAROFF AND

ACTING PRESIDENT NINFO  
EXECUTIVE BOARD

REPRESENT THE GENERAL

On Saturday, January 20th, the conferences between the workers and employers in the dress and waist industry of New York have begun.

The first meeting took place at Hotel McAlpin between the Dress and Waist Joint Board and the Jobbers, the Wholesale Dress Manufacturers' Association. The Union demanded from the jobbers to assume full re-

sponsibility for the work made by them in the contractors' shops,—wages, work hours, work system, etc. The jobbers in reply asked for time to consider these demands.

The International was represented at this conference by Secretary Baroff and Acting President Ninfo and the Joint Board—by a committee of seventeen, headed by Julius Hochman.

Manager; Harry Berlin, President; Vice-President Harry Wandler, Manager of Local No. 23; and Vice-President Dubinsky, Manager of Local No. 10.

SECOND CONFERENCE WITH  
THE DRESS MANUFACTUR-  
ERS' ASSOCIATION

Another conference took place on  
(Continued on Page Twelve.)

## Vice-Pres. Feinberg in Philadelphia and Toronto

ADDRESSES BIG MEETINGS IN  
BOTH CITIES

Vice-President Israel Feinberg spent a goodly part of this week in Philadelphia in the interest of the campaign managed by Vice-President Releberg of Philadelphia in the dress industry of that city. He attended several executive board and member meetings, lending his advice and counsel to the Philadelphia workers in their present drive for rebuilding Local No. 15 and securing recognition and a union agreement from the employers.

On Wednesday evening, Vice-President Feinberg left for Toronto to address a big member meeting of the Toronto cloakmakers arranged by Vice-President Seidman for Thursday, January 25. This big meeting will mark a culminating point in the activity conducted by Brother Seidman in that city with considerable success among the local cloakmakers and the message of Vice-President Feinberg will add a note of cheer and encouragement to their striving to build up a powerful union in the cloak industry of Toronto.

## Embroidery Workers, Local 6 Obtain an Increase in Wages

A QUIET VICTORY FOR THE UNION—WORKERS GIVE UP TWO  
WEEKS' INCREASE FOR LOCAL'S TREASURY

Our Swiss Embroidery Workers' Union, Local No. 6, has scored this week a quiet victory at the conference table with the employers of the industry. Without much trumpeting, the members of Local No. 6 obtained a raise in wages ranging from 7½ to 10 per cent. This increase is general and covers all workers employed in the shops under the jurisdiction of Local No. 6.

According to advices from Brother Manny Wax, Manager of Local No. 6, the Swiss Embroidery workers have undergone pretty bad times lately. There was a long slack period

in the trade and very little earnings. The request for the increase was made in order to alleviate partly the conditions of the workers and the embroidery manufacturers had to concede this just request of the Union and waive the technical point that the present agreement with Local No. 6 and its wage scale had still to run until March, 1924.

The sincere satisfaction of the members of Local No. 6 with this achievement was best shown when at the last meeting, the workers, in recognition of what the Union had done for them, decided to give up two weeks' of this increase for the treasury of the local.

## TOPICS OF THE WEEK

By N. S.

### WHAT NEXT IN EUROPE?

**H**OW long will the German passive resistance last against the French bayonets? Will starvation drive the German miners to work for the French? Will loss of property and profits force the German magnates to submit to French orders? What will the next step of France be? Will Poland invade Upper Silesia? Will Russia try to restrain Poland? Will Hungary, Roumania, and the entire group of the newly created states enter into a general war? How near is Europe to utter collapse and ruin?

These are the questions that are daily being forced to the attention of the world. The French army now controls the Ruhr. The recalcitrant German coal magnates, administrators and bankers have been arrested. The miners and railroad workers are being enticed with the prospect of good wages and working conditions. All the while the French pet scheme for dismembering Germany is being carried on with vigor by the attempt to establish a Rhine-Ruhr State.

For the first time in four years Germany has abandoned her meek, spineless and drifting policy. When Chancellor Cuno urged the German people to resist the military dictatorship of the French by means of boycott, sabotage and strike, the response seems to be general. The miners have gone out on strike, large numbers of railway workers have joined the miners, and in cases where the workers remained at their posts, their output is almost nil. The French admit that economically their venture thus far is a failure. Their question is how to break German resistance. Through rifles and canons, says Marshal Foch. Through starvation and blockade, says the more moderate faction. And for the time being the second method is being pursued.

France is doing her ghastly work in destroying Europe with the apparent connivance of her Allies and Associated Powers. Belgium is under the command of the French and has no influence or power to do anything on her second. Italy, under the Mussolini reign, is helpless, vacillating, and is apparently losing the influence she ever had in international affairs. Great Britain, under the Bonar Law regime, abandoned the Lloyd George policy of faked compromise and has replaced it by the policy of silence, seeming aloofness and non-interference. It is hard to say which of the two policies, whether that of Bonar Law or Lloyd George, has done greater harm. But it is obvious that in both cases France had a free hand to her sinister schemes. The American government is of course not expected to have any policy. It can only go through the motions of a diplomatic sort as if it really has some carefully wrought out plan. But in reality the State Department represents a void. Secretary Hughes is of course interested in foreign oil fields and other foreign concessions. However, he is not concerned with methods and policies. He leaves that to the Standard Oil Company and similar interests. At this writing there is a great uproar in the Senate. There are rumors of disagreement between the President and Secretary Hughes. Mr. Hughes may resign, though he denies it. There is a demand for an active, intelligent foreign policy.

Labor is not much heard of in this crisis. The American labor movement follows the policy of the American government. In England protest mass meetings were held last Saturday and Sunday. At Amsterdam the European trade union movement denounced the French invasion. But the governments are deaf to the voice of labor.

### JURY ACQUITS HERRIN MINERS

**D**URING the miners' strike last June there occurred in Herrin, Illinois, a clash between armed gangsters, gangs and strike-breakers, and the striking miners. There were many wounded and dead. The strike-breakers were forced to leave the mines.

The coal magnates, the Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Congressmen, Senators, Government officials, the capitalist press raised a cry of protest against the "massacre." A coroner's jury made a careful investigation of the outbreak and found that responsibility for the riot rests entirely on the coal operating, particularly on the Southern Illinois Company, where the trouble started. This verdict was vehemently denounced by the money interests of the country. Early in November selection of a jury for the trial began and on December 12th the taking of testimony was begun. The prosecution, led by the Government and liberally financed by the Illinois Chamber of Commerce, wanted nothing less than the execution of the individual miners. But despite the high-paid experts and the piles of faked evidence, the jury after long deliberation acquitted the workers.

The verdict effects only the first five miners who had been brought to trial. But these five workers are not yet free. The prosecution has speedily discovered another charge of murder, and they had been indicted once more. The trial of the miners is still on, the anti-union interests have not yet given up their fight but the outcome of the trial is clear. As A. W. Kerr, the counsel for the miners said:

"This trial will bring home to the American people the iniquity of the use of gunmen in district disputes. The gunmen not only assaulted and held up miners but farmers as well. They terrorized this community. We piled up a mountain of evidence to show that they came down here like an invading army. This trial will have a national significance of real importance."

### LOCKWOOD BILLS BEFORE THE LEGISLATURE

**T**HE Lockwood Committee, after long and painful investigation of the housing shortage in New York, has finally submitted its program to the Legislature at Albany for action. This program is the work of Mr. Samuel Untermyer, and its chief features have been widely discussed. Now the lawmakers at Albany are asked to translate this program into laws of this State.

The Insurance Trust, Wall Street, and big business generally have mobilized their lobbyists. Schemes are being hatched to nip the Untermyer proposals in the bud. Although the Lockwood Committee has softened many of the strong passages in the original Untermyer program, the provisions for the regulation of the stock exchanges and of brokers, of insurance companies and of corporations has stirred these interests into a state of frenzied activity.

For good measure apparently this program also aims to "reform" the trade union movement. As is well known Mr. Untermyer proposes the con-

## The Union Health Center Celebrates

The Board of Directors of the Union Health Center celebrated its Second Anniversary at a Luncheon Meeting given Wednesday, January 17th, in the private dining-room of Lech's Restaurant, 110 East 14th Street. This marked the end of the second year of the establishment of the Union Health Center by the Locals of the I. L. G. W. U., and it was indeed a happy celebration. Not only were the members of the Board of Directors present but there were also present officials of the I. L. G. W. U., Mr. Hagan, Miss Cohn, Mr. Danah and Mr. Feinberg, and various officials of the Joint Board of the Cloak and Skirt Makers' Union and Ladies' Waist and Dressmakers' Union, in addition to the representatives of the Union Health Center medical and dental departments.

Mr. Harry Wanda, Chairman of the Union Health Center, made the opening address of welcome to the friends of the Union Health Center and introduced Dr. George M. Price, Director of the Union Health Center. Dr. Price declared "that the Union Health Center had just passed through a prosperous year, a year full of service, financial success, and with the enthusiastic support of all concerned." He declared further that whereas in 1921 there were 8,125 patients treated, in 1922 there were 8,771 patients treated in the medical department and whereas in 1921 the dental department took care of 2,612 patients, and in 1922 the dental department, by virtue of its enlarged clinic was able to handle 3,693 patients. Dr. Price further stated that the income for the medical department of the Union Health Center for this year was \$21,490.22. This income shows a marked increase

over that of last year. The income of the dental department was \$48,625.56, approximately an increase of \$10,000 over the previous year. This would indicate that the Union Health Center has not only reached more workers than ever before, but has at last become fairly self-supporting, a thing which seems impossible in the face of the great deficits incurred by other clinics. Dr. Price then outlined the plans for the future of the Health Center, the biggest part of which included the Sickness Insurance which was adopted unanimously by the Board of Directors and which is now being considered by the various locals for action. The plan consisted in the undertaking of a complete medical and specialist service to all the members of every local which is part of the Union Health Center. In addition to the insurance plan Dr. Price spoke of the remarkably complete and extensive X-Ray Department with an equipment costing \$4,000 which has just been instituted in the Union Health Center and will be ready to do all X-Ray work for the members of the I. L. G. W. U. and their families at nominal charges. The third big contribution is that of the installation of a drug store in the Medical Department of the Health Center, which will enable our patients to secure their drugs at cost. Dr. Price also told of the plan for installing a complete electro-thermo establishment in order to give the members an opportunity to get electric baking and massage and other treatment at nominal rates. This splendid report was greeted by everybody with much delight for it marks an epoch-making

(Continued on Page 5)

trial and regulation of labor unions by the State. Mr. Untermyer seeks to "open the doors of the unions to the present and coming generations of qualified men and women, to protect legitimate business and the public against the many abuses that have grown up in certain of the unions and to convert these unions from an autocracy into a democracy." In short, the Government is to undertake the laudable task of converting the labor unions "from an autocracy into a democracy," and thereby bring about the millennium.

The attitude of the labor movement toward this plan has been made clear during the last election. The various labor bodies in the state and country are fully aware that this proposal to incorporate trade unions will rob them of their rights and powers. They are therefore prepared to fight this bill to a finish. But the politicians at Albany, it appears, are not prepared for the fight. The committee has therefore offered the bill to the Legislature but it has not urged its passage.

### GOVERNOR SMITH PARDONS LARKIN

**A**BOUT three years ago Jim Larkin was one of the signers of the "Left Wing" Socialist manifesto urging a change in the form of our government. In accordance with the spirit of the time, as expressed by the witch-hunting, hysterical 100 per centers, Archie Stevenson and Senator Lusk, of silver-wear fame, Larkin together with a group of other "dangerous bomb-throwers" were sentenced to long terms in Sing Sing prison. Larkin had served half of his five-year term. During that period many efforts had been made to secure his pardon, but former Governor Miller was anxious to keep him behind bars.

Governor Smith realized what most government officials do not want to admit, that we have political prisoners. "Stripped of its legalistic aspects this," the Governor stated, "is a political case where a man has been punished for the statement of his belief." But this equally applies to the other radicals who now serve terms in prison. How about them? There are reports that the Governor is now reviewing the cases of the other political prisoners and that he will also pardon them.

The pardon of Jim Larkin was denounced by the Civic Federation, Archie Stevenson, Senator Lusk and their ilk. They now warn the American people that with the radicals released from prison, the institutions of this country are again in danger of being overthrown. But their warnings sound faint and out of date.

### THE K. K. K. TRIAL IN LOUISIANA

**T**HE trial of the Ku Klux Klan in Louisiana is attracting country-wide attention. It is not merely the interest in the ordinary murder trial, but one attending the sinister spectacle of a hooded band of blackguards who are controlling a large section of the country, by means of intimidation, torture and murder. Not only was the Klan responsible for the Mer Rouge murder of the two men a few months ago but it is responsible for a long series of outrages and murders.

The Klan has made a science out of torturing its victims. Its whipping squad is particularly active in its gruesome work. Many of the Klan victims who appeared on the witness stand showed the result of the reign of terror. Within a few months lusk farmers were turned into hysterical, nervous wrecks. And the State authorities including the courts, seem helpless and frightened.

## Philadelphia Organization Campaign Yields Excellent Results

By ELIAS REISBERG, Vice-Pres.

Our organizing campaign in the dress and waist industry in Philadelphia is the talk of the town. It is only a few weeks since we started it and the whole labor movement is discussing our work and watching it with deep interest.

This is hardly to be wondered at. Only a few months have elapsed since our last strike and, as you know, our manufacturers thought that they had definitely done away with the Union. Now, much to their chagrin, the Union is back in the arena, full of fight and energy. The entire machinery of our organization is geared up and the waist and dress district is flooded with handbills, circulars, invitations to shop meetings—so that when one passes along that section, after working hours, the attention is immediately engaged by this unceasing activity we are conducting.

A great many shops do not have to be reminded of coming to meetings. They come by themselves and ask that their meetings be taken care of. On pay-day they again come to the Union to pay their back obligations or to rejoin the local.

And well might they do it! During these last few months these workers have suffered enough and have felt sufficient reason for the revengeful hand of the employer. It would seem as if they had waited for the signal, for the call of the Union, to come back to it. Now the mobilization campaign is going on rapidly. We are fortifying every position, and when the hour comes we shall be ready for the battle royal once again.

The waist and dress makers demand only justice and this they will

obtain. The Philadelphia manufacturers have obviously made the reckoning without the host—our International Union. Never did they dream that the International, which had spent a quarter of a million dollars in the last strike, would think of keeping up Local No. 15 and of preparing it for another campaign. But the International has done this, and now our Union again turns to the dress and waistmakers in Philadelphia calling upon them to make ready for the next battle and offering them full financial and moral support.

The results have exceeded all our expectations. Our office is a real beehive of activity from morning until night. Moreover, the manufacturers having observed this unusual activity in part of the workers, have now issued a call to their members to come to a convulse. What they have in mind, we do not know. It is to be hoped that they will realize that it is not an easy task to destroy a local which is part and parcel of our International Union and they will talk business. On our part, we can say the following: We do not want strikes—we want peace. But we want justice; we want what is ours by right and we shall strive to achieve it through peaceable means. Should our employers, however, prove to be obstinate, the waist and dressmakers of Philadelphia will be ready to meet them again on the battlefield.

Nevertheless, we would rather avert a strike, and we leave it to the common sense of the employers to help the Union in preventing a conflict that can result but in injury to the industry.

## News from Local No. 20

By S. FREEDMAN

The election storm in our local is over. We have already elected all the paid and unpaid officers that are to administer our organization in 1923. The local is legitimate to come back to "normalcy," and the aroused feelings and passions that are so inevitable in time of "campaign" are subsiding. No matter what the result of these elections, there is one thing which we must all regard above personal feelings and bias and that is the unity and solidarity, so urgently needed in every labor organization—our Union included.

Our local, perhaps, needs this unity as a local co-working by the membership more than any other labor body, and for the following reasons. Ours is, comparatively speaking, a small local, both in membership and financial resources. We are, however, surrounded on all sides by enemies, from within and without, who would destroy us if they could. Our employers are lying in wait constantly for our little local which had succeeded in the course of the last few years in introducing human working conditions to the shops and which is fighting as hard as it knows how to retain them. We are compelled to wage practically a daily fight for our living standards and in the waging of this fight, we need a real brotherly and undivided body of men.

And that is why we say—no matter what our opinions and views may have been before the election—now that our members have, by their vote, expressed their will and elected their officers, we must all accept it in a loyal spirit. And to whatever camp we may have belonged, it is now our duty to give the fullest support to the new administration of the local.

We think it might interest the

members of Local No. 20 to know of an enjoyable evening which the workers of the Cooper-Raincoat Company of 36 West 12th Street have had recently.

This entertainment, which took the form of a banquet, was arranged in commemoration of the lockout which this firm had made about a year ago, and the men now got together to celebrate the victory which they scored over the employers. A year ago, the owners of this shop locked out thirty men, broke the agreement with the union, and started out in search of "new labor" on Staten Island and similar non-union havens of refuge. The union declared war on this firm and after a few months of bitter struggle, the firm came to the conviction that it could not make raincoats scrapping with the workers. It eventually conceded the demands of the workers, took back the entire set, and ever since that time the shop worked for eight months without a day's intermission. In fact, the firm enlarged the factory, and right at present the best of relations exist between the firm and the workers. To be sure, the firm ever offered, as an expression of its good will, to pay half of the expenses of this banquet arranged to celebrate its own defeat a year ago.

It was a very successful evening and it brought a lot of cheer and satisfaction to the workers of that shop and to the members of our union in general.

During the last few years the Neptune Raincoat Company of 16 East Broadway, has kept up good relations with the union and has had no conflicts with it. We used to renew the agreement with the firm every year and since it opened its inside shop about two years ago, everything seem-

## What do We Gain by being Inaccurate?

Editor Justice:

Dear Sir:

I could not help asking the above question when I read Mr. Malmgren's article on the Conference on Women in Industry in last week's issue of JUSTICE. I was surprised to find Mr. Malmgren so poorly equipped with facts concerning the make up of the conference. It sounded very much as though he had read the tentative program but had not attended the sessions, or he could never have made the statements he did—unless he thought he could gain something by being deliberately inaccurate.

Mr. Malmgren states that the American Federation of Teachers was the only organization "that could be classed as representing workers" which was present at this conference. Had he wanted to he might have found that in addition to the American Federation of Teachers there were representatives from the International Cigar Makers' Union, The International Glove Workers' Union, The United Textile Workers, the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, Maryland Federation of Labor, Federal Employees' Union, Bindery Workers' Union, Machinists' Auxiliary, Postal Employees' Auxiliary, and the National Women's Trade Union League.

Mr. Malmgren deplores the fact that men like Mr. Cheney of the National Manufacturers' Association were invited to speak on the question of women in industry while men like Mr. Schlesinger and Mr. Gompers were not. Does Mr. Malmgren know that the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union was invited to participate in the conference? Does he know that the American Federation of Labor was invited? And if neither of the two bodies was represented it is due to their own indifference to the importance of such gatherings. Mr. Malmgren may be interested to know that every State Federation of Labor and every International which has women members was invited to send representatives. He might—being in

Washington—have called up Miss Anderson and ascertained the simple facts before rushing into print.

Mr. Malmgren gives the impression that only politicians and men like Mr. Cheney appeared on the program. He does not say that Maud Swartz, President of the National Women's Trade Union League and member of Typographical Union No. 6, Melinda Scott of the United Hat Trimmers' Union and formerly organizer for the American Federation of Labor, and Agnes Nestor of the Glove Workers' Union were also among the speakers. Women like Mrs. Raymond Robins, Maryann Kleck, Julia Lathrop, Grace Abbott, Florence Kelly and many others who have made a place for themselves in the women's labor movement because of their loyalty to the economic, political and civic advancement of the working women. And then, Mr. Malmgren would have found participating in the deliberations of the conference such women of leisure as Rose Schneiderman, Anna Neary, Elizabeth Christian, Frieda Miller, Ethel Smith, Mrs. Grace Kluge, Mrs. Halas, Agnes Johnson, the writer and others.

If the number of trade union women seems small compared to the number of women from other organizations, organized labor has only itself to blame. It was asked to send representatives and it failed to do so, probably because the invitation stated that women, not men, were to go as delegates.

It seems that nothing is of great importance unless it receives the sanction of the High Priests of the Labor Movement. This Conference however, was called by a Government Bureau and not by an International Union. And therefore, the question once more arises—What do we gain by being inaccurate?

PAULINE M. NEWMAN,  
President and Organizer.

Philadelphia Women's Trade Union League and Member of Local No. 76 of the I. L. G. W. U.

ed to be in best of shape. The firm had, upon more than one occasion, expressed its satisfaction with its set of workers and with a few minor complaints our relations with the Neptune Company was quite good.

Lately, however, the firm began, it would seem, to envy some other employers on East Broadway who would engage in the practice of taking up "new" workers in place of those who would leave during the slack season. During the last few weeks, the firm stopped the inside shop entirely, giving as an excuse that it didn't pay it to cut material for the present. We should like to say that the firm is making a big mistake in calculating that by taking up new help it will benefit to any extent. Anyone in our trade who knows the splendid set of workers which are at present employed by the Neptune firm, a set which broke all records of production in the cheap line of raincoats, knows also that they can not get "better" workers no matter how hard they might

try. It would therefore be, it seems to us, to the advantage of the firm to open the factory and start working.

The Raincoat Makers' Union is today strong enough to repel every attack and every attempt of any manufacturer to break down conditions in the trade. The owners of the Neptune Raincoat Company might as well give this matter serious thought before they decide on any step against their workers or against our organization.

Members of our International who wish to join the Workers' University, the Unity Centers or the courses of the Extension Division, should register at once in person, or send in their names to the office of their local unions or the office of the Educational Department, 2 West 16th Street.

## JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

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# Aid for the Jobless

By J. CHARLES LAUE

## Health Education — Union Health Center —

### IV UNION HEALTH CENTER X-Rays

The term of X-Ray is still one of deep mystery to the average person. It is still hard to believe that by the use of a certain apparatus one may be able to look through the body as through a pane of glass, and see the bones of the body, watch the motions of the heart and make a general study of the various functions of body organs.

#### Our Own X-Ray Department

It has come to pass, however, that the Union Health Center has at a great expense installed one of these remarkable scientific devices. This has been done in order to help the members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. To further this end a competent man has been engaged to do the X-Ray work of the Union Health Center. This man is the head of the X-Ray Department of one of the leading hospitals, which in itself is sufficient guarantee for competent work.

#### Exploitation

There has never been a time when an invention calculated to release mankind from some of his ills was not taken advantage of by unscrupulous persons and exploited for their personal gains. This has been especially true of the X-Ray. The general conception is that it is too expensive for the poor and can be afforded only by the rich.

Often workers come to us showing one or two X-Ray plates for which they paid from \$20 to \$100. When it is realized that the X-Ray Department of the Union Health Center charges from \$3 to \$5 a plate, it can be readily seen how the X-Ray is being used to exploit the unknowing. Our charge of \$3 to \$5 is often reduced when a larger number of plates are required.

#### A Splendid Opportunity

There is no reason why the workers of our industry should not avail themselves of this most recent scientific method of locating various ailments of the body. Our charges for X-Ray are sufficiently nominal to place their advantages at the disposal of any member of the International suffering from any ailment which is subject to the X-Ray.

We also make examinations of urine, blood and sputum. General X-Rays are taken in our Dental Department at the nominal charge of 50 cents per plate.

#### At Your Service

Our X-Ray Department is at the service of our members. Not only those who are being treated in our Medical Department but also those members of the International who have been ordered by their personal physicians to have X-Rays taken may be accommodated at the Union Health Center.

#### UNION HEALTH CENTER

HARRY WANDER, Chairman. Dr. GEORGE M. PRICE, Medical Director.  
131 EAST 17th STREET  
New York City

## The Children Who Work

One out of every twelve children, between the ages of 10 and 15 years in the United States, is gainfully employed, according to the Census of 1920. No one knows how many child laborers there are under 10 because no official count has been made. Hundreds as young as 5 years are found working in sugar beet, onion and cotton fields, on streets and in tenement home work. Out of 1,000 children recently examined in Colorado beet fields, 700 were found with deformities more or less serious. Of the children from 10 to 15 years working in the canneries of the Gulf Coast, one out of every four is illiterate.

One half of the 5,000 children between the ages of 5 and 15 doing factory work in their homes in Rhode Island could not earn as much as 5 cents an hour; \$4.30 is the average beginning wage of children who leave school at 14. After three years these children are able to earn an average of only \$6.85 a week.

The earliest possible termination of

this evil, by state action or federal control, or both, is an urgent matter—a charge upon conscience and patriotism. Very much has already been accomplished. Since the National Child Labor Committee was organized in 1904 every state has made some improvement in its child labor and school laws. Today forty-six states (as against thirteen in 1904) have a 14-year age limit for factory work. Thirty-two (as against one in 1904) have an 8-hour day for factory children under 16, and forty-two states (as against five in 1904) prohibit night work for children under 16. Mothers' pension laws and children's scholarships have been established in many states; technical training in the schools has been advanced; child labor and compulsory school laws are better enforced.

Yet the child labor laws of twenty-seven states, in one respect or another, fall below the very moderate standards incorporated in the first and second federal laws, both of which the United States Supreme court declared unconstitutional, while

Unemployment insurance is still in a rudimentary stage in the United States, its development being confined to the more skilled trade unions such as the building trades and the International Typographical union and is usually distributed as a form of out-of-work benefit.

For three years the Industrial European nations have put into effect national systems of unemployment insurance recognizing the social responsibility for the periodic crisis that three hundreds of thousands of willing toilers out of their jobs. In most instances the government subsidizes the unemployment insurance funds either for one-half or one-third of the benefits paid and in many cases the employers contribute a substantial part of the premiums as well.

A method of insurance against the hardships of unemployment experienced especially by the needle trades is being studied in this country and plans have been advanced varying from total workers control of the fund to responsibility resting equally upon the employer and the worker.

The practical experience of the unions thus far in this country has been that in periods of total dislocation of their industry they cannot pay the full rate of out-of-work insurance and during these crises the funds available were soon exhausted. Only the typographical unions, particularly the New York local known as "Big Six" paid steadily and systematically for all its jobless members during the 1918-1922 depression and did so without any assistance from public or employers' sources but by a regular assessment upon members who were steadily employed.

Prof. John R. Commons suggested a form of unemployment insurance for adoption by the legislature of the state of Wisconsin two years ago which stimulated considerable interest at the time, expecting that it could be organized similarly to accident insurance the cost to be borne exclusively by the employers who would insure themselves against risk in mutual insurance companies.

Benefits were to be given to all manual or skilled workers earning less than \$1,500 annually who worked for at least six months for the same employer and were unable to find other employment suited to their abilities. They could not be compelled to accept work in an undertaking where a lock-out or strike was in progress, or where a wage below

lauding their purpose, and both of which had been enacted in response to the demand of the people of the nation for federal action. Reason for that demand still exists in the slowness and inadequacy of state action, in the complaints of employers in the high standard states that they suffer from the competition of low standard states, in the consequent difficulties of law enforcement in high standard states; in the right of consumers to know that goods made in America are not made at the expense of little children; in the helplessness of individual states to safeguard the quality of their citizenship when they receive from other states the products of child labor; in the fact that child labor is a national evil involving loss and damage to the man power of the nation.

To meet the need for a Constitutional Amendment giving Congress the power to pass a direct child labor law, Senator Medill McCormick has introduced in Congress, Senate Joint Resolution No. 232, which has been endorsed by over twenty leading organizations and government department. This resolution is now awaiting action by the Senate.

the current rate was paid. The benefit was to be \$1 a day for adults and 50 cents a day for minors.

Such a plan would be inadequate for seasonal or migratory workers and so there is suggestion of insurance by industries.

The greatest and oldest form of unemployment insurance is in effect in Germany and is a strictly national affair, its origin dating from the time of Bismarck who thought by means of reforms of this kind to forestall any revolutionary outbreaks like that of 1848.

The next largest country to have unemployment insurance is England but industrial depression dating from the war and still evident, has emphasized the inadequacy of the doles as the payments are termed in periods when as high as 5,000,000 workers are jobless.

Employers in Great Britain and Ireland have shared the cost of insurance since 1911. Recent amendments extended the scope of the act until 12,000,000 out of a total of 16,000,000 wage earners are thus protected. The employers share is slightly larger than that of the worker, and the state's contribution is one third of the total share of the employer and worker.

The British system not only established the principle of compulsory participation by the employers in the cost of insurance but tends to increase the share in this cost.

A peculiar feature of the Swiss system established by the Federal government in 1919 is that the worker bears none of the cost of the system which is divided in equal parts between the employers, the cantons, or states and the Confederation. In case of part time work (a reduction of not more than 40 per cent from a full week), the employer pays half wages while if more time is lost or total unemployment occurs the employer pays one-third. The employers contributions are collected by the trade associations. His liability is limited to the payment of three months salary for higher positions and six weeks wages for manual workers.

A state aided workers unemployment insurance was established in Belgium some thirty years ago but has been enormously developed since the war with a total membership now of 800,000. The state contributes 50 per cent of the amount of premiums paid by the workers. This is granted to all societies approved by the state and affiliated with a local public unemployment fund. The post-war depression soon exhausted the available reserves and the government added a national crisis fund to pay a small sum to the hungry workers.

Unemployment insurance societies in Denmark are subsidized by the state at the rate of 50 per cent of the amount of the members' contributions. In this instance the fund works exclusively through the trade union organizations.

France has no adequate system at present although the labor unions are being aroused to the necessity of some reform.

In Europe the general tendency is to regard unemployment as a personal, industrial and social risk to be borne by the worker, the employer and the state but a new theory to place the entire burden upon the employer, as in the case of insurance against accident, has also been evolved.

Linked up with the problem in each country, of course, is the extent and power of the workers' labor unions and the degree to which the workers participate in state control of the administration of the law.

# The Yiddish Stage and Press—A Closed Shop

By MAX D. DANISH

H. A. U.—in huge letters—on the window panes of the second floor of a marble-faced four-story brick building in the heart of the Yiddish Rialto—on Second Avenue—inform the incessant human ebb and flow outside that here is housed the Hebrew Actors' Club. It is an institution as inescapably linked with the East Side as Williamsburg Bridge or Shill's Parkway, erstwhile Delancey Street. Fanning quickly up two short flights of stairs, through the dining and the social rooms of the club, I was admitted instantly into the sanctum of the Hebrew Actors' Union, where Reuben Guskin, the Union's manager, was awaiting my coming.

Guskin, a swarthy, rather stockily built young man, with keen eyes and an active intelligent face, is not only the manager of the Actors' Union. He is a power in the Jewish labor movement, being the President of the United Hebrew Trades and the chairman of the national executive committee of the Workmen's Circle, a benefit society of almost 100,000 Jewish workers and a model organization of its kind. Near him sat Jean Greenfield, a suave, soft spoken little gentileman, himself not an actor, yet the president of the actors' union.

"Well, we are ready," Guskin swung around in his chair toward me, "fire away."

I extracted a piece of paper from my vest-pocket upon which I had jotted down some questions.

"Is the Hebrew Actors' Union affiliated with the national actors' organization or are you going it alone?"

"I should say we are a local of the Associated Actors and Artists of America," replied Guskin, not without a touch of pride. "We were one of its first locals."

"Tell me something about the history of your organization, Brother Guskin," I asked.

"Well, this Union was organized about twenty-five years ago, more as a mutual aid society in the beginning, to protect the actors against the uncertainties and hazards of the profession and against the greed and avarice of some of the managers. In 1915, however, we became a real trade union and obtained a charter.

## Controlling the Stage

"Our union controls practically the entire Jewish stage, which includes about a half dozen theatres in New York City and permanent theatres in Philadelphia, Boston, New York, Cleveland, Chicago, Montreal and Toronto, with regular stock companies. In addition to this, there are several companies who play 'stands' in the smaller towns and composed of members of the Hebrew Actors' Union of New York. And when I say we control the stage, I do not mean the actors only. We have, in our lifetime, helped to organize the Ushers and the Theatre Bill-Posters and have cooperated right along with the Christies' Union. We all together form a Theatrical District Council and have more than once taken up pickets on behalf of these weaker sisters of ours

in the theatrical trade, even to the extent of going out on strike on their behalf, as in 1915."

"Are strikes frequent on the Jewish stage?"

"Oh, no!" he replied with a smile that was both reassuring and definite. "Strikes on the Jewish stage would be unusually costly luxuries for our managers and would practically mean the giving up of productions. You cannot substitute a known actor on the East Side even if you should be able to find a 'scalp'. The Jewish masses are more keenly interested in their stage than, perhaps, any other group of New York's population and they are unusually keen about their individual stage favorites, their personal achievements and failures. The Jewish stage, from its early beginnings, some thirty-five or forty years ago, has played a very intimate and close part in the cultural and spiritual development of the Jewish masses in America. Our stage today, reflects to a great extent this development. Our actors and our outstanding stage figures live with these masses, play for them and respond to their everyday life and problems."

## With the Masses Always

"Why, how can it be otherwise? When there is a great strike among the Jewish workers, the actors are always found to be on the side of the strikers. During the cloakmaker's strikes, in the past fifteen years, and during the strike of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, contractors have given the workers not only moral and spiritual aid but also generous financial support. Of course, this kind of service counts."

"Then you have a 'closed shop'?"

"Well," Guskin smiled, "call it that, if you will. The present position of the Actors' Union is unchallenged. Of course, we haven't gained it all in a day. It has taken years to achieve. Times there were when \$25.00 a week was a respectable salary for an average Jewish actor. Today our minimum wage on the Jewish stage is \$55.00 while the maximum runs as high as \$400.00 a week."

"Members of the Union usually sign contracts with the managers individually, but every contract must be sanctioned by the Union. The Union has a membership of over 200 active members. We maintain a nice, spacious club house and we act towards each other like members of a big family. And, of course, as you know, like every big family, we have our little quarrels and big spats but we manage to straighten them out."

"When a successful actor decides that he would like to become a manager—and these things occur not infrequently on the Jewish stage—he does not have to drop his membership in the organization. He merely obtains a withdrawal card. This leaves him free to rejoin the Union as an active member,—which also happens quite frequently," Guskin explained.

## Another Story: The Press Writers

From the Rialto to Rutgers Square where the ten-story building of the Jewish Daily Forward, the biggest Jewish daily in America and the champion and spokesman of working class interests, towers over myriads of tenements, is but a short mile. But it is a tortuous way through a bewildering mass of garrets and narrow crowded streets, almost impassable during the rush market hours.

I found Harry Rogoff, ex-President of the Jewish Press Writers' Club,—the Peretz Verein,—who is an associate-editor of the Forward, on the ninth floor. Rogoff is a mild-mannered, highly gifted young man, with a national Jewish-American reputation as a journalist and lecturer.

"I shall spare you the trouble of asking me questions," Rogoff said to me as we were seated. "I can tell it to you all in the course of ten minutes and I don't mind telling you, I like to talk about our Writers' Club. I have been with it from the earliest days of its existence and I am pretty much attached to it."

## Battles of the "Peretz Verein"

"The Jewish Press Writers' Club (or as it is known today on the East Side, the Peretz Verein, named after that great master of Jewish prose and poetry, Yehudah Leib Peretz), is a full-fledged trade union and we are affiliated with the United Hebrew Trades. It is six years old. We have about two hundred members, one hundred of whom are active journalists, engaged on the staffs of the various Jewish newspapers. The other hundred are either 'social' members or free lances."

"The path of our Union has not been entirely a 'bed of roses'. The Writers' Club had to overcome a great deal of hostility on the part of editors and newspaper managers and more than once its members were on the verge of striking. This hostility still exists here and there, though our Union is today practically in unchallenged control of the newspaper profession as far as the writers are concerned."

"That the trade union has been of great value to the newspaper workers can be gleaned from the fact that it had boosted up earnings from 100 to 150 per cent in the editorial offices. Only not so very many years ago, a Jewish newspaper writer was the poorest paid worker. The pressmen, the compositors and the linotypers ranged far above him as money-makers. Today the newspaper writers are the best paid men in any Jewish newspaper office."

"The strength of our Union, however, is neither the strength of numbers nor that of a huge treasury. It is the influence that our members have always had upon the readers of the Jewish press that has been more than anything else responsible for winning their battles for them. Remember that the contributors to the Jewish press usually sign their articles. They are, therefore, individually known to their readers. Unlike the workers on any of the big or small English dailies, the Jewish press writers are more than mere pegs in a newspaper machine because of this personal contact with the readers."

"Our Club has regular branches in Philadelphia and Chicago and it also

has a number of members at large in other cities where Yiddish newspapers are published, like Cleveland, Montreal and Toronto. You probably know that the International Typographical Union is now voting on this question of affiliation of newspaper writers' locals all over the country. It is quite likely that the printers will vote to release these locals. This might enable the writers' unions eventually to organize independently either as federal locals, under the auspices of the American Federation of Labor or as a separate international. In the latter event, of course, the Jewish Press Writers' Club will join the national organization."

"There can be no doubt that a powerful organization of newspaper men and journalists could be formed, raising the standards of the profession in every sense of the word. There are scores of cities in the country where locals of newspaper men can be formed. Such an international organization would not merely improve the economic well-being of newspaper workers. It would bring it in touch with the great labor movement of the whole country."

## A Six-Hour Day—Or Night

"The members of the Jewish Press Writers' Club work only six hours, that is, they have to be in the newspaper offices six hours daily. The minimum wage is \$60.00 per week, though the great majority receive much more than that. It is quite interesting to observe that since our Union has been organized, prices paid for novels, short stories, special features, articles and editorial jobs in general to outsiders or free lances have practically been doubled."

"But this is not all. Among the most active spirits in the Club are literary men, novelists, dramatists, poets, short story writers, etc., whose names are household words among the Jews in this country and in Europe. These, of course, are not employed on regular newspaper work. The Club is also engaged in special cultural work among Jews and has been organizing lectures on literature, the arts and the theatre. It is in constant touch with Jewish writers and literary men abroad and it has raised thousands of dollars to relieve the unfortunate Jewish literature in the countries devastated by war, invasion and plague. It has raised a permanent fund for that purpose and frequently arranges dances, concerts, and literary evenings for this purpose. The annual ball of our Press Writers has now become the event of the year in ever-widening Jewish circles of New York City."

"Can I say then that you have an honest-to-goodness 'closed shop' in the newspaper offices on the East Side?" I asked upon rising and shaking Brother Rogoff's hand in parting.

"If ever there was one?" he replied, without hesitating a second.

## The Health Center Celebrates

(Continued From Page Two.)

success in the undertaking of a single Union.

Dr. Max Price, Director of the dental department was then called upon and made a plea for more constant co-operation of the Board of Directors of the Union Health Center and the officials of the Union. He also stated that this department plans to decrease still further the rates for dental work and give to the workers the advantages of the best work done at the lowest prices.

Miss Theresa Wolfson, Educational Supervisor, then spoke about the tremendous success of the Health School held every Tuesday night and

of the Friday night Health Lectures. She stated that the Health Lectures were already so overcrowded that it was necessary to look for larger quarters and arrangements are being made to secure the auditorium of the I. L. G. W. U.

Dr. Herman Schwab gave the final address in behalf of the medical department and made a plea not only for stronger co-operation on the part of the officials of the Union with the Union Health Center, but also a continued belief in the success and importance of the work which is being done by the Union Health Center.

# JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

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## EDITORIALS

### BIG MEANS FOR BIG WORK

We have had occasion to state more than once that the work of our International Union is of a kind that can never be regarded as done, as finished. To retain its effectiveness and influence and to be able to continually improve the condition of its membership, our Union must never cease its activities, never even for a day. When there is no open, active fight going on in our industry, we are just as likely to be at silent grips with employers here and there; and while some branches of our industry in some cities are strongly organized, the same branches in other places are likely to be weak or weakened through one cause or another. These weak links have to be strengthened in the interest of the entire chain, and thus the line of our activity is kept up incessantly, forever. The International, in a word, is obliged to utilize every means at its command to organize as completely as possible every city, and every nook and village where ladies' garments are manufactured.

Indeed, any labor organization which begins to think that its work has come to an end and that it has nothing more to do, is sure enough on the verge of entering the period of its dissolution. In the case of our International, however, such a danger is, to say the least, very distant. The hard realities that we are compelled to face from day to day are our safest bond and guarantee in this respect. We cannot rest as long as we know that tens of thousands of workers, who should be in our union, are still outside of it, either through ignorance, or timidity and fear—and still at the will and mercy of unscrupulous bosses. We cannot sit with arms folded as long as we know that there are within our own sphere local organizations that only a short time ago were strong and influential and now are, for this or that reason, weak and ineffective.

It is the regular business of the International to strengthen such organizations in our midst that become loose and to erect more and more breastworks in the defense of the workers in our industries. The bigger our International becomes, the greater becomes its work and the wider its activities spread out, requiring ever greater means to go on with the work. This is the reason why the per capita tax of the membership of the International has grown in the last few years and must keep on growing. This is also the reason why assessments are levied on the members when the per capita tax is not sufficient for the needed organization work.

It was because of that that the last convention of the International in Cleveland decided to levy a Four Dollar Assessment upon the members. It was figured out at the Cleveland convention that this assessment was needed, first of all, to cover the debts contracted by the International in the course of the big strikes it has waged and the general organization work it conducted during the last few years. At the last meeting of the General Executive Board in Montreal, an extensive program of work was again prepared, a program which cannot suffer any delay unless we are willing to face the risk of seeing our organization weakened. This big program cannot, however, be carried out unless the International is supplied with big means. We should have no difficulty in obtaining these funds, if the decision of the Cleveland Convention for the Four Dollar Assessment is strictly carried out. Unfortunately, even though more than a half year has passed since that convention, there are still a number of locals which have not fulfilled their duty in this respect.

We deem it necessary, therefore, to draw the attention of these locals to the fact that their neglect is placing great obstacles in the way of the organization work which we have undertaken. This assessment was not levied by the convention without careful forethought and calculation. Had there been no vital necessity for it, the delegates at Cleveland would not have accepted it as they did. As a matter of fact, as far as we remember, there wasn't even any opposition voiced on the floor of the convention toward this assessment. The entire convention realized that if the International is to continue going on with its organizing work, it must have the necessary funds therefor. The scope of our activities was, in general, outlined right there at Cleveland, and if it is to be honestly and faithfully carried out, these hindrances, caused by the failure of some locals to meet their obligations, should be at once removed.

There is no question but that these locals will sooner or later do their duty. They will have to do it as locals of our International Union. But the International cannot do work on future promises or prospects. It must have the means right now; and we dare hope that now that we have made the matter clear to them, each local and joint board and every link in the great

chain of our Union will not wait for another reminder and will rush the payment of this assessment and help the International in its big and far-reaching constructive work.

### THE JOBBER AND HIS RESPONSIBILITY

This week there was held the first conference between the representatives of the International and of the Joint Board of the dress industry of New York and the Dress Jobbers' Association. Our representatives came to this conference with clear and outspoken demands as conditions precedent to the conclusion of an agreement with the union and peace in the dress industry. As yet, the representatives of the jobbers have not declared their stand toward the demands of the Union and have asked for time to consider them. In the interim we should like to contribute a little towards their process of thinking the matter over—in the hope that they might thereby come sooner to a decision which would insure peace in the dress industry.

Owing to various circumstances and developments in our industry, the jobber has taken, in recent years, practically the place of the former big manufacturer,—except that instead of having a factory and employing his workers directly, he only has a sample room and his work, which runs up not infrequently into millions of dollars, is distributed by him among a number of small contractors. These contractors, in their mad hunt for the elusive dollar, keep up a cut-throat competition between themselves for the jobber's work. It stands to reason that it is in the interest of the jobber to maintain and to augment this competition and to encourage the endless growth of these small shops.

The result of this system for the worker is easily imagined. To begin with, this system affects materially his wages and introduces the element of sweating in the shop, even when the worker does get the union wage scale. That the sanitary conditions in small shops cannot be satisfactory is quite obvious. In addition, the workers, having to deal with petty employers, are never secure with their wages. The sum total is that while under such a system the jobber is bound to make huge profits, the workers as well as the contractors are the inevitable losers and sufferers.

Under such conditions, the agreement which the Union may conclude with the contractors and their association, which must be much depended for its very existence upon the jobbers, really amounts to very little. To insure a living wage for the workers, the Union must, therefore, place the responsibility for the workers' wages, work-hours, and all other conditions upon the real factor in the industry—upon the jobber.

The agreement proposed by our International, together with the Dress and Waist Joint Board, to the jobbers, contains therefore, a clause which, first, fixes the responsibility for the wages of the workers in each shop where their work is done, or from where they purchase garments, upon the jobbers. Secondly, the jobbers, upon the request of the Union, must be ready to furnish all the books and records of the work made by them in the industry, so that the Union can control possible. Thirdly, outside shops so as to make sure that no control possible. Thirdly, the jobbers must not allow work from one shop and give it to another as long as the workers of the first shop are not fully employed,—and a number of other demands of a similar nature.

No impartial person will fail to admit that the demands advanced by the Union to the jobbers are such which the Union has been forced to put forth in order to safeguard the interests of the industry and the existence of the workers. The chaos brought by the jobber into the industry must disappear and make room for order, and without the direct responsibility of the jobber to the Union for all the work-standards which the latter had won for the workers, this order cannot be maintained. As a course, this does not intimate direct relations between the union and the contractor. Simultaneously with the negotiations with the Jobbers' Association, the Union is also dealing with the contractors on the question of wages, hours, and the method of production in the industry. In order, however, that this agreement with the contractors remain not a dead letter and that the contractors might be able to meet these conditions, and as far as possible mitigate the suicidal competition among themselves, the jobber must be made responsible for trade conditions. Only in this way can the miserable conditions in which the dress trade finds itself today, be brought to an end.

We hope that we shall soon be able to report that the Union and the Jobbers' Association and the Contractors' Association have come to a full agreement on these demands and that a great struggle, which cannot but hurt the industry in all its aspects, has been averted.

We expect that this new agreement in which the jobbers will be made responsible directly to the union, will also serve as an example for other industries where the jobber has grown to importance and affluence. To be sure, the jobber has become a strong influence not only in the dress industry but in the cloak industry of New York as well, and in many other cities. The International is firmly determined to hold the jobber to full accountability for whatever occurs in the shop where his work is made, as far as labor is concerned. The International is also determined to bring order in the industry and to make an end to the stupid and murderous competition between the contractors. The negotiations between the Dressmakers' Union and the jobbers and the contractors in New York City is only the first step in this direction.

### THE EXCELLENT WORK OF THE OUT-OF-TOWN DEPARTMENT

A very encouraging affair in the field of organization work in our International Union is the recent work of the Out-Of-Town

# The General Executive Board at Work

By S. Y.

II.

We shall, perhaps, have an opportunity later to touch upon the other reports, submitted by our Vice-Presidents and the various sub-committees of the Board. They are all of considerable importance as they reflect the activities of our International day by day. The most important report, however, in our opinion, is the one submitted by Secretary Baroff and to this report we shall devote the most of this article.

Our General Secretary first points out that notwithstanding the many years of work of education and enlightenment which could have justified our expectations that our members would understand the aims and purposes of our Union, a great many of them, when it came to a test, disappointed us bitterly. The sad fact remains, he states, that many of these men have allowed themselves to be misled by a destructive and demoralizing propaganda conducted against our Union by enemies within and without. "They have followed the slanderous words of the Union-baiters and have given this agitation of chaos and demoralization aid and assistance." As an example, Secretary Baroff cites the excitement created in New York City when the last general cloak stoppage ended with but moderate results: "We had hoped," says Baroff further in his report, "that our members would understand that the Union and its leadership cannot be held responsible for a bad season. It is a sad commentary on the state of mind of some of our members that when they suffer from unemployment they are ready to listen to the ravings of any demagogue that comes along." The Secretary infers therefrom that the affliction of periodic unemployment is a very grave one, one that our organization and that we must seek ways and means for remedying it as soon as possible.

Then he proceeds to review the condition of the various local unions in many sections of the country which he had visited during the last couple of months. We believe that this part of his report is somewhat too pessimistic. He has found, he reports, our unions generally weakened in some places, and that a lot of uphill organizing work would have to be done to reconstruct and to bring into better fighting shape. It is true the weakest spots of our International have always been outside of New York City. Our local unions in the country have never been any too strong and always were more subject to depression from industrial crises, but this situation does not affect our International Union alone, nor our locals in the country exclusively. Other unions have been hurt by the

ravages of idleness and in New York itself we had some trades affected by it very badly, such, for instance, as the children's dress industry, the kimono workers and to an extent the white goods workers.

Of course, if our International were to have unlimited financial means and could have placed organizers in the field at will, all things would not have been quite so gloomy. Secretary Baroff, however, makes it clear in his report that the financial situation of the International is far from good. The unemployment period has left heavy marks upon its treasury and as the International has never had any big reserve funds, this condition has made itself felt quite seriously of late.

Add to all that that we have undertaken work on a large scale, which cannot be postponed. There are campaigns in Montreal and Toronto and the report from these cities is very encouraging, indeed. There is an organizing campaign in Boston, and in Philadelphia matters have reached a point which indicates that the dress industry of that city may again very soon become involved in a general fight. A campaign is conducted in Baltimore and there too possibilities for a fight are ripe. The same is true of Los Angeles, and the work of our out-of-town department has been growing fast and with it has grown the expense of keeping it up.

After a thorough and all-embracing report, Secretary Baroff ends up as follows:

"I want to assure the members of the Board that it isn't my purpose to pour cold water upon the plans of activity which the International must carry out in accordance with the decisions of the Cleveland convention. But it must be clear to us that if our members will not respond soon with the payment on the Four Dollar assessment, of which a large part of the membership has only so far paid the first dollar, we cannot start to do the work."

"I hope that I have not drawn too pessimistic a picture of the conditions in our organization. I have endeavored to present facts to you as I see them. I know we have had many difficulties in the past and we have overcome them and I do not doubt that we will overcome the present difficulties as well. I only wish that in adopting decisions, we shall not be afraid to look facts straight in the face and shall not be moved by passion or personal feelings in this or that question."

We deemed it necessary to quote quite extensively from the report of our General Secretary for two reasons: First, because we believe that our membership must and should

know the situation as our General Secretary sees it. We must, nevertheless, state that we do not agree with Secretary Baroff that the many years of educational work have brought no results. The fact that a handful of young people in a few of our locals have been misled by empty vapors and have acted not as true union men should act, is not proof that our work has been in vain. The encouraging fact remains that the great majority of the members of our Union know well the purposes of the Union and their hearts have not been turned. It is, nevertheless, well that Secretary Baroff has pointed out this sore. The cure thereto, however, lies not in dependency or in disappointment with the educational work, but quite to the contrary, it lies in the direction of ever-greater and ever-widening work of enlightenment. The second reason why we have discussed this report at length is to arouse our membership to its duty to pay, as soon as possible, the four dollar assessment, without which the pursuance of the organizing work of our International is impossible.

We have had, it seems to me, more committees this time than ever before at our Board meeting. I have already mentioned about the two committees which appeared at the first session of the Board, the committee from the New York Dress and Waistmakers' Joint Board and the committee from Local No. 3. Of the other committees that appeared later there was one from Boston which came to speak for the Boston locals and to ask from the International a generous measure of assistance for their organizing work among the dress and waistmakers of that city. A committee also came from Toronto, in the person of Brother Kruger of that city, who gave a graphic report of the situation in Toronto. According to his statement, Toronto is passing through a revival period which he called a "Selman period." Until Vice-President Selman came to Toronto everything was in a lull and stagnant state. His arrival, and the campaign of agitation by the written and spoken work undertaken by him, has made a profound change in local affairs. A committee of fifteen was organized and is doing important missionary work, and the union has acquired 250 new members in the last few weeks. In order to build up a strong union in Toronto, a large promotion fund is needed. The workers are inclined to work, but this is of secondary importance in Toronto. Their primary object is to build up such a union as they had had but a few years ago.

Brother Amdur, the Manager of

the Cloakmakers' Union of Philadelphia, reported at length on the present situation in Philadelphia and the problems confronting them right now in that city.

A committee from Chicago, represented by Brother Sherr, called upon the General Executive Board asking it to make an effort to bring the disagreements between Locals 59 and 100 to an end. He was of the opinion that the finishers of Local 100 should be transferred to Local 59. General Secretary Baroff, who has left a few days ago for Chicago, will very likely endeavor to settle this vexing problem.

A report of particular importance was also presented by the Finance Committee of the General Executive Board, which consists of Vice-Presidents Nislo, Heller, Breslau and Dukinsky. This committee has also prepared a number of recommendations with this report. Unfortunately, there was no time for discussing them, and they were left over for the next meeting.

Reports were also submitted by Vice-President Selman on Toronto and Montreal, Vice-President Monson on Boston, Vice-President Fannin M. Cohn on the work of the Educational Committee, of which she is the secretary.

Communications were also received from the "Hias," the Labor Defense Council, and a number of other organizations asking relief. All these requests were turned over to the Finance Committee.

## URGE SHOPMEN TO DEFY INJUNCTION

An effort to test the right of a federal judge to punish persons for violating a Judge's district was started yesterday by the American Civil Liberties Union in addressing a communication to William H. Johnston, President of the International Association of Machinists, and Bert M. Jewell, of the Railway Employees' Department of the A. F. of L., urging them to "arrange some act of defiance of Judge Wilkerson's injunction secured in Chicago last August at the instance of Attorney General Daugherty in such a way that the federal authorities will be compelled to make an arrest."

The officers of the Union contend that there is a possibility "that this injunction will be finally dissolved after the strike is over without the main question ever having been decided. Our attorney advises us that we may 'wake up some day to discover that, in accordance with the law, a United States district judge in Chicago can punish a benevolent lady in Philadelphia for contributing to the relief of a striker in Arizona."

Department which is under the control of Vice-President Jacob Halperin.

In the course of the last few months this department has succeeded in organizing over 1,000 workers into ten locals in various towns around New York, in New Jersey, Long Island and Connecticut—where a considerable amount of cloaks, dresses and skirts are being manufactured. Needless to say that in these local cities there was not a trace of a labor union heretofore, and that work conditions in these shops have been the worst imaginable.

Not only good organization work was accomplished, but according to the report submitted by Vice-President Halperin to the General Executive Board at Montreal, this department has waged several strikes, a number of which terminated in favorable settlements for the workers. At the same time, some defect locals, such, for instance, as the corset workers' local in Bridgeport, Connecticut, have been revived and an active organizing campaign launched in Baltimore and other cities.

Bear in mind that this is only a beginning, and beginnings are usually hard. We must also remember that the Out-Of-Town Department has only limited means; it employs, for the time being, only twelve persons. This department is certainly to be congratulated upon its capable management. There is no doubt that there is a big field for this organization work outside of New York which needs diligent and careful cultivation.

In his report, Vice-President Halperin also mentions the case of a few petty officers of some locals in this new territory who have violated the trust vested in them and embezzled union funds.

Of course, in a big union like ours, one can never be sure that among the tens of thousands belonging to the organization, a few might not go wrong and besmirch their honor. But it is important that when such fellows are caught that the fact be not glossed over or concealed; that it be brought out into the glaring daylight so that the members of the union, feeling badly as they might over the fact itself, will not hold any one "wholly responsible as conniving in the acts of these miserable individuals."

Vice-President Halperin has discharged these two culprits and has turned them over to the courts where they will have to answer for their misdeeds. And his speedy action has at once put a check to whatever demoralization the conduct of these two petty officers might have caused in the young local.

Aside from this revolting incident, the report on the work of the Out-Of-Town Department has been very encouraging. Most of the new locals have their own treasuries and their members pay their dues regularly—a sign that these labor bodies have come to stay. Many of these locals will send, for the first time, delegates to the special convention in Baltimore next month to elect a new president for the International Union.



## IN THE REALM OF BOOKS

### JOINING IN PUBLIC DISCUSSION

By ALFRED DWIGHT SHEFFIELD

(Associate Professor of Rhetoric in Wesleyan College, Instructor in Boston Trade Union College.)

Published for Workers Education Bureau of America by Doran Company, New York. Price: \$1.25 in cloth; 50 cents in paper.

### A REVIEW AND A FORECAST

By E. C. LINDEMAN

The editors of the Workers' Bookshelf have met the pace for educational book-writers. Three centuries have passed since Francis Bacon issued his famous dictum: "Books must follow sciences and not sciences books," but the wisdom of this suggestion has been neglected by authors and publishers alike. Now that the workers have rediscovered this simple truth and have embodied it as a guiding principle, we may look forward hopefully to a new and more vital educational literature.

"Joining in Public Discussion" is a striking achievement in more ways than one. In the first place, it fulfills its promise; it actually does what its introduction says it aims to do. It assumes a thoroughgoing scientific attitude toward facts and problems. It uses simple language. It bases its material upon genuine human experience. And it is scholarly. I have attempted to compare this work with other textbooks familiar to me, and I can think of only two which deserve to be classified in the same category. Writers, publishers and teachers will do well to study the technique and the style of this new venture in educational literature.

My enthusiasm for this book is so intense that I must leave to others the task of discovering and pointing out its shortcomings. My estimate of the book increased after I had tested it in the classroom with two types of students. It reads well, but what is far more important, it actually performs; it is usable and fruitful in the hands of students.

How shall the thought of the worker become incorporated in the complex movements and expressions of democracy in modern, industrialized society? This is a question of paramount importance. Professor Sheffield proposes an answer in terms of modern social psychology. His answer is in reality a condensed expression of the purposes and objectives which lie back of the entire workers' education movement. He might have chosen to respond to this query in the usual, academic and theoretical fashion, but happily he had taught in a workers' school, and this salutary experience is graphically revealed in his book.

"Joining in Public Discussion" means the abandonment of the methods of the crowd. It means an actual joining and not a mere overcoming of one group by the other in terms of brute force. It means contributing to the social process through the medium of sound ideas effectively

expressed. Observers with historical perspective now know that ideas ultimately rule the world, but how shall one know how to recognize and discover right ideas? Only by bringing them in contact with other ideas, plus the experimental testing in the real situations of life. The processes according to which ideas are developed, tested and utilized are excellently described in this book.

A mere statement of the *intent* of the various chapters indicates the practical viewpoint from which the problem is approached: Gaining Control Over Voice and Bearing, How to Decide What to Say, What Makes a Speech Successful, Sticking to the Point, How Fast and Opinion Count, Causes and Consequences, How to Avert the Misleading of Words, How to Express Oneself, Telling, How to Secure Thought-Organization in Committee, How to Use Parliamentary Procedure—these are chapter headings which make one's mind "itch" to know. The chapter on "How to Secure Thought-Organization in Committee" deserves to be studied by government officials and all persons actively engaged in organizations; it is a gem of concise, scientific, and fruitful reasoning.

### A Forecast

"Joining in Public Discussion" is more than a book. It is a challenge. Succeeding volumes of the Workers' Bookshelf now have a lodestar. They may improve upon this first volume in the series, but they will not dare step beneath its standard. All of which means that workers' education in the United States, although slow in arriving, has now set out upon a course which is destined to become a mighty influence in the future public policy of the nation. We may look forward, not merely to an educated working-class, but to a working-class educated in a sense or a manner which will influence all other forms of education. It does not seem to go beyond the bounds of sober reason to say that this volume is a cornerstone of the future structure of an industrial commonwealth in which the workers shall participate, and in which they shall, in proportion to their intelligence, direct the forces which control their lives.

(Review reprinted from "The New Republic," December 27, 1922.)

"The Workers' Bookshelf has been conceived as a conscious attempt to meet the need of the workers for social understanding by a restatement of some of the fundamental problems of modern industrial society in simple language. The Bookshelf has been designed primarily to satisfy the cultural aspirations of the men and women workers in industry. The books will not be limited either in the range of subjects or in number. Art, literature, natural sciences, as well as the social sciences, will be included. New titles will be added as the demand for them becomes apparent. In a strict sense these books may become text-books for use in the development of the movement for workers' education. In a larger sense they will become the nucleus of a library for workmen. The fact that these difficulties are prepared for a particular group will not restrict their interest for the general reader, it will enhance it.

In form and appearance, the Workers' Bookshelf presents certain distinctive features. Scholarship, a scientific attitude toward facts, and simplicity of style will prevail."

—From the Prospectus.

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### CITY BLOCK

By WALDO FRANK

On the cover of the book there is a futuristic drawing of a city block—Waldo Frank's city block—a confused jumble of streets, houses, stores, windows, stairs. And if one merely shines through the book, one receives the same confused impression of dim, unroofed people, overshadowed by tall, dark, houses, racked by the noises of a city street and the roar and rumble of the nearby elevated.

But "City Block" deserves more than a hasty turning of the pages. For there is beauty in it, the stark beauty of words, black and white on the page, but burning into the consciousness with flaming colors of their own. Even in the shrieking horror of murder, the deep sense of color creeps in—"Darkness came like smoke into the room, filling at last all of it with a black still, save the room's center which was still and glowed—and was a woman clasping a child's body."

One of the chapters—although Frank prefers to call them parts—is called "Under the Dome: Aleph". Color is there, too, but the flame is gone—leaving, not the soft, feathery gray of wood-ash, but the smoky remains of a dirty coal heap, a dreary, bleak gray, the symbol of hopelessness. In Esther, the tailor's wife is voiced the woe of woman through all the ages:

"I have no voice, I have no eyes, I am a woman who has lain with the world."

"The world's voice upon my lips gave my mouth gladness."

"The world's arm about my flanks gave my flesh glory."

"It was big with madness and glory. Joyful I lost in love of my vision my eyes, in love of my song, my voice."

"I have borne another misery into the world . . ."

"City Block" is published by the author (Darien, Conn.), in a limited edition. But then, the appreciative few who will read and understand its unusual appeal belong to an extremely limited class.

FRANCES ROBBINS.

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# LABOR THE WORLD OVER

## DOMESTIC ITEMS

### RAILROAD STRIKE IS COSTLY.

In a letter to stockholders President Lorce of the Delaware & Hudson railroad states that the coal and shop men's strike has cost that railroad \$500,000, but dividends will be paid as usual out of "a large accumulated surplus created in former years." Mr. Lorce is one of the bitterest opponents of organized labor among railroad managers. His policy of meeting dividends out of surplus will not cause his stockholders to object to his labor policy, though the price must be paid some time.

### HUGE STOCK DIVIDENDS.

Complete returns of stock dividends by leading corporations last year show that a total of 139 companies issued stock dividends aggregating \$1,484,107,719. Standard oil companies issued the largest dividends, the Atlantic refining companies leading with a 900 per cent issue.

The Standard steel car company had a 900 per cent issue and the Victor talking machine company had a 600 per cent issue.

### COST OF "GREEN" MEN.

The continuous employment of "green" and illiterate men in the coal industry caused the death of 787 men during the past 11 months. These men are placed in mines and know nothing of its dangers until hit by falling rock or coal.

The United States bureau of mines says the only remedy for this situation "under present industrial conditions" is a continuous campaign of education among the miners and a rigid enforcement of safety measures by mining companies and their foremen.

### NEW COPPER MERGER.

The Anaconda copper company, the largest copper producer in the world, has acquired the Chile copper company which ranks first among the world's copper mines. Bonds to the value of \$150,000,000 are required to handle the transaction.

### ARIZONA'S GOVERNOR DEFENDS FREE SPEECH.

"The greatest safety valve to alleviate discontent in any country is the right to express ideas, advocate governmental reform and criticize public officials or government institutions," said Governor Hunt, in his message to the state legislature.

"At this time, when the nations of the world are undergoing rapid changes in government, any attempt to tie down this safety valve is a dangerous expedient.

"In this connection I desire to suggest that the widest possible latitude in public discussion should be permitted. Meetings on street corners, where it will not interfere with the traffic, in the parks or on vacant lots, should not be interfered with, so long as public peace is maintained.

"Oratory cannot injure the government of our country. Suppression of free speech may cause a revolution. Public authorities should, under no circumstances, attempt to prevent the free exercise by every citizen of his constitutional rights of expressing his opinion in public."

### KIND OF ALIENS ENTERING.

The kind of immigrants now coming to the United States under the 3 per cent law is indicated in a statement issued by the department of labor.

The annual quota for Armenia, Portugal, Lithuania, Spain, Palestine, Syria, Turkey, Africa, Greece, Italy, and Belgium are exhausted while the quotas for Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and Rumania are almost exhausted.

### ARMY BREAKS RECORD.

Uncle Sam's peace-time army is the largest in history, according to Congressman Madden, chairman of the house appropriations committee.

The regular standing army will have 125,000 men and 12,000 officers, but the total of those constantly under arms and in up-to-date training condition will be about 625,000. Mr. Madden's committee, however, has provided for nearly double that number by requiring that enough supplies shall be constantly on hand for 1,600,000 men.

### OIL PROFITS STAGGER.

The public press is giving little publicity to oil profits; the senate oil investigating committee is uncovering.

In the Standard oil group these profits have broken all records. W. M. Irish, an officer of the Atlantic refining company, told the committee that since 1911 when the supreme court dissolved the oil trust, his company has paid cash dividends amounting to \$11,226,000. Last November this company declared a 900 per cent dividend.

### WOULD END KANSAS COURT.

In his first message to the state legislature Governor Davis declared the Alien "can't-strike" law a failure and recommended a board of arbitration as a substitute.

"The state has had more disturbance of industry and more loss of wages from strikes since the enactment of this law than during the entire decade before its enactment," the governor declared.

### COSSACK CHIEF QUITS.

General Hamrock, adjutant head of the Colorado state rangers, resigned his office just before William E. Sweet was installed as governor. The new state executive was pledged to clip the wings of the cossacks if elected.

Hamrock was in control of the state militia when a crowd of thugs in the uniform of the state shot up the miners' camp at Ludlow, April 20, 1914. Thirty-three men, women and children were killed or burned to death. The miners were striking against the Colorado fuel and iron company, a Rockefeller unit.

## FOREIGN ITEMS

### ENGLAND

#### BRITISH UNIONISTS PLEAD FOR WORKERS.

In a manifesto issued by the Trades Union Congress general council, the prime minister is called upon to at once summon parliament to deal with unemployment as a "national emergency of vital importance. Protest is made against the government's policy of declaring a holiday for parliament until February 13.

"Chronic unemployment has reduced thousands of working class homes in the country to a state of absolute destitution," the manifesto declares. "The cottages of the workers have been stripped of domestic comforts, and even the elementary requirements of a decent existence have been sold to order to provide the necessary food to stave off starvation. The burden imposed on local authorities by the great call for relief has been so great as to establish a state of local bankruptcy.

"Many local authorities are heavily in debt on account of having to meet a responsibility which should be borne by the nation without regard to the good or bad fortune of a particular area.

"Where unemployment is most severe cooperative societies and small traders have been brought to a state perilously near bankruptcy, and the long-continued drain on social resources has produced a state almost of social bankruptcy in certain areas."

#### FAVOR SWEATING.

Trade unionists are preparing to resist government proposals that would virtually destroy the trade board acts.

The first act was passed in 1909 as a result of trade union agitation against the "sweating" system among oppressed and low-wage workers.

Since the passing of the 1918 amendments 65 boards affecting more than 3,000,000 workers have been set up. Seventy per cent of these workers are women. These boards now set wages of many classes of unorganized and low-paid workers outside the most flagrant sweating trades.

The government's proposal to amend the act is based on the theory that a trade board should be concerned only with the prevention of "sweating" of the worst form, and not, as now, with the fixation for scheduled trades, of a minimum wage.

#### BRITISH ROADS UNITE.

With the opening of 1923 a new era in the history of British railway transport has begun. Four groups take the place of 120 unrelated companies, and a directorate of 1,500 is reduced to 100. Fares are also reduced. The most important change is in the establishment of a permanent rates commission, composed of representatives of the general public and of the railways, with power continually to adjust the cost of transport to a point fair to both.

#### SOME TRAGIC FIGURES.

Mr. Fred Bramley, assistant secretary to the General Council of the Trades Union Congress, has stated in an interview that it may fairly be estimated that, inclusive of un-registered workless people, there are at least two million unemployed persons now in Great Britain. The total benefit paid by State, employers, workmen and Treasury (lent), from April 1, 1919, to July 15, 1922, has been £90,100,000; while the trade unions in addition have paid out many millions in direct benefit to their members, either from accumulated funds or by special levies. Besides all this, Mr. Bramley showed that, exclusive of lunatics, casuals and those receiving medical benefit, 1,366,549 persons were being assisted by Boards of Guardians. Altogether, at least £6,000,000 might be said to be now existing on public assistance, arguing "a state of poverty which is having detrimental effects on the population."

### ESTHONIA

#### SOCIALISM IN ESTHONIA.

In "Headway," the official organ of the League of Nations Union, it is stated that the Esthonian Government, a Coalition of the Social Democratic and Labor parties, passed a law soon after its formation in April, 1919, by which all land above a maximum of 80 acres per proprietor became the property of the State. Livestock above a certain maximum was similarly confiscated; forest lands and mineral deposits came under State control. While compensation was rather theoretic than actual, the budget was balanced and a debt of 20 million marks to Finland was paid off by these Socialistic measures.

## Brooklyn Branch of the Joint Board Dress and Waistmakers' Union CONCERT AND BALL

Saturday Evening, January 27th, 7 o'clock, at 24-26 Manhattan Ave., Brooklyn.

### PROGRAM

1. Overture.
2. Sarah Selman (Soprano)—Popular Songs.
3. Flora Swanson (Soprano)
  - a. Musica proliu—Goldstein
  - b. I Don't Know Why I Should Cry Over You—Berlin.
  - c. Ah, forse e lui (Travista)—Verdi.
4. Tindaro Princi (Tenor)
  - a. Un di all'azzurro spazio (Improvisation)—Andrea Celsi-Giordano.
  - b. Recondite armonie (Tosca)—Puccini.
5. Constance Mankel (Dramatic Soprano)
  - a. Voi le sapete, mamma (Cavalleria Rusticana)—Mazzeppi.
  - b. Giannina mia—Prini
6. Sylvia Seamer (Lyric Soprano)
  - a. Fra le mie (Bretel)—Ciccia-Cardelli.
  - b. Muretti Walts (Hohene)—Puccini.
7. Constance Mankel (Dramatic Soprano)
  - a. Nakazala Meny Matr—Smolen.
  - b. Elizabeth's Aria—Wagner.
8. Tindaro Princi (Tenor). Good-bye, Little Rose—Ciccia-Cardelli.

Dance Music Supplied by Prof. Schiller's Jazz Band.

Entrance Free to all workers of the open shops of our industry.

## Educational Comment and Notes

### Professor Mitchell's Lecture on "The Distribution of Income in the United States"

On Thursday, January 18th, Professor Wesley Mitchell of Columbia University addressed a group of our members, who met in the building of the I. L. G. W. U., on "The Distribution of Income in the United States."

Professor Mitchell is one of a group of economists who compiled the latest obtainable figures on the distribution of income in our country. This work was done for the National Bureau of Economic Research, who planned to obtain the most authoritative information on the subject. To insure the reliability of their findings, they made estimates both of the incomes of industries and of individuals. A number of interesting figures were presented. The conclusions drawn from these figures were also of great interest. For instance, it was found that in 1918, three-fourths (¾) of the people of the United States had incomes of \$1,500 or less, while one-fourth (¼) of the people had incomes of \$1,500 or more.

It was also found that in 1918 one per cent of income receivers obtained 14 per cent of the national income,

and 20 per cent of income receivers obtained 50 per cent of the national income.

The incomes of farmers were found to be much smaller than those of people in other industries.

Wage earners, or employees in general, obtained 54 per cent of the net total product of the industries. However, the income of employees varies from industry to industry. While that of farmers is 10 per cent of the product, that of factory workers is 78 per cent.

The interesting point brought out was that in periods of hard times, wage earners get a relatively larger share of the product than the employers. In other words, when business improves wage earners do not increase their income as much as those who receive dividends.

Many other interesting facts were brought out in the lecture and in the discussion which followed. The audience was quite interested: it received valuable information which could be utilized as ground for discussion and interpretation.

### Policy of American Trade Union Towards Unemployment

Course of Five Lectures at Workers' University

By LEO WOLMAN, Ph.D.

It is necessary to explain how important a problem unemployment is to working men and women? It is enough to say that it exists now in just as violent and uncertain a form as it ever did, if not more so. As a trade union problem, it is certainly as important as wages, because a high rate of wages is of no earthly use to somebody who is not working. Now, American Unions have been troubled by unemployment, and because they were troubled by it, they have tried to meet it by such measures as shortening the number of hours worked, restricting production, and levying assessments on members who are employed for the benefit of those who are not. Trade Unions have been doing things like this for more than a hundred years. Have they worked and can they work?

In England, state unemployment

insurance has been in force since 1912. In this period, what has it done for English workmen? How has the scheme worked as an administrative measure? What have been the most serious problems it has had to meet and how has it solved them? How have the trade unions in England fared under the plan? What happens to their members who are out on strike or to those who are thrown out of work because of a strike elsewhere? What effect has the insurance scheme had on trade union rules and on standard rates of wages? In general, were the unions helped or injured by the plan? After ten years' experience with it, what are their present feelings about it?

These questions and others, concerning the importance of unemployment will be discussed in this course of five lessons.

#### LECTURE ON "THE CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT," ON JANUARY 27TH IN CLUB ROOMS OF LOCAL 1.

This Saturday, January 27th, a lecture will be given by H. Graf on the "Aims and Object of the Co-operative Movement," in the Club Rooms of Local No. 1, 1581 Washington Avenue.

Mr. Graf will discuss what the co-operative movement is and what it is not. He will stress its importance to the labor movement. The lecturer will tell his audience of the different types of co-operative movements which exist, and point out that some of them are organized by middle class groups and work in opposition to the real co-operative movement, which is part and parcel of the labor movement.

On Sunday morning at 10:30, in the club rooms of Local No. 1, Mr. L. Lehrer will give a lesson in Social Psychology.

#### THIS SATURDAY AT THE HARLEM EDUCATIONAL CENTER OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

Professor Galatzky will lecture on "The Development of Social and Democratic Ideals" this Saturday evening, January 27th, 8 p. m., at our Harlem Educational Center, of the I. L. G. W. U., 62 East 106th Street.

On Sunday morning, 10:30, in the same place, Max Levin will give a lesson on "The Economic Structure of Our Present System."

This center was opened last week Saturday, with a very interesting Yiddish lecture by Sh. Niegler. He spoke on "The Writer, the Reader and the Critic." On Sunday morning, Mr. Levin gave his lesson. It is expected that our members who reside in this district, and at whose request these activities have been initiated, will use every effort to make a success of their own Educational Center.

Admission to these lectures is free to members of the International.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

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

#### Saturday, January 27th

1:30 SOCIAL FORCES IN LITERATURE.  
Dr. J. H. H. Lyon—Prophecy in Literature.  
2:30 p. m. Stuart Chase—Waste in Industry.

#### Sunday, January 28th

10:30 a. m. A. Fichandler—Psychology of Current Events.  
11:30 a. m. Dr. H. J. Carman—Political and Social History of the United States.

#### UNITY CENTERS

##### Monday, January 29th

Lower Bronx Unity Center—P. S. 43  
Brown Place and 134th St. Room 305  
8:30 p. m. Dr. Margaret Daniels—Industrial History of the United States.  
Brownsville Unity Center—P. S. 84  
Stone and Glenmore Aves. Room 316.  
8:30 p. m. Sylvia Kopald—Economics and the Labor Movement.

##### Tuesday, January 30th

Harlem Unity Center—P. S. 171  
103rd St. near 5th Ave. Room 406,  
8:45 p. m. Theresa Wolfson—Comparative Development of Industry and the Trade Union Movement in the U. S.  
Waitmakers' Unity Center—P. S. 40  
290 East 20th Street, Room 303.  
8:30 p. m. Solon De Leon—Applied Economics.

##### Wednesday, January 31st

East Side Unity Center—P. S. 63  
4th St. Near 1st Ave. Room 404  
8:30 p. m. Theresa Wolfson—Comparative Development of Industry and the Trade Union Movement in the United States.  
Bronx Unity Center—P. S. 61  
Crotona Park East and Charlotte St. Room 501  
8:45 p. m. A. L. Wilbert—Modern Economic Institutions.  
Waitmakers' Unity Center—P. S. 40  
320 East 20th Street  
6:00 p. m. Loretta Ritter—Physical Training

##### Friday, February 2nd

P. S. 150—Christopher Ave. and Sacman St. Room 206.  
8:30 p. m. Dr. Margaret Daniels—Social Psychology.  
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  
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#### EXTENSION DIVISION

##### YIDDISH

##### Saturday, January 27th

Local No. 1—1581 Washington Ave. Bronx.  
8:00 p. m. Prof. Galatzky—Development of Social and Democratic Ideas.  
Harlem Educational Center of the I. L. G. W. U.  
62 East 106th Street  
8:00 p. m. H. Graf—Aims and Objects of the Co-operative Movement

##### Sunday, January 28th

Local No. 1—1581 Washington Ave. Bronx.  
10:30 a. m. L. Lehrer—Social Psychology.  
Harlem Educational Center of the I. L. G. W. U.  
62 East 106th Street  
10:30 a. m. Max Levin—Economic Structure of Our Present System.

##### ENGLISH

##### Thursday, February 1st

I. L. G. W. U. Building.  
8:15 p. m. Alex Irvine—"The World We Live In and R. U. R."

##### Friday, January 26th

##### RUSSIAN

Russian-Polish Branch, 315 East 10th St.  
8:00 p. m. Wasila Blazensky—"The Modern Labor Movement."

##### Friday, February 2nd

Philadelphia—1018 Cherry St.  
8:00 p. m. Joel Enten—"Hauptman's 'Weavers'."

#### PROFESSOR OVERSTREET IN THE WORKERS' UNIVERSITY

Our members who attended Mr. Fichandler's class in the Psychology of Current Events on Sunday mornings, will be glad to learn that Professor Overstreet, head of the Department of Philosophy in the College of the City of New York, will meet them on Sunday morning, February 4th.

By that time the class will have completed the psychological analysis of the Ku Klux Klan, and Professor Overstreet will discuss some of the psychological principles underlying not only that movement but also other important contemporary events.

#### GET-TOGETHER AND DANCE OF THE STUDENTS OF OUR WORKERS' UNIVERSITY AND UNITY CENTERS ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH

The success of the first dance and get-together of our students, which was held in the I. L. G. W. U. Building, encouraged them to arrange another one for Saturday, February 10th. Again, our members will get together socially in their own building. There will be social dancing, tea and refreshments. Admission will be 10 cents only. Members and their friends are invited.

## With the Waist and Dress Joint Board

By M. K. MACKOFF, Secretary  
(Minutes of Meeting January 10, 1922)

Brother Berlin in the Chair.

### ELECTION ON COMMITTEES

The attention of the Joint Board delegates was called to the vacancy in the Finance Committee caused by the recent elections of Local No. 66. Nominations were made and Brother Frank Milazzo of Local No. 89 was elected on the Finance Committee to replace Brother Auerbach.

Owing to the recent elections of Locals No. 10 and No. 66 new members had to be named for the Grievance, Appeal and Organization Committee and also on the Board of Directors.

Upon the request of the delegation from Local No. 10, Brother Charles Stein was appointed on the Board of Directors, Brother Henry Robbins on the Organization Committee, Brother Abe Blechstein on the Grievance Committee and Brother Max Beckerman on the Appeal Committee.

Upon the request of the delegation from Local No. 66, Brother George Halpern was appointed on the Grievance Committee, Brother Sam Halebsky on the Organization Committee.

Upon the request of the delegation from Local No. 25, Sister Goodman was appointed on the Grievance Committee in place of Sister Dora Leit and Sister Rose Pensato on the Wage Scale Committee in place of Sister Goodman.

The attention of the Joint Board was called to the fact that part of the minutes of the Joint Board of December 20th pertaining to the recommendations of the Unity House Committee was incorrect. The Secretary was therefore instructed to make the correction and this part of the minutes should read as follows:

The Joint Board in principle accepts the recommendation that a Ball should be arranged. However, the Unity House Committee should be requested to submit to the Joint Board a budget before making final arrangements. As to the other recommendations of the Unity House Committee, it was decided to take them up as soon as possible.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REPORT

The report and the recommendations of the Board of Directors' meetings of January 2nd and January 8th were submitted. They read in substance as follows:

#### Minutes of January 2nd

Sister Bertha Trachtman appeared before the Board stating that she and Brother Crivello thought it advisable to arrange an entertainment to stimulate greater activity in the Brooklyn district and revive the Brooklyn waist shop. She requested that the Board authorize them to arrange a Ball to be held in the near future.

Upon motion it was decided to grant this request and the president and secretary were appointed to take charge over the financial transactions.

Brother Antonini called the attention of the Board to the difficulty caused by Local No. 66's having sole authority to give out jobs to pressers. Members of Local No. 89 who are pressers are therefore barred from securing jobs through the Union. He therefore urged the Board to take into consideration that the proper place for issuing working cards and sending people to jobs is at the Joint Board offices and not at the locale.

A discussion developed which brought out that in the past Brother Hochman was called upon to adjust grievances between Local No. 40 and

No. 89. It was further brought out that the Labor Bureau which was set about to establish will as a matter of course do away with the grievances of Local No. 89.

For the time being, however, it was deemed advisable to leave the matter in the hands of the Managers who will take up each and every case arising between Local No. 89 and No. 40 on its merits.

Brother Hochman reported on the strike against the Goldman Costume Company. This strike was called because the firm had refused to show its books to our investigators and when the Jobbers' Association of which this firm was a member, ordered them to show their books, they resigned from the Association.

Brother Hochman further reported that the Metropolitan Dress Company and the National Dress Company violated their agreement with the Union and that action will be taken against them in the near future.

In reference to the referendum it was reported that during the first day a great number of members participated and that some employers had attempted to put obstacles in the way of their workers to prevent them from participating.

Brother Hochman reported that he had a talk with Brother Schlesinger about our planned conference with the employers. The opinion of Brother Hochman was that a conference should be called in the early part of next week. However, due to the fact that the General Executive Board is having its quarterly meeting next week in Montreal, Canada, it will be impossible for Brother Schlesinger to attend that conference.

A committee of strikers from the Belgium Waist Company appeared before the Board stating that they are on strike now the seventh week and as the firm has its work done in out-of-town shops they cannot see how they can win the strike if the Union will not take any action against these out-of-town shops. The Board of Directors once more took up the proposition of doing the Organization out of town and after a lengthy discussion it was decided that the Joint Board make arrangements to organize the shops which are working for the Belgium Waist Company.

### MANAGER'S REPORT

Brother Horowitz reported that Brother Hochman before leaving for Montreal left word that arrangements be made to organize as many embroidery shops as possible, and since it is now busy in the embroidery shops arrangements were made to that effect.

He also reported that the strike against the Goldman Costume Company is being continued and all efforts were made to make the strike against this firm as effective as possible.

He further reported that the Leading Dress Company of 45 West 36th Street refused to show its books to our investigator and that the firm has dealings with non-union shops. A strike was therefore declared against this firm.

In conclusion Brother Horowitz stated that open shops are being investigated and investigators are trying to find out what are the prevailing working conditions in these open shops.

Upon motion the recommendations of the Board of Directors were taken up seriatim, the Joint Board approv-

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ing the recommendations of the Board of Directors with the exception of the following:

1. The recommendation of the Board of Directors in regard to Local No. 60 and No. 89 brought about a lengthy discussion. The contention of the officers and delegates of Local No. 60 was that due to the efforts of Local No. 60, the pressers came to realize that the pressers' office is the place where they should apply for positions and also a number of employers were made to understand that they have to call up the pressers' local whenever a pressed is needed. However, in principle they agreed that the Joint Board has the authority to issue working cards to workers of all crafts in our industry.

On the other hand, delegates and officers from Local No. 89 as well as

others pointed out that in view of the fact that there are also pressers belonging to Local No. 89 regardless of the number, they should not be obliged to secure a position through Local No. 60 but through the Joint Board offices.

Upon motion it was decided that hereafter the working cards to pressers be issued by the Joint Board offices only, it being understood that the advice of the officers of Locals No. 60 and No. 89 will be welcomed.

2. In regard to the recommendation about the Belgium Waist Company, a long discussion developed and upon motion it was decided that the Joint Board make arrangements to organize the out-of-town shops making work for the Belgium Waist Company.

## The Challenge of Wasteful Industry

Lecture to be Given at our Workers' University, Washington Irving High School, on Saturday, January 27th, at 2:30

By STUART P. CHASE, of the Labor Bureau, and Author of "Challenge of Waste"

Is there enough to go round? Is there enough wheat, beef, butter, lumber, coal, houses, cotton to give the common people of America the things which they need? There are 167 million people in America. Is it possible to provide them all with a high standard of living from the outset of our fields and factories as they stand today?

Learned economists tell us a lot about money and prices and stocks and bonds. They do not tell us much about the things which lie back of money—the mills and waterpower, the tons of foodstuffs, and pairs of shoes. A Russian peasant with a million rubles in his hand today cannot buy a spade. Not because there is not enough money, but because there are not spades enough.

It is well for us to think a little now and then about the things which lie back of money. Money will never create a better world. Such a world can only be created by increasing the

output of the good things of life—houses, schools, food, theatres, power, clothes, recreation, books. There is enough to go around if we only produce things which people need and distribute them with some show of common sense. As matters are now, about a third of our effort goes into making things which nobody needs, and another third into wasteful bungling methods of distribution. The discussion will outline the terrible waste which now goes on under the rule of our efficient captains of industry. Until this waste is eliminated, we cannot hope for much in the way of securing a permanently higher standard of living. And we cannot take steps to eliminate it until we know what it is composed of, and what it amounts to.

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, 3 West 16th Street.

# The Week in Local 10

By JOSEPH FISH

## GENERAL

At its last meeting held on Thursday, January 18th, the Executive Board discussed Brother Schlesinger's resignation. Brother Dubinsky suggested the name of Brother Morris Sigman, former first vice-president of our International, as a candidate for the vacancy caused by Brother Schlesinger's resignation.

The suggestion of Brother Dubinsky was accepted unanimously by the Executive Board, and it was decided to send a telegram to Brother Morris Sigman, a copy of which follows:

MORRIS SIGMAN,

Storm Lake, Iowa.

The Executive Board of Cutters' Union, Local No. 10, in meeting assembled January 18, 1923, upon being informed by Vice-President Dubinsky of the resignation of Benjamin Schlesinger as President of the International, knowing as they do your views, your policies, and your devotion to our International, deem it your duty to accept nomination for the office of President of the International. The Executive Board is of the opinion that with your declaration of acceptance as candidate for the presidency not only would the dignity and prestige of the International be maintained, but many internal misunderstandings would be avoided. In urging you to accept we are voicing the sentiments and wishes of the officers and the entire membership of Local No. 10. We feel it our moral duty to urge your acceptance, and in conjunction with other locals which are anxious to hear of same and who have pledged all possible support, we hereby pledge our undivided and wholehearted co-operation and support, with the hope that this will be a means of encouragement towards your acceptance.

Executive Board, Local No. 10.

JOSEPH FISH,

Secretary.  
DAVID DUBINSKY,  
Manager.

As yet, no definite reply has been received to our telegram, but we do believe that Brother Sigman will view with favor this telegram, as well as many similar ones sent to him by other locals and individuals.

In conclusion, we wish to assure Brother Morris Sigman that the Executive Board and officers, as well as the membership of the Cutters' Union, Local No. 10, are ready to give him full co-operation and support.

For lack of space during the past two weeks we were unable to print in these columns the Manager's yearly report on the activities of the office for the Cloak and Suit Division, as well as his report of the activities of Controller Sam Leder, who has been working in that branch. Before we are therefore giving these two reports, as rendered at the last meeting of the Cloak and Suit Division.

## COMPLAINTS

Filed from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 1922  
1. Boss is doing the cutting. No cutter employed.

Unfounded—Cutters were found working ..... 402  
Cutters were placed to work ..... 168  
Cutters were paid for work cut by firm ..... 20  
Firm paid fine and cutters were placed to work ..... 21  
Firm paid fine ..... 7  
No work in shop ..... 188  
Shops on strike ..... 18  
Shops not settled ..... 4  
Shops burnt down ..... 4  
Non-union shops ..... 11  
Bundle contractors ..... 29

Out of business ..... 75  
Trouble in shop at present—no body working ..... 1  
Local No. 22 house (Filed) ..... 3  
Shop closed ..... 3  
Store ..... 1  
No such firm in building ..... 1  
Work sent out to an unknown shop ..... 1  
Shop on schedule to be organized ..... 2  
Pending ..... 10

TOTAL 972

2. Boss is helping cutter at table. Unfounded, as cutter is doing all the cutting ..... 14  
Instructed ..... 15  
No work at present ..... 4  
Out of business ..... 1

TOTAL 34

3. Non-union cutter employed. In favor of union ..... 92  
Unfounded ..... 53  
Firm was fined for employing non-union cutter ..... 1  
No work in shop ..... 1  
Non-union shops ..... 4  
Out of business ..... 3  
Filed with Local No. 22 ..... 3  
Pending ..... 1

TOTAL 167

4. Firm deducted for mistake. In favor of union ..... 17  
Against union ..... 2

TOTAL 19

5. Firm refuses to pay at holiday rate. In favor of union ..... TOTAL 1

6. Firm offers to pay less than agreed upon. In favor of union ..... 6  
Unfounded ..... 2  
Pending ..... 1

TOTAL 9

7. Cutters were not properly paid for overtime. In favor of union ..... 6  
Unfounded ..... 3

TOTAL 9

8. Firm refuses to pay wages due cutter. In favor of union ..... 32  
Out of business ..... 4  
Withdrawn ..... 2  
Pending ..... 1

TOTAL 39

9. Reduction in wages. Unfounded ..... 1  
In favor of union ..... 4

TOTAL 5

10. Cutters were discharged. In favor of union ..... 67  
Unfounded ..... 6  
Not in favor of union (discharged for alleged unfaithfulness and incompetency) ..... 4  
No work in shop ..... 3  
Withdrawn ..... 3  
Pending ..... 2  
Shop called out on strike ..... 1

TOTAL 86

11. Firm refuses to pay cutter the minimum scale of wages. In favor of union ..... 5  
No work in shop (case postponed for a more opportune time) ..... 1

TOTAL 6

12. Equal division of work. In favor of union ..... 63  
Unfounded ..... 8  
Withdrawn ..... 3  
No work in shop ..... 2

TOTAL 76

13. Cutter is member of firm. Unfounded ..... 15  
Called to Executive Board (3 guilty—5 further investigation) ..... 8  
Pending ..... 1

TOTAL 24

14. Expelled member working. Adjusted in favor of union (stopped from work) ..... TOTAL 1

15. Styles that are made inside are being sent out to be cut while cutters are out.

Firm has time agreement. Sends work to legitimate sub-manufacturers where cutters are employed ..... 1

16. Firm sends its work to non-union shop. Adjusted ..... TOTAL 1

17. Cutters violating union rules. In favor of union ..... 20  
Not adjusted in favor of union (cutter is brother of firm. Nothing can be done.) ..... 1

Unfounded ..... 21  
Referred to Picket Committee (not settled shop) ..... 1

Shops on strike ..... 2  
Out of business ..... 3  
Non-union shop ..... 3

Cutters summoned before Executive Board. (Case held for further investigation) ..... 1

TOTAL 52

18. Cutters to be stopped off from work for failing to take out their union books. In favor of union ..... 50

Cutter is out of shop ..... 57  
No work in shop ..... 14  
Out of business ..... 21  
Non-union shops ..... 2  
Firm moved (cannot be located) ..... 3  
Pending ..... 2

TOTAL 130

Total Number of complaints filed to December 31, 1922 ..... 1,632

Total number of complaints adjusted to December 31, 1922 ..... 1,613

Total number of complaints pending to December 31, 1922 ..... 19

The following is a report of shops which have been investigated by one of our controllers, Brother Sam Leder:

Shops where cutters are employed ..... 232  
Shops without cutters ..... 6  
Shops where cutters are out ..... 97  
Shops out of business ..... 21  
Receive cut work ..... 8  
Wrong address ..... 21

Total number of shops visited 405

## REMARKS

Complaints filed with Joint Board 7  
Shops to be followed up ..... 103  
Cutters placed to work ..... 12

Cutters called before Executive Board (4 have been fined) ..... 7

Some firms have been fined for doing their own cutting.

## Call for Special Convention

(Continued from Page 1)

present and not let any motive of false economy hinder you from doing so.

Please, bear in mind that only those delegates who were present at the last Cleveland Convention are eligible to the next special convention, except such of them who have since become ineligible under our constitution to attend as delegates, in which case their substitutes, regularly voted for at the last election to the Cleveland Convention, may take their place.

Hoping to meet you fully represented at Baltimore on February 15th, we beg leave to remain

Fraternally yours,

SALVATORE NINFO,

Acting President

ABRAHAM BAROFF,

General Secretary-Treasurer.

## Conferences in New York Dress Industry

(Continued from Page 1)

Monday evening, January 22, between the Union and the Dress Manufacturers' Association, the contractors' organization, at the Hotel Astor. The Union was represented by the same conference committee.

The Union forwarded to the Association a number of demands, including week-work. After a preliminary exchange of opinion, it was decided

to elect a subcommittee which would endeavor to reach a basis for a new agreement in the industry.

Meanwhile the Union is continuing vigorous activities throughout the dress and waist industry, mobilizing the workers for every possible emergency that might arise as a result of these negotiations.

## CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10

### Notice of Regular Meetings

GENERAL ..... Monday, January 29th  
CLOAK AND SUIT ..... Monday, February 5th

(There will be no meeting of the Waist and Dress Division in February, as Lincoln's Birthday falls on the second Monday of the month.)

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