

"My righteousness 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. 7.

New York, Friday, February 9, 1923.

Price 2 Cents

GENERAL STRIKE GRIPS N.Y. DRESS INDUSTRY

CONFERENCES FAIL TO AVE
INTERNATIONAL
—BARC

The numerous conferences held between the organized employers and the workers in the dress industry, New York City have come to naught. The contractors' association, with whom the Union has kept on ringing until the last minute before strike call was issued, would not listen to reason, maintaining an obdurate stand towards the moderate and just demands of the Union. As a result, the workers had only one alternative left—to strike.

On Wednesday, February 7th, at 10 o'clock in the morning, the Joint Board of the Dress and Waistmakers' Union, with the full sanction of the International Union, has declared a general strike in all the dress and waist shops of New York City.

The entire strike machinery was prepared a considerable time in advance. A week ago the Union had elected a big general strike committee and kept it ready for any emergency, to start operations at the given signal by the Union. Late Tuesday night, when it became clear to everybody that all negotiations were at an end, this signal was finally given.

On Wednesday morning, February 7th, the garment industry district of New York, extending from 38th street to Union Square and from Fourth to Seventh avenues, saw again a great outpouring of men and women, work-

—WEEK WORK CHIEF DEMAND OF THE UNION — STRIKE FULLY ENDORSED BY
HUNDREDS OF DRESSMAKERS LEAVE SHOPS LIKE BIG DISCIPLINED ARMY
AND HOCHMAN RECEIVE OVATION FROM STRIKE COMMITTEE

hundreds of dress shops lo-
that district, marching down
ranks and in perfect order
alls to which they were as-
by the strike committee. It
it back to the thousands of
ters who lined the sidewalks
... ones when the waist and dress-
makers of New York, first in 1913
then in 1916 and 1919, were march-
ing in the now famous general walk-
outs of that period, which have laid

the foundation for the big organiza-
tion of the men and women in the
women's garment trades of New
York.

TUESDAY NIGHT AT BEE-
THOVEN HALL

On Tuesday night, February 6th,
when the Union gave the signal for a
strike to the general strike commit-
tee, a large number of the active
workers of the Union, shop chairmen

and charlatades, and executive board
members, were assembled in the large
Beethoven Hall on East Fifth Street.
The news that the strike had been
decided upon, spread like wildfire and
in spite of the lateness of the hour
and the terrible storm outside, masses
of workers continued pouring into
the hall swelling the ranks of those
to whom duties had already been

(Continued on Page 2)

SPECIAL CONVENTION WILL OPEN NEXT THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, AT BALTIMORE, MD.

WILL ASSEMBLE AT EMERSON HOTEL—THE CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE BEGINS ITS SESSIONS IN NEW
YORK ON MONDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 12TH, AT THE INTERNATIONAL BUILDING

The Special Convention of the In-
ternational Union will begin its ses-
sions on the appointed day, next
Thursday, February 15th, at 10
o'clock in the morning, at the Hotel
Emerson, Baltimore, Md.

The Convention has before it only
one task—to elect a new president
in place of Brother Benjamin Schle-
singer who resigned his post at the
last Quarterly Meeting of the General
Executive Board at Montreal. Ac-
cording to our Constitution, the locals
and the joint boards are to send to
this Special Convention the same de-
legates who represented them at the

last preceding regular convention, un-
less for one reason or another, these
delegates have since become inelig-
ible or cannot otherwise attend. The
locals are, nevertheless, to forward
credentials for these delegates in
time to the Credential Committee
which begins its meetings on Mon-
day, February 12th, in the morning at
the office of our International, 9 West
26th Street.

The Credential Committee consists
of the following persons: Vice-Pres-
ident Joseph Breaker, Chairman; Vice-
President David Dubinsky, Secre-
tary; Sisters Fannie Shapiro and

Elizabeth Rudolph, Brother Schaffer
of Chicago, Esq. of Cincinnati, and
Giaccaria of Local No. 48 of New
York.

The International has invited the
following persons to attend as guests
to the Special Convention: Samuel
Gompers, President of the American
Federation of Labor; Abraham Cahan,
Editor of the Jewish Daily Forward;
Morris Hillquit, legal adviser of the
International; Benjamin Schlesinger,
former president of the International;
Morris Sigman, former first vice-pres-
ident of the International, and Con-
gressman Meyer London.

CHILDREN'S AND HOUSE DRESS MAKERS IN GENERAL STRIKE

THE STRIKE IS LED BY VICE-PRESIDENT HALPERIN AND MANAGER
GREENBERG—WORKERS RESPOND FULLY TO CALL OF
UNION—MANY FIRMS APPLY FOR SETTLEMENT

On Tuesday, February 6th, at 10
o'clock in the morning, a general
strike was declared by the Children's
Dressmakers' Union, Local No. 50,
and the House Dress and Bathrobe
Makers, Local No. 41. The workers
in these trades responded enthusias-
tically to the call of the Union and
left the shops in large numbers at the
given hour.

On Monday evening the Union has
called several mass meetings in the
various districts of Greater New York

which were remarkably well attend-
ed. The meetings were addressed
by Vice-Presidents Jacob Halperin,
David Dubinsky, Manager of the
Cutters' Union, Local No. 10, and
Harry Greenberg, Manager of Locals
Nos. 41 and 50. The workers unani-
mously endorsed the calling of a
strike and greeted with great enthu-
siasm the announcement that the
strike would begin on the following
morning.

(Continued on Page 2)

INTERNATIONAL LOCALS DECIDE TO FORM COOPERATIVE BANK

ISSUE STATEMENT TO PUBLIC

During the last few weeks the lo-
cals of the International in New York
City have been holding conferences
at which the possibility as well as
the advisability of forming a big coop-
erative banking institution was dis-
cussed. These conferences were at-
tended by all the financial officers of
these locals with the authority of
their executive boards, and also by
General Secretary-Treasurer Baroff
of the International.

On Tuesday last, a final decision

was taken in the matter and a resolu-
tion adopted to apply to the State au-
thorities of New York for a charter
authorizing our organization to enter
the banking business on a coopera-
tive basis, and to invite the participa-
tion of a large number of other la-
bor organizations and friendly frat-
ernal institutions. Before its ad-
journment, the conference has issued
the following statement to the press
and the public in general:

(Continued on Page Three.)

Philadelphia Cloak Strike in Excellent Shape

OVER 1,200 WORKERS FROM ASSOCIATION SHOPS BACK AT
WORK ALREADY

The Philadelphia cloak strike, called
off Thursday a week ago, in the
cloak and skirt trade of that city,
is progressing in a highly satisfactory
manner. As stated in these columns
already, this strike was directed prin-
cipally against the jobbers in the local
cloak trade who persisted in making

have had until now individual agree-
ments with them. The outcome of
such a strike, which will be directed
principally for the gaining of union
recognition from the employers and
for the elimination of the petty shop
in the industry, if it is called, cannot
be in doubt for a moment. The Bos-
ton cloakmakers have a good and
sound organization and they have
never lost a strike.

their work in the petty non-union
shops and also against the type of
"social" shop which began to multiply
in Philadelphia in late years and
which threatened the conditions in the
union shops.

At the time of this writing we are
informed that over 1,200 workers,
employed in the Association shops and
in the shops of the jobbers who have
settled with the Union, are already
back at work. It will take but a short
time to whip the rest of the obdurate
firms in line and to put a permanent
stop to the chaos and misery created
in the cloak industry by the irrespon-
sible non-union pest-nests, called "so-
cial" or "corporation" shops.

(Continued on Page 2)

Boston Locals on Eve of Strike

News from the Boston Joint Board
continues to indicate that a general
strike in the local cloak trade, which

may also affect the dress and waist
trade of that city, is imminent.

Vice-President Perlestein who is di-
recting the activities of the Boston
locals of the International for the
time being, in cooperation with the
local officers, has made a number of
attempts to get in touch with the
cloak employers in order to arrive at
a collective understanding with them,
but his efforts seem to have failed.
The Boston Joint Board has in con-
sequence only the weapon of a gen-
eral strike left for it to bring the
employers to reason.

The strike will probably take place
in a few days. It will involve be-
tween fifty and sixty shops, employ-
ing several thousand workers. The
Boston workers had no collective
agreement with their employers, but

STUDENTS' COUNCIL ENTERTAINMENT ON SATURDAY NIGHT

Members of our Union who are
interested in spending a pleasant
evening in congenial company will
not fail to be present, this Satur-
day evening, February 10th at the
entertainment given by the Stud-
ents' Council of the clames main-
tained by our International Union.
The affair will take place in the
Auditorium of the International
Building, 3 West 19th Street.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK

By N. S.

STILL ONE MORE BREAKDOWN

WHEN the news of the breakdown of the Lausanne Conference came the air was full of dark forebodings. There were restrained whispers of another war. France was to be formally charged by the British government with "treachery" and "double-dealing." France and Turkey were about to reach a separate and secret understanding whereby the French would gain control in the Near East, leaving Great Britain out in the cold.

Lord Curzon, the British representative, extended his simple fund of diplomatic skill to "persuade" Ismet Pasha, the Turkish representative, to sign the treaty of which he was the author. For three months Ismet kept on dodging and postponing the signature. Finally when the breach between France and Great Britain seemed definite and final, and upon a significant hint from Premier Poincaré, the Turkish representative declared that he would not sign the treaty. Two provisions were particularly offensive to the Turks. The most important of these were the paragraphs dealing with economic conditions. The Ankara government wanted to strike out from the treaty all references to contracts and concessions established under the authority of former governments. The second difficulty came out of the proposals for judicial guarantees. The Turks said that a system of law which was good enough for their countrymen was good enough for foreigners, and that they would not infringe upon the sovereignty of their country by accepting foreign judges.

The latest dispatches, however, announce that after Lord Curzon had left for London broken-hearted, the French succeeded in "persuading" the Turks to be more reasonable and sign the treaty. The implications of this diplomatic move are not as yet clear.

APPEAL OF GERMAN LABOR TO AMERICAN CONGRESS

TWELVE million organized German workers sent an appeal to the American Congress last week to "save Europe and the world from inevitable disaster." "We have been reduced to a nation which is chronically hungry," the appeal reads; "our infants are wrapped in paper, instead of swaddling clothes, while our women and children are succumbing to physical misery." But they at the same time affirm that the German worker is "opposed to being made a slave indefinitely or to having the coming generations of his fellow-citizens committed to a system of economic bondage." The Ruhr occupation and the Versailles Treaty, the labor appeal states, will "permanently destroy German and European economics and threaten unemployment for millions of German workers."

This appeal is a confession of black despair and helplessness on the part of the German labor movement. Twelve million organized workers, who with their families constitute more than half of Germany's population, are so weak and dependent as to send an SOS to the American Congress. A few years ago they were on the verge of establishing a new social order in Germany. It was customary in the past to hear the appeals made by the workers in one country to those of other countries. It was usually an appeal for the solidarity of the working class. Now it is an appeal for salvation from ruin and annihilation. And America, to the German workers, is the only power that can save Europe and Germany from destruction.

Our wonders whether the German workers really believe that Congress or the government will be stirred to action by their appeal. Nobody can make Secretary Hughes say or do anything on matters European, not even the irreconcilable Senators. Our Administration has committed itself irrevocably to the watch-and-wait policy, and what it is waiting for not even Secretary Hughes can tell.

It is extremely doubtful whether Congress will do anything on its own accord with regard to this appeal. There are reasons for its inactivity. Perhaps the most important one being that technically a foreign people or group of people cannot communicate directly with Congress. Any foreign communication must go through diplomatic channels to the State Department which may or may not forward it to Congress.

Samuel Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labor, has realized that American labor cannot ignore the appeal of the German workers and has issued a mild statement. It reads in part as follows: "A moral obligation in all honor requires that our country shall do its share in bringing about an agreement between France and Germany so that an honorable settlement of the awful situation arising out of the dispute between these two countries may be accomplished. Now I believe our government should tender its good wishes as mediator." No positive suggestion is offered.

THE HYLAN-CRAIG ROW

ON the eve of his departure for Palm Beach Mayor Hylan received a letter from Comptroller Craig which is the cause of great excitement and worry in political circles. The Mayor was told in the letter that he was spending an excessive amount of time on vacations to the neglect of the business of the city, and that from now on the Comptroller will keep a closer watch on the transactions in which the Mayor was interested. Mr. Craig also told the Mayor that he does not live up to his promises and that the public would benefit if some of his appointees would be "given the air."

Mayor Hylan could not make an adequate reply. He was in a hurry to catch the train for Palm Beach. He only had time to instruct his secretary to acknowledge the letter and to tell Comptroller Craig that he is peevish and sick and doesn't know what he is talking about. Now the Mayor is basking in sunny Florida the Comptroller is threatening to upset some of the pet schemes of Tammany. Craig will now oppose all the Hylan measures before the Legislature, one of them being a bill to increase the Mayor's salary from 16,000 to 25,000 dollars a year. Another bill is the appointment of an Assistant Mayor, and the most important bill of all is the transit bill. The fate of all these bills rests largely with the Comptroller in that on a close vote he could keep them from going through. Another line of attack planned by Mr. Craig is to bring a series of charges against one of the Mayor's "pet" Commissioners, accusing him of innocence in dealing with big appropriations.

Fearing that these tactics might lead to irreparable damage to the political machine such party leaders as Governor Smith and Murphy have undertaken to bring about peace between the two highest city officials. But according to the latest developments the struggle is becoming fiercer. Mr. Craig, the guardian and supervisor of the public money operations in New

Dress and Waist General Strike

(Continued from Page 1)

assigned in connection with the strike.

A wave of great enthusiasm broke out when late in the evening General Secretary Abraham Baroff, Acting President Salvatore Ninio, and Julius Hochman, the General Manager of the Joint Board, appeared in the hall and addressed the assembled committeemen. When Baroff and Ninio have declared that the International has fully endorsed the strike, a stormy ovation broke out in the hall lasting for several minutes.

On Wednesday morning, the big strike committee was already at work. Its members and hundreds of other active workers were distributing the strike call in the shop district, and at the sign of the hour the masses of the workers left the machines.

THE HALLS WHERE THE STRIKERS ASSEMBLED

All shops controlled by business agents Bernstein and Hoffman meet at Webster Hall, 119 East 11th St.

All shops controlled by business agents Guzman, Cabliatti and Unker meet at Manhattan Lyeum, 66 East 4th St.

All shops controlled by business agents Rothenberg and Dinola meet at Hennington Hall, 124 East 2d St.

All shops controlled by business agents Sosin and Pogren meet at Struyvant Cascio, 142 Second Ave.

All shops controlled by Local No. 23, meet at Labor Temple, 14th St. and Second Ave.

All shops controlled by business agents Settle and Olivio meet at Great Central Palace, 90 Clinton St.

All shops controlled by business agents Portnoy and the Sample Makers of the Jobbers meet at Bryant Hall, 725 Sixth Ave.

The Harlem shops meet at Laurel Garden, 116th St. and Madison Ave.

All Bronx shops meet at the Bronx Casino, 154th St. and Third Ave., and New London Casino, Third Ave. and Clarendon Parkway.

All Brooklyn shops meet at the Brooklyn Labor Lyeum, 949 Willoughby Ave., Royal Palace, 16-18 Manhattan Ave., and New Plaza Hall, 121 Havemeyer St.

All Brownsville shops meet at the Labor Lyeum, 219 Sacman St.

All South Brooklyn shops meet at Longo's Hall, 212 Twenty-first St.

All Ridgewood shops meet at Queens County Labor Lyeum, Forest and Putnam Avenues.

All non-union shops meet at Beethoven Hall, 210 East 5th St.

All the unemployed workers in the industry meet in Beethoven Hall.

The chairman of the Hall committee is I. Horowitz. The shop chairmen are requested to confer about everything pertaining to their duties with the hall chairman and the hall chairmen are to keep the chairman of the Hall Committee posted on all their affairs.

Locals 41 and 50 in Strike

(Continued from page 1)

The strike is under the auspices of our International Union and is led by Vice-President Halperin, the Manager of the Organization Department of our Union, who has placed a number of his staff at the disposal of the strike committee and is ardently at work in charge of the strike. The strike involves several thousand workers, most of them young girls, who meet at Arlington Hall in New York, at the Royal Palace Hall in Brooklyn, and at the Brownsville Labor Lyeum.

A number of meetings have been arranged for the strikers for the coming week to be addressed by such well-known speakers as E. C. Viadec, Abraham Beckman, August Claessens and David P. Berenberg. As we go to press we are informed that the settlement committee of the Union is already at work and that a number of firms have agreed; applied for settlements.

York, is becoming more specific in his charges of waste and delinquency.

The quarrel was a result of Mayor Hylan's attempt to curtail Mr. Craig's powers, and remove him from the Sinking Fund Commission. But the Comptroller is an independent official, directly elected by the people and charged with the duty of supervising the financial transactions of this city. He therefore rebelled against the Mayor and is threatening to expose the workings of the Hylan regime. If his threat is fully carried out the Tammany forces will be split, and this is what Governor Smith and Chief Murphy are trying to avert. Whether this quarrel will be hushed up remains to be seen.

AMERICA AND ENGLAND REACH AGREEMENT ON DEBTS

BRITISH COMMISSION came to Washington several weeks ago to discuss the terms for funding the British debt to America. After two weeks of secret negotiations with Secretary Mellon and the President the Commission returned to England. What were the American proposals and the British counter proposals? But the only news break in European style that is, in deadlock? Nobody seemed to know.

But a few days ago the news came from London that the British government accepted the American proposals. It was of course known for some months that England decided to pay her debts which amount to some four billion dollars. But she bargained for a reduction in the interest rates which amount to millions of dollars. The American government finally reduced the rates from 4 1/2 per cent to 3 per cent for ten years and 3 1/2 per cent thereafter. The British still thought the Americans exorbitant money grabbers. But despite the general recognition that the payment of the debt will entail a heavy burden on the British people, the government, backed by the financial and business interests of the country, agreed to the American plan.

The British regard the debt settlement from other than a purely financial angle. It is common knowledge that England has few friends left in Europe. France has her own imperialistic games which are not always in accord with British ideas. The happenings in the Near East the last few months amply illustrate this. The other European nations do not matter for the time being. What is more, British diplomats are already talking of another war, and the erstwhile ally, France, may be ranged against England. To have a rich and powerful friend like America becomes then tremendously worth while.

In agreeing to pay her debts England has placed herself on a different level from the other European powers. She has shown that England alone is economically and financially sound and willing to meet her obligations. France and Italy, on the other hand, are put in the light of bankrupt powers. This of course will cause resentment and hatred against the English and fury against their own financial impotence. Where this will lead to no one can say.

News from St. Louis

By BEN GILBERT

Conditions in our city are improving so fast in the last few months that our members have every reason to feel contented for the time being at least. It does not mean that we are satisfied with things as they are and are willing to let matters rest at that. Far from it—but after a long slump the progress we have been making of late has given all of us a lot of cheer and hope that there is a brighter future for the cloakmakers of St. Louis and for our local Union.

Of course, we know that we cannot satisfy everybody, and that amidst our workers there are a good many who still keep on grumbling. But this will happen under the best of conditions. The fact however remains that we are moving on. The Greenberg firm which closed their shop sometime ago have re-opened it and have come into the Union. The Kolander firm, after fighting the organization for almost a year, have now signed up with us when they became partners with Wasserman. The Deutsch firm also signed up an agreement—after they had been fighting us without a break for six months.

Carville & Silverman, another trouble-making firm, have tried to make cloaks with the aid of girls but they did not succeed, and, after trying hard to get men to work for them on piece-work, have given up the idea of making suits and have gone back to making dresses and skirts. The Dietzman firm which also attempted to make cloaks in St. Louis in a non-

union shop, was compelled to give up their shop in this city and have moved out to some small town in Illinois—where they will quite likely fail, as have many others before them—and will come back to St. Louis to make cloaks in a Union shop under Union conditions.

Things are improving, as I said, and along with the conditions of our men and women in the older union shops are improving, too. Men who had to work for less than their regular price, now receive \$75.00 per week as their initial wage, and many have received an increase over their first set wage. In view of the still limited income of our local organization the question of maintaining our officers and office is as yet quite a serious problem with us. The suggestion that the officers be maintained at reduced wages, leaving it to them to get along the best they know how, did not meet with the approval of the members. A proposal was made to increase the dues to 70 cents a week, but the men want the women to continue paying 50 cents.

One more thing. Our Union has decided to send a delegate to the Special Convention in Baltimore—despite the stringent financial circumstances. We know all the importance of this convention and we realize that the full representation of the International is imperative at Baltimore to elect the chief executive officer of our Union.

Hillquit-Untermeyer Debate Next Monday Night at Lexington Opera House

On Monday evening, February 12, Lincoln's Birthday, the big debate between Morris Hillquit and Samuel Untermeyer on the subject of the regulation of labor unions by the state, will take place.

On the following day, on Tuesday,

February 13, there will be a hearing at Albany on the bills proposed by the Lockwood Committee and prepared and sponsored by Samuel Untermeyer which purport to create a state agency for the supervision and control of the activities of labor unions. The Central Trades and Labor Council of New York, the United Hebrew Trades are calling upon all labor organizations in the state of New York to have committees present at that hearing to oppose the proposed legislation.

STATEMENT ON COOPERATIVE LABOR BANK

(Continued from page 1.)

A number of progressive labor organizations will shortly establish a cooperative labor bank in New York. This is the gist of a decision reached by the New York Locals of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, which is heading the movement. At an informal conference which was just held and which was attended by representatives of seventeen Local Unions affiliated with the International, as well as by officials of the General Executive Board and the Joint Boards in the cloak—and dress and waist industries, the situation was carefully canvassed and the conferences were unanimous in the opinion that the establishment of a cooperative bank, controlled by organized labor, would be of great and substantial benefit to the labor movement as well as to the individual members of the Union, and that the plan should be realized without delay. The proposed bank is to be organized under the laws of the State of New York and is to embody all the beneficial features that have been developed by cooperative labor banks within the last few years. The banking operations are to be conducted on safe and conservative lines without any element of speculation so as to afford absolute protection for the savings of the workers, who presumably will constitute the bulk of savings account depositors. Dividends on the bank's stock are to be limited and the greater part of the bank's profits are to be distributed among its depositors in the shape of additional interest on their deposits. It is also contemplated to conduct a branch for foreign exchange for the primary purpose of providing a safe, honest and economic service for the transaction of funds by the workers to their needy friends and relatives in the various European countries. The main policy of the bank, of course, will be to mobilize the funds of the organized workers and the power of their credit in the service of their own cause.

The call for tentative subscriptions brought forth approximately \$300,000.00. It is expected that the bank will organize with a capital of \$500,000.00, and a substantial surplus. The conference decided to invite other progressive labor organizations, not affiliated with the International, to join in the movement, and an enlarged meeting will be held in the near future at which a definite organization will be formed and detailed plans of operation will be discussed.

The movement is not organized in opposition to any similar contemplated enterprises in the city. It has been planned and discussed among officials of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union for many months, but up to the present, the time did not seem opportune to carry the plan into practical effect.

Union Health Center

Sick Benefit and Sickness Insurance Meeting

Members of the Executive and Relief Committees of the various locals are urgently requested to attend the above special meeting to be held at

UNION HEALTH CENTER
ON
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH
at 1:30 P. M. Sharp

The meeting is called in order to discuss the proposed Sickness Insurance in the various locals connected with the UNION HEALTH CENTER, and all matters connected with the benefits of the insurance project, so that the locals may act in accordance with the resolutions adopted by the Directors of the UNION HEALTH CENTER, recommending the adoption by the locals of the plan to supply medical benefits for their members and their families when so desired.

UNION HEALTH CENTER

HARRY WANDER, JOSEPH BRESLAW,
Chairman Secretary

PHILADELPHIA CLOAK STRIKE IN GOOD SHAPE

(Continued from page 1)

The strike call was obeyed with remarkable unanimity in Philadelphia and has solidified the ranks of the workers as never before. The International has taken an active hand in the preparation of this strike and in its present leadership. The International has also helped the strike financially and will help it as long as necessary—in spite of the fact that our Union has a number of conflicts on its hands at present. Those most active in connection with this strike are Manager Amdur of Philadelphia, Vice-Presidents Israel Feinberg and Elias Reiberg, and General Secretary Baroff.

JUSTICE

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S. YANOFSEY, Editor

A. BAROFF, Secretary-Treasurer ABRAHAM TUVIM, Business Manager

MAX D. DANISH, Managing Editor

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Health Education — Union Health Center —

VI.

THE UNION DRUG STORE

We have not doubt that the vast majority of our membership will be agreeably surprised by the announcement that the Board of Directors of the Union Health Center have decided to establish a Drug Department as a new feature of the Union Health Center.

This decision came as a result of the difficulty encountered by the great majority of the workers to afford proper drugs. Thousands of workers who have been treated in the Union Health Center have been forced to submit to unscrupulous profiteering by druggists. They have been charged from 65 cents to \$1.00 for prescriptions and some have been charged as much as \$2.00. It has made no difference whether the prescription was simple or complex. Very often inferior ingredients have been put into the medicine desired, for the motive of the average druggist is profit and not service.

As with all other necessities of life, the middleman who deals in drugs makes a large profit, the manufacturer gets his share and the retail dispenser makes sure that his profit is added to the price he pays. In addition to that a worker entering a drug store for a prescription or medicine pays for high rent, nice fixtures and various other embellishments of a drug store.

In our instance our Drug Store will have very little expense for rent, fixtures and over head charges. It will be established in the Union Health Center and the proportion of charges will be small. Through proper buying and by means of cooperation of the various departments prices charged will be but a small percentage of the usual charge at a drug store. Because we can replace profit motives by that of service our charges for prescriptions will be at the rate of TWENTY-FIVE and THIRTY-FIVE CENTS for prepared prescriptions, the latter sum to be charged for the more expensive drugs. The UNION HEALTH CENTER'S DRUG ESTABLISHMENT HAS NOW A FULL LINE OF DRUGS AND IS READY TO FILL ALL PRESCRIPTIONS AT THE RATES STATED ABOVE. It is not our intention to limit the fillings of prescriptions to those of our own doctors, we will be ready, at all times, to fill the prescriptions given to our members by any other physician.

The Drug Department will also sell drugs, rubber and other goods ordered by doctors, or which form household necessities. These will be sold from 25 per cent to 50 per cent below the price at the other drug stores.

THE USE OF THE UNION HEALTH CENTER DRUG STORE IS LIMITED STRICTLY TO MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION.

The Drug Store will be in charge of a registered, competent druggist.

The Drug Store will be open from 10 A. M. to 7 P. M. every day except Sunday; on Fridays and Saturdays from 10 A. M. to 5 P. M.

UNION HEALTH CENTER

HARRY WANDER,

Chairman.

Dr. GEORGE M. PRICE,

Medical Director.

134 EAST 17th STREET
New York City

The Next Step for New York

By J. CHARLES LAUE

New York Assembly Bill No. 18, Introductory No. 18, promises one of the greatest advances in wage legislation for the state of New York, if passed and enacted into law. It will establish the foundation for minimum wage legislation based upon the cost of living for the poorest of workers, the unfortunate women and children in unorganized industries that are without the protection of labor unions.

The forces are already lining up, the liberal and trade union groups behind Governor Alfred E. Smith, who has recommended minimum wage legislation in his message and the inevitable employers' lobby that is prepared to fight to the last ditch to retain its sacred profits. Since 1913, following the excitement and public indignation aroused by the investigation of the State Factory Investigating Commission out of which arose the present admirable but ineffectual labor laws of the state, agitation for a minimum wage law has been growing. State after state, particularly the progressive western section of the country, obtained the reform with the aid of the women voters while the greatest of industrial states, New York, lagged.

Within the last three years politics have become clearer to the influence of women. The church organizations, the consumers' leagues, the housewives' organizations and the trade union women—by polling their political strength—have come to be an effective force for reform legislation. The legislature is harkening to the voice of the women, regardless of party politics, for these groups have been practicing for some time the idea of non-partisan activity for some great reform, that the labor movement has just recently been pledged to, in theory if not in practice.

The cause of this peculiarity of women voters to flock together even though their men folk may be as varied in political hue as Joseph's coat, is the kindlier outlook that they have on life. "Competition, the life of trade," "quantity production," "labor cost," are meaningless phrases to them. But when the club women, the professional classes, like the teachers and the nurses, and the veteran women trade union organizers, get together in their joint discussions on what is needed next in the matter of reform, they are usually agreed and it is frequently the case that the wealthy women will take the lead in the struggle to obtain such innovations as the joint council decides upon.

Armed with the undisputed facts that even in the high wage year of 1919 the average wages of women in some industries were as low as \$8 and \$9 in the state of New York, the women voters, regardless of class, will do only one thing and that is demand a change that will at least insure to women, who are compelled to toil for a living and the children who must work when they should be in school, enough wages to live on.

That is what is eventually the object of the proposed Minimum Wage Board Bill which is now before the legislature.

Briefly enumerated, this is what the Hamill bill provides:

1. Permanent State Minimum Wage Board of three appointed by the Governor to represent the employers, employees and the public.

2. Wage conferences to be formed in trades by the Governor's wage board where it is evident that women employees are not paid enough to live on.

3. Careful investigation of min-

imum standards of living in different localities in the state.

4. Recommendations by the wage conferences as to the minimum living wage sufficient to maintain the health of women workers and for suitable minimum rates for learners and minors.

5. Decrees by the State Minimum Wage Board of legal minimum wage rates for women, with power to change rates when the cost of living rises or declines, and to modify the rules for legal and inferior workers as they may work for less than the minimum.

If the law is enacted then it will become the duty of the Minimum Wage Board to establish the lowest weekly wage that it is legal to pay a woman. Women's wages in New York State are quite generally inadequate to support them in health and comfort. The organized trades have been able frequently to demonstrate this in wage negotiations. How low the wages are in some unorganized industries is evident, however, from the fact that in 1919, a high wage year, the average wages for women in some industries stood above were as low as \$8 and \$9 a week. This means that a large proportion of the women in these industries were receiving even less.

On the other hand twelve states including Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Kansas, Massachusetts, Minnesota, North Dakota, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wisconsin and the District of Columbia have minimum wage laws for women.

These states have fixed minima as high as \$14.50 and \$16.00 a week, without any evil effects upon the industries involved and the cost of living in these districts will be found, in all probability to be lower rather than higher, than in the state of New York.

With the recent rise in the cost of living the gap between the high (really low) wage year of 1919 and the workers' necessities are constantly rising to that renewed and exhaustive investigations will have to be made by the state to determine the levels at which it is believed a woman worker can maintain life with decency if not exactly in comfort.

This proposed reform is of greatest interest to the organized clothing workers for it will reduce the tendency of manufacturers to close organized shops in the larger cities and evade union control by setting up the machines in towns and getting girls at \$10.00 and \$12.00 a week to learn operating and finishing the garments.

Generally organized labor will benefit, for anything that improves the circumstances of the most helpless will produce a freer and better type of worker and reduce the reservoir of impoverished toilers, from which the factories draw to replace those who are demanding wages equal to their skill and experience.

What the proposed minimum wage laws will accomplish is of common knowledge in the needle trades where basic scales of this kind have been part of union agreements for the last ten years. What is not generally appreciated is the enormous practical benefit the improvement of the lot of the unorganized women will have upon the union members who by their struggle and sacrifice have established the union as a bulwark against exploitation.

Among the women's organizations that are campaigning for the minimum wage law which this year it is expected will be crowned with suc-

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Letters from Poland

By DAVID MAYER
(Special Warsaw Correspondence to JUSTICE)

It has been quite clear to every organized worker in Poland that the trade interests of Jewish and Polish tailors, whether they be leather, metal or needle workers are one and the same, and that they therefore should belong to one and the same organization for the defense of their economic interests. Poland, nevertheless, the only country where separate Jewish trade unions have been formed, to function side by side with the general trade unions of the country.

The blame for the existence of this abnormal dual unionism could not, however, be placed upon the Jewish workers. When it first became possible, in 1916, for the Polish workers to organize into trade unions, the Jewish laborers of Poland seem to have been knocking at the doors of their Polish brethren asking to conduct the organizing work jointly with them. The Jewish workers stipulated only that in these joint trade unions they should not be forced to play a passive role and be permitted to take an active part in the work of the unions. They only wanted to be secured that in the labor movement they will be regarded as on a level of equality with others, will speak in their language without restraint, and will have free play to conduct cultural activities and have access to jobs and all other trade privileges on the same footing with others.

These demands were square, modest and logical, and such as upright labor leaders and union workers could be expected to ask for. They were the irrefutable minimum conditions for mutual activity on the basis of democracy. In Poland these demands, however, have had hard and long sledging, and it took five years before they have gained even partial realization, enabling the Jewish workers in Poland to liquidate their separate organizations. We have already written, in the columns of this journal about the unification of the Jewish and Polish trade unions. We shall now give in brief, the contents of the agreement reached between these central trade unions and signed by them over a year ago.

According to this treaty, the existing Jewish trade unions and their branches retain their present organization form and become branches of their respective general industrial organizations. The administration of the Jewish branches is autonomous, and these branches have the right to use the Jewish language in their various forms of work, though their bookkeeping, as well as their correspondence with the central administration, is to be conducted in the Polish language. Printed matter, such as reports, pamphlets, agitation circulars, etc., intended for Jewish workers, can be issued also in Jewish. Each member has the right to communicate with the central administration.

THE NEXT STEP

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are the following "key" organizations:

Consumers League, Women's Trade Union League, Women's City Club, New York League for Women Voters, New York Child Labor Committee, American Association for Labor Legislation, Girls' Friendly Society, New York League of Girls' Clubs, New York Section of the Council of Jewish Women, Women's Christian Temperance Union, the Young Women's Hebrew Association, St. Catherine's Welfare Association and the Vocational Service for Juniors.

trative agencies of the union in the language he knows best. The Jewish workers have a representation on all central and district trade union administrative boards and, in accordance with the terms of a special understanding, a special office for cultural and educational interests of the Jewish worker is formed at the main office of the Central Commission.

Such, in brief, are the terms of this agreement. The Jewish workers have given up the demand for equality of the Jewish and Polish language in the general institutions of the trade unions but have obtained instead the possibility for conducting independently within the ramifications of the by-laws of the union, their cultural and economic work, and are now receiving the moral and material support of the entire labor movement. The Jewish workers obtained certain guarantees that they will have the opportunity to freely conduct their cultural and educational work. This agreement, which is only general in its character, was to serve as a basis for negotiations between the various individual Jewish and Polish trade unions and on the basis of this agreement, the textile, needle, butcher, baker, food, and barber trades' unions have already become united. Negotiations are in progress also between the wood workers, printers, paper workers, and others. Jewish workers' negotiations are conducted everywhere with the aid of the Jewish and Polish central bodies.

The individual Polish unions have displayed during these negotiations, a strong tendency to ham-string the few rights which this general treaty grants the Jewish workers. The Central Commission has been frequently called up to exert its entire influence upon the individual unions affiliated to it, to act within the letter and spirit of this treaty adopted last May at the National Congress. It may also be stated that the Central Commission itself has not always risen to the proper height in enforcing, in individual cases, the terms of its own treaty with the Jewish trade unions and has occasionally allowed itself to be swayed by the anti-Semitic sentiments prevailing among the members of the Polish trade unions and their local leaders. Such was the case, for instance, in the textile industry where the union refused to give out to the Jewish members printed union books with Jewish translations, on the ground that the books would raise discontent among the nationally and anti-Semitic inclined Polish workers. The Central Commission agreed to the point of view of the administration of the General Textile Workers' Union, even though this interpretation was clearly against the agreement.

The Polish Metal Workers' Union refuses to recognize the right of the Jewish branches to conduct its correspondence with the Jewish employers in the Yiddish language. This is one, and perhaps the principal reason, why the Jewish and Polish metal workers' unions have as yet not become united. The Central Commission has in this case also sided with the Polish metal workers. Nevertheless, despite all these difficulties, the work of unity continues towards final achievement. The Jewish workers are ready for a number of concessions to bring this question to a close. It is to be hoped that very soon all these parallel Jewish and Polish unions will become united and the separation of the Jewish trade unions in Poland will be a matter of history.

On November 24, 1922, the Central

THE FASCISTI AND CO-OPERATION

The Fascisti, the black-shirted Ku Klux Klan of Italy, in their vicious fight against all progressive social movements, have been seriously injuring the Italian Co-operative Movement. Through the rule of the bomb and the stiletto, the Fascisti have not only captured the Government, but they have confiscated the property of hundreds of co-operatives, and have seriously interfered with the operation of hundreds of other societies.

The chief Italian representative on the Central Committee of the International Co-operative Alliance, A. Vergamini, reports that: "The persistent attacks, encroachments, acts of violence, massacre of hundreds of our best men, burning of property, devastation of villages which have been experienced in nearly all our provinces, and the large number of wounded and refugees, have brought about an indescribably grave and threatening situation. Co-operative Societies which have been violently suppressed can be counted by the hundreds, whilst hundreds more have been paralyzed owing to the fact that their managers are expressly forbidden to live in the same places in which the societies operate; again, hundreds of societies under the menace of destruction have been obliged to pass into the hands of the Fascisti."

Manufacturers, private retailers, and peasant proprietors contribute heavily to the funds of the Fascisti. Millions of lire are spent by the latter in their work of destruction and terrorism. Complaints to the Government against Fascisti atrocities receive no attention. The Royal Guards, the police, and the courts of justice are themselves accomplices of the Fascisti in their acts of violence. Co-operative stores have been burned to the ground, others have been compelled to close down, many have been compelled to turn over the premises paid for by thousands of consumers, to the black-shirted assassins, while the police looked on with approval.

And now the Government itself has fallen into the hands of the Fascisti, and their chief, Mussolini, blatantly serves notice upon Parliament, elected by the votes of the people, that he will only permit them to do so long as they will consent to act as a rubber stamp, formally approving of the measures proposed by the Fascisti!

The Co-operative League, in common with national co-operative bodies all over the world, has addressed to the Government of Italy, its protest against the outrages of the Fascisti against the Co-operative Movement.

Commission has laid down the scope of activity of the office for cultural and educational work among the organized Jewish workers. The purpose of this office is to meet the cultural demands of the Jewish workers, to conduct organization activity among them, etc. The expenses of this agency, inasmuch as they are outside of the regular budget, may be raised by it, in accordance with the decision adopted at a recent congress, by the levying of a special assessment on the Jewish members. This central agency for cultural work has also a right to organize branches and to attach them to the city and district central bodies. Naturally the activities of these local cultural agencies are subject to the direct supervision of the central body. The members of this central committee for cultural work are elected at a congress of these local cultural agencies and are confirmed by the Central Commission. The local officials are

CO-OPERATIVE LOYALTY BEATS MILK TRUST

The fascinating story of how the Franklin Cooperative Creamery, organized by the consumers of Minneapolis, came to grips with the milk trust in a price-cutting war, and finally beat the trust, is told by The Cooperative League. This creamery, owned by 5,000 consumers, and democratically controlled by them, has been making great inroads on the milk business of Minneapolis. Prices were cut down almost to cost, and the surplus earnings were distributed back among the consumers by the co-operative. This led to four of the largest private milk companies of the city combining into the Northland Company, to present a united front to the powerful consumers' dairy.

On December 1st, the farmers advanced the price of milk one cent a quart, and the Franklin Cooperative, which bases its prices on the cost of milk and production, had to advance its price accordingly. But the recently organized milk trust of Minneapolis waited until the very day when the Franklin Cooperative informed its customers that the price would be advanced in accordance with the increased cost of milk, and then published in all the newspapers of the city a statement that their recent consolidation would enable them to sell milk at the old price. This was equivalent to a declaration of a price-cutting war on the consumers' dairy, and it was met with an emergency measure.

Immediately the employees of the Franklin Cooperative met and voluntarily decided to work for nothing until the price was won. The cooperative then decided to cut the price of milk one cent below the price of the milk combine. Within three days, the new plan of the Franklin Cooperative Creamery was swamped with so much new business as to orders. Almost by that time the milk trust had sent emissaries around to make it impossible to take care of all plead with the Franklin Cooperative to let up on them. The price war was called off, with the Franklin Cooperative far ahead with more business than they ever had before, with public opinion on their side, and with their employees lined up solidly with them, so as to be willing to forego their wages for an indefinite period in order to beat the milk trust.

The dairy workers employed by the Franklin Cooperative Creamery thus demonstrated that they had not forgotten their experience at the hands of private employers. For it was a general lockout of the milk workers in Minneapolis and St. Paul in 1919 that led these workers to form the

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to be elected at the conference of the Jewish branches of each city and district.

The scope of activity of the Central Jewish Cultural Office, as outlined above, makes the new position of the Jewish workers in the general labor family of Poland much stronger. It is a new point of departure in the entire Polish trade union movement. The Central Office of the Jewish trade union movement has ceased to exist as a separate or independent trade organization. The Jewish labor movement has merged with the stream of the general trade union movement in the country but the Jewish workers still retain the right to conduct cultural, social and educational work of their own.

The Central Commission also decided to issue very shortly a Jewish trade union publication of its own and a number of steps have already been adopted to carry this plan out.

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S. YANCSKY, Editor

A. BAROFF, Secretary-Treasurer ABRAHAM TUVIM, Business Manager
MAX D. DANISH, Managing Editor

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EDITORIALS

OUR SPECIAL CONVENTION

It has probably never occurred to any of the delegates at the last Cleveland Convention that only nine months after it they would be summoned to a Special Convention for the sole purpose of electing a new president for our International Union. It is, nevertheless, a fact—and for those who grasp the situation fully—a logical and inevitable fact. Confronted with the resignation of Brother Schlesinger, the General Executive Board, having accepted it with reluctance, could do nothing else but summon a Special Convention for the election of his successor—in order to give the incoming chief executive of our Union the full prestige and authority of a president elected by a convention and to assure for him the undivided cooperation of the members of the Board, his "cabinet."

We are convinced that the delegates that will come to Baltimore to the Special Convention understand full well that a president of our International Union cannot be a mere figurehead, a symbol, as it were. The executive leader of our organization must be a person of unquestioned ability, one who has, through many years of service for the Union, demonstrated his loyalty to the cause of our workers, and one who can lead our masses and influence them in a big way. We must have a level-headed executive, one who is conscious of the general aims of the labor movement and of the best road to achieve them; he must know what can be gained immediately and what can be best postponed for a later day—if the present hour is not quite appropriate for it. We must also have a president who is ready and able to work and work hard—for the presidency in our organization is by far not a sinecure. We must have, in short, a person strong in mind and body—one that could honorably and usefully discharge the big duties of the office bestowed upon him.

We may have somewhat overdrawn the stature of the president of our Union and have, perhaps, lifted it to heights as yet unattainable. This ideal should, nevertheless, be the goal of every delegate that will attend our Special Convention next week. Let us strive—if we cannot attain the ideal—to approach it as nearly as possible, and not rest contented with the mediocre if the very best is unattainable. The circumstances make it absolutely imperative that the Special Convention choose the very best from among those who have ambitions for this post.

The ambition to become the president of the International is, naturally, a very laudable and justifiable one. Every worker in our ranks should have such an ambition—and, far be it from us to utter a single word against any one imbued with such an ambition. But as the convention cannot obviously elect as president more than one person, it should concentrate all its intelligence and effort to gratify the ambition of the most deserving, the ablest and the most trusted of the candidates.

With this purpose firmly set in their minds, the delegates will have no difficulty in freeing themselves from petty politics, considerations of local patriotism, and regard for this or that pet policy or reform of their own in electing a president. The president of our Union should not be measured by the gauge of petty politics or local pet theories which still have to prove their worth or worthlessness to our movement. The advocacy of such theories might, perhaps, be entitled to serve as the basis for the election of an officer in a local—where experimenting with theories may at times be made after proper care and foresight is exercised. But when the election of a president for the entire International is involved such motives are surely out of place.

We expect our president, nevertheless, to sympathize with and understand every honest and well-meaning current of thought in the labor movement. He should be tolerant of the opinions of others, even if they run counter to his own. He may, and very likely will, be opposed on matters of principle by many—but he must act in a manner that even his opponents should respect him.

Let us hope that, guided by these thoughts, our special convention will elect next week in Baltimore a leader that will be admitted by all to be the very best and the most desirable person within our ranks.

OUR FIGHTING LINE SPREADS—THE DRESS STRIKE

Our readers could not have failed to notice last week the lively news that has poured in from every center of our International telling of a strike of cloakmakers in Philadelphia, of a strike in Montreal, of a brisk organization campaign in Boston, a mighty revival in the dress and waist industry in Philadelphia, of the final moves preparatory to a general strike in the dress shops of New York, of a drive to organize thousands of unorganized women workers in the dress and skirt shops of Chicago, etc., etc.

In a word—our International is as active as a beehive, and our

workers in the various trades are making a strong effort to improve work conditions and living standards. The call has gone forth to demand, and if necessary to fight for, a higher wage, the final abolition of the remnants of sweating wherever found, and a greater share of "a place in the sun" for our toilers.

These strikes and struggles are but the logical expression of a determined will to live and not to go under in the fight for an existence on the part of our workers. The members of our International are too well schooled to believe in strikes for the sake of strikes. To them the strike is but a means—and the very last means at that, and they resort to it only after all the other means have failed. The Union of the 30,000 dressmakers of New York is not eager for a strike. The best evidence for it is the long string of conferences that have been going on between the Union and the manufacturers for weeks in a sincere effort to avert a strike. The final obstinate word that has come from the manufacturers, however, dispels the hope for peace and by the time these lines reach our readers the dressmakers of New York will be out on strike.

The dress manufacturers of New York are, indeed, an odd and queer lot. A few weeks ago, as our readers will recall, their representatives came to the meeting of our General Executive Board in Montreal and asked the Board that the Union start negotiating on the various demands and changes presented to them, before the Union will decide on the walkout. The General Executive conceded this request. Immediately thereupon, so it seems now, these employers must have conceived an impression that the Union and the workers cannot and would not strike. In accordance with this strangely arrived at conviction, they began to reject one after another all the demands of the workers. In a brief space of time they have performed a somersault as startling as ever witnessed in negotiations between employers and workers. And today they stand adamant, with their eyes and ears shut to every demand of the Union.

Well, the dress manufacturers must see now how wrong their calculations were. The strike, the enthusiastic fight of the dressmakers is now on in full swing. The employers must have come to realize by now how headily in earnest the Union was with its demands and how earnestly it intends to fight for them and to win them. The Union did not put forth to the employers any unreasonable or exaggerated demands. The Union, for instance, demands that its business agents be admitted to the factories from time to time—a demand which the workers are compelled to make in view of the persistent and incessant violation of the shop standards by the manufacturers and contractors and their artful dodging of responsibility for these transgressions. The Union has asked for a 40-hour week. This has become a vital necessity for the workers in the trade—in view of the thousands of unemployed workers in the dress shops and the possibility that this reform would give them to obtain work. Surely the employers cannot say that the work in the industry cannot be done in a 40-hour week, if so many dressmakers are compelled to go idle. The industry is certainly great and wealthy enough to provide those who toil in it with a chance to make a living.

It is claimed by some that the introduction of a 40-hour week might cause some slight increase in the retail price of dresses. We are not prepared to say how much this claim is legitimate, but we know, on the other hand, that the 40-hour week will give more work to the thousands who have been idle in the trade. And on the basis of sheer humanity we raise our voice for the introduction of such an arrangement in the industry that it makes it possible for every man and woman therein to earn bread and butter for themselves and their dependents.

THE STRIKE OF THE CHILDREN'S DRESSMAKERS

Three days before this issue of our journal will be in the hands of our readers, the children's dressmakers and the bathrobe makers of New York will be on strike.

The responsibility for this struggle can also in no way be laid upon the Union. The manufacturers in these trades have received a number of warnings and the Union has done its utmost to introduce Union conditions in their shops in a peaceful way. In the last few years, the employers in these trades have thought that they could defy the Union and drive their workers to death. The result is that in these shops the workers are the poorest paid and the worst treated in all our trades in New York. Today, the desperation of the workers has reached its final stage, and they have struck.

Their employers have obviously reckoned that Locals 50 and 41 are too weak, too small to measure strength with them. They have, however, left out a thing or two of their calculations. First, that desperation will frequently make heroes of the weakest and ostensibly helpless combatants; and, secondly, that these locals are part and parcel of our International Union, of the Cloakmakers' Joint Board, of the Cutters' Union and of all our other locals. We will not leave the children's dressmakers to their own fate in this bitter fight against inhuman exploitation. The children's dressmakers and bathrobe makers who have now left their shops will not return until Union conditions have been irrevocably established in these shops.

THE STRIKE OF THE PHILADELPHIA CLOAKMAKERS

It will not be an exaggeration to say that in Philadelphia, more than in any other city, the petty sweat shop with all the ills that go with it, has had the greatest growth and flourished to an extent that the Union has all but lost control over the work conditions in the trade. If we add to this the fact that the Philadelphia Cloakmakers' Union has of late had to contend a great deal against inner factional squabbling and wrangling that took away

The Appeal of German Labor

(Special Washington Correspondence to "Justice")

By B. MAIMAN

Last Friday, the attitude of President Harding on the question of America's intervening in European affairs, was made clear again. This time it came about upon the occasion of an appeal that came from organized labor. The impression was as if the American government was speaking to the labor unions of the entire world,—as if the President of the wealthiest country on the face of the earth was defending it before organized labor why it would not come to their assistance.

The conference between the President and the newspaper men took place last Friday at the White House right after the appeal forwarded by the German Labor Federations to the American Congress became known. True, Congress has not yet officially recognized this appeal,—but it has already become a matter of general knowledge that such an appeal had been received. Moreover, the leaders in Congress obviously began to realize that a certain amount of attention will have to be given to this document.

In accordance with rules, the State Department could not formally receive such an appeal unless it came from the German Ambassador. And Congress, it was stated, would not pay any attention to it unless it came from the State Department. Yet, out of the labyrinth of technicalities, this appeal might emerge into light in a different way. Both the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate know quite well that every Congressman or Senator can introduce a resolution calling upon Congress to take up the appeal of the German workers as reported in the press. Congress will then be compelled to take up this question,—and because of that they have already begun to consider earnestly what to do with this appeal.

In addition to the request of the German labor unions there came the demand by Samuel Gompers that the American government intervene between France and Germany and not permit the former to continue invading the Ruhr. Personally, I am not quite satisfied with President Gompers' appeal. It's too mild, too conciliatory towards France. He bases his entire appeal upon the ground that this country is obligated to see that the Versailles Treaty is properly carried out. Says he:

"Though the Senate of the United States has refused to ratify the Versailles Treaty and therefore this United States is not legally bound by its terms, we cannot escape the moral responsibility which devolves upon us of recognizing that it was that treaty which ended the war and that the armistice was merely a stoppage of actual military conflict. In formulating the conditions of the Armistice

the United States was a party. Do what we may regarding our refusal to ratify that treaty, a moral obligation in all honor requires that our country shall do its share in bringing about an arrangement between France and Germany so that an honorable settlement of the awful situation arising out of the dispute between these two countries may be accomplished.

"The heart of the people of France throbs with generosity and is opposed to the imposition of compulsory work upon the people, or any portion of the people of Germany.

"The German people must understand that they cannot entirely escape from some reasonable payment for the ravages and devastation which the Kaiser in their name so ruthlessly carried on."

Gompers says again: "I repeat and emphasize the statement I recently made in commenting upon the Ruhr situation, that our country ratified the Treaty, or if we and Great Britain had guaranteed to France the protection which she so naturally and logically needs, that is against future aggressions of Germany, no such situation as that which now exists in the Ruhr would have arisen."

It can be seen from this that Samuel Gompers is not talking as the leader of American labor should speak. In this statement of the President of the American Federation of Labor too much of Wilsonian "democracy," too much of the pro-League, too much of the strict enforcement of the Versailles Treaty. This savor of Wilsonism will doubtless weaken appreciably the appeal of Gompers and lessen its chances of influence upon the Harding administration. It could not, however, be ignored entirely and the President had to say something about it.

What is the President's attitude in this matter? Once again, last Friday it was reiterated in the White House that the American government does not deem it advisable to intervene at present in European affairs—not because it is not necessary to do so; but because it is not expedient. Once again President Harding's opinion was brought out, which is the opinion of the majority of the present leaders of the government, that America ought not to offer its services as peacemaker until France invites it to do so. The Administration is afraid lest its proffer of services at the present time might prove premature and abortive.

Gompers, on the other hand, demands that the American government place its services before both countries, France and Germany, regardless whether each or both of them want it or not. In this respect Gompers has on his side every right-thinking man and woman in America. With

this opinion agree also many of the better type of Representatives and Senators. A number of the progressive members of both houses of Congress will support the demand of Gompers that America ask the governments of Germany and France to accept it as arbitrator whether they desire it or not. I know that a resolution will be introduced in both houses of Congress calling upon Congress to consider the appeal of the organized workers of Germany—regardless of whether this appeal reaches Congress in the regular form or otherwise. This will force Congress to take a stand in this matter and will open a chance for its discussion.

The Administration can be forced to change its attitude on the question of intervening in European affairs, but that can be done only if the American organized workers would demand it in unmistakable terms. This demand of American labor should have come in the same form as the appeal of the German workers, but in stronger terms, and without the

admixture of Wilsonian propaganda. The appeal should be based on the ground that America has appealed in 1917 to the German people that it was not declaring war against them but against the Kaiser; that it was not seeking to defeat the German people but German militarism and Prussianism. And as soon as the military clique of Germany has been destroyed the American people would stretch out to the German people a brotherly hand.

Is this the brotherly hand which we are stretching out to the German workers these days? To an impartial observer it would seem more like the hand which Cain had stretched out to Abel. The labor press of America should make it known in ringing terms that we will not bear the mark of Cain upon our forehead. The cry of woe of the German workers must not remain a cry in the wilderness. If the American workers had any spark of sincerity and earnestness in supporting the war on the ground of making the world "safe for democracy," they should, at least, be ready, with the same amount of earnestness, not to allow a big nation to become enslaved as the result of this war for democracy!

THE UNIONS GO TO SCHOOL

(Editorial in N. Y. Globe)

One of the most suggestive developments in the entire industrial field is to be found in the renewed interest in workers' education. Last week a series of meetings were held between representatives of the American Federation of Labor and the Workers' Education Bureau, at which a national programme of adult teaching was arranged. This is but the most recent episode in a highly interesting growth.

Education, it may be parenthetically observed, ought, of course, to stop only when life ends, and it ought not to be limited to any class, either in childhood or during maturity. It would be difficult to say what group stood most in need of the enlightenment which comes from the disciplined pursuit of knowledge. Properly adapted schools have as much to offer employers as employees. So far, however, only workers have availed any interest in bettering their minds by adult education, and they are moved, doubtless, as much by economic necessity as by the love of learning.

Although the quality of national life would be immensely improved if adult education were general, it is essential to the labor movement. The workers are coming more and more into responsibility. They cannot carry on unless they have more competent leaders and an intelligent public opinion. The American Federation of Labor recognized this last June when it approved the workers' educational movement and authorized the designation of officers of the federation to work with the educational bureau.

The movement as at present developed has been concentrated on the establishment of trade union colleges and workers' study classes. Already some twenty thousand workers have been enrolled, and teachers from high schools and colleges have been enlisted. History, economics, government labor law, and public speaking appear to be among the most popular subjects.

It is difficult to overestimate the importance of this work for the country as well as for the trade unions. Education is certainly still the key to democracy, whether in industry or politics. If the labor unions continue to exhibit their present interest in workers' classes and colleges they will produce a generation of well-trained men and women who should play a great part in the history of the nation.

COOPERATORS BEAT MILK TRUST

(Continued from page 5)

cooperative dairy, which is controlled by the consumers, as a means for securing for themselves fair working conditions at the union scale, and for the consumer unsullied products. The consumers, too, are wholeheartedly supporting their own enterprise. It is just such faithful support of the workers and the consuming public that has enabled the people's own milk company to grow until it is now doing a business of \$1,500,000 annually, supplying 30,000 families. It is no wonder that cooperation is a thorn in the side of the milk trust of Minneapolis.

most of the valuable time and energy of the active workers—the picture of the local situation will be complete.

These deplorable occurrences have, nevertheless, had a sobering effect on the various elements within the Union. Now the local organization stands united as one person and is out in a winning fight against the "social" shop and its miseries. These shops must be eliminated root and branch, and the local jobbers must be brought to bear the responsibility for the conditions in the shops where they manufacture their garments.

We do not expect the Philadelphia cloak strike to last long. It will end in a speedy victory—but the durability of this victory will depend wholly upon the local cloakmakers. If they will remain as solidly united as they are in the present fight and will concern themselves in their organization with their own affairs exclusively—they will have won a permanent achievement. If, however, they should continue to practice their destructive antics as they have done in the past, we shall know that they have learned nothing from their bitter experience and they will have to bear the consequences thereof.

Yet, somehow we should like to hope that the cloakmakers of Philadelphia are not less capable of learning than the cloak-

makers of other cities, and that after this fight is over, they will begin, with zest and zeal, to put their organization on the high level of former years—so that no cloak employer or combination of employers will ever wish to measure strength with them again.

AN IMPORTANT BOOK FOR WORKERS

We have received a few days ago, from John P. Frey, editor of the "Moulders Journal," organ of the International Moulders' Union, a copy of his book, "The Labor Injunction."

This book, as its name indicates, treats with exceptional thoroughness this very burning problem of the labor movement,—the injunction. The book abounds in theoretical exposition, but it is written in a clear and lucid language and cannot fail to be a source of genuine mental enjoyment for thinking workers.

We recommend this book to all our readers. Very soon we expect to review this book in detail in this journal. In the meantime we would ask our readers to take our word for it. We are confident that they will not be disappointed after they had purchased and read it carefully.

Do Unions Care About Production?

By O. S. BEYER, Jr.

A scientific appraisal of the effect of trade unions and collective bargaining on production and labor costs in industry still remains to be made. The belief on the part of some employers that it is good economy to recognize organized labor and enter into contractual relationship with it has played no small part in industry. However, this conviction has not usually resulted from a careful engineering or accounting survey of any given situation, taking into consideration all the pro and contra elements of costs. Unless recognition has more often followed an effective demonstration which established the indispensability of the union as one of the elements in the conduct of the industry concerned. As long as the employer persisted in not dealing with the union, unions refused to work for him, costs of production rose to prohibitive levels, or his factory functioned only with great difficulty or not at all, so that his competitors deprived him of his market. A practical test proved to the employer that it was cheaper and safer for him to do business with the union than to ignore it.

Quite frequently the public through special, state or federal agencies has taken part in the adjustment of difficulties between unions and employers which resulted eventually in union recognition and collective bargaining. The public or society at large could no longer dodge its responsibility in such situations nor continue to ignore its interests. In some form or another it was forced to intervene. Of such instances, for example, are the adjustments of the anthracite difficulties in 1902, by President Roosevelt, the promulgation of General Order No. 8 by former Director-General McAdoo of the United States Railroad Administration removing discriminations against organized labor on the railroads under federal control, and more recently the efforts of certain public-spirited individuals to settle the New England textile strike.

It is one thing, however, to effect the settlement of labor difficulties partly because their continuance is costly, but quite another to capitalize an adjusted labor situation in the direction of better production, reduced labor costs and the elimination of waste. The first situation has dramatic features which commend it to those who would bring about adjustments under such conditions. The second situation is more prosaic and really demands a form of enlightenment and conviction to say nothing perhaps of faith, which is none too prevalent at this stage of the relationship between employer and employee. The employer who may be willing on the ground of expediency to accord recognition to a union in respect to the adjustment of wages and working conditions is loath to accept suggestions from this same source as to how he may effect savings in the conduct of his factory. And he is much less prepared to have the union join with him and his management through representatives of its own choosing in systematic attempts to improve operation and reduce costs. Contentedly or unconsciously he resents the union's concern in these matters. He considers that interests of this nature belong only to the domain of management, that union activities in this direction constitute a reflection on management and might even result in minimizing the effectiveness of management as now constituted.

In plants and industries where labor unions have been successful in winning recognition, the basic exists for utilizing the services of these un-

ions in the direction of greater operating efficiency. When such recognition is gained in an industry whose profits are regulated, as, for instance, in railroad transportation, the opportunity for such services is greatly increased, for the surplus which such an industry creates is not kept secret and so is apt to be more equitably divided between the people of the country as a whole and the wage earners. When this recognition is secured in plants or industries which do not function for profit at all, as for instance in our government arsenals and navy yards or in the postal service, the possibility for union assistance looking towards reduction of costs becomes a maximum. In the last case there is no necessity for maintaining a margin of profit out of which to pay dividends to compensate the problem of wages. Compensation to workers is then purely for service rendered.

Practical experience in America seems to confirm the relationship pointed out above. We find that the most significant example of labor union activity in behalf of waste elimination and cost reduction is in the federal navy yards. Similar phenomena have been noted in the government arsenals, notably Rock Island. Recently the United States Post Office Department, owing to an enlightened policy of former Postmaster-General Hays in contradistinction to the policy of his predecessor, Burleson, has likewise demonstrated that personal efficiency can be greatly increased by clean-cut union recognition and systematic cooperation with organizations of the employees. On the railroads something has been accomplished in this direction with the transportation brotherhoods, notably the firemen and engineers, for they have developed a relatively high sense of responsibility, especially as far as locomotive fuel economy is concerned. In addition both the brotherhoods and the shop crafts have at various times in recent years made definite proposals to railroad management suggesting methods of cooperation in the interest of greater safety, lower operating costs and better service. In private industry only one striking instance of attempts to improve performance has been noted and that is in the manufacture of men's clothing. Here we have a strong union alive to its responsibility towards industry and led by men who are able to translate this responsibility into practical action.

Underlying the philosophy of trade unionism is the conviction that industry no less than its workers benefits by the establishment and free functioning of labor organizations. This conviction has been expressed by various leaders. President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor puts it as follows:

"The trades-union movement of America understands fully the necessity for adequate production of the necessities of life. American labor understands, perhaps more fully than do American statesmen, the needs of the world in this hour, and it is exerting every effort to that end, not only with intelligence and promptness. The question of increased production is not a question of putting upon the tellers a very severe strain; it is a question of the elimination of outworn policies; a question of the introduction of the very best in machinery and methods of management."

How true the words of Mr. Gompers are concerning the comprehension of American statesmen with respect to labor's relation to production has been clearly demonstrated by the labor provisions of the Transportation Act and the activities of the Railroad Labor Board, which in the enforcement of these provisions. President John-

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LABOR THE WORLD OVER

DOMESTIC ITEMS

CITIZENS' ALLIANCE IN DYNAMITE PLOT.

County Attorney Olson publicly charges O. P. Briggs, president of the Citizens' Alliance, and Walter Gleason of the Gleason Detective Agency, with using a dope feed as a "stool pigeon" to fasten a dynamite charge on Dan Mahady, a former member of organized labor.

Mahady was expelled from the union because of financial irregularities. Later he was arrested for drunkenness, and while in jail became acquainted with Fred Myers, in jail on "dope" charges. When released Myers entertained Mahady freely and finally induced him to agree to blow up a safe at La Crosse, Wis. They stole dynamite that was used by builders for excavating. Then Gleason, the detective, caused the arrest of the two men.

WHY THE FARMERS SUFFER.

Seymour L. Cromwell, President of the New York Stock Exchange declared in an address before the Chicago Association of Commerce that low prices of farm products were due to the inability of Europe to buy and he advised investment bankers to cultivate the confidence of the farmers.

TO PROTECT THE WORKERS.

Proposed changes in the American Copyright Law which would permit the United States to join the International Copyright Union were agreed upon at a recent conference of the International Printing Trades Unions and the Authors' League of America. A bill containing the amendments desired will be introduced in Congress.

A KIND-HEARTED GOVERNOR.

Governor McRae of Arkansas who asked what he intended to do about the lynchings, beatings and mob rule in Harrison, Arkansas where strikers are being driven from their homes by a so-called citizens' committee said, "If the homes of strikers have been violated, I am sorry. If their women have been mistreated they have my sympathy, other than that I can do no more than I have done."

TRUTH ABOUT COAL SHORTAGE.

Royal R. Copeland, Senator-elect from New York, speaking before the New York State Bankers' Association, declared the shortage of coal was due to the cars standing on the tracks broken down and idle because the railroads refuse to settle with the striking shop crafts unions. Mr. Copeland declared that when this report was brought to him from investigators he had sent out he communicated the information to President Harding who stated that the cause of the present coal shortage was that the carriers had not kept their obligations.

TO DEFEND HAWAII AGAINST ALIEN RACES.

Immediate legislation for the national defense in the Hawaiian Islands and for the prevention of commercial and political domination of the territory by alien races, particularly the Japanese is recommended in a report submitted to Secretary of Labor Davis, by a committee he appointed in November to investigate conditions in the Islands.

B. & O. WORKERS DEMAND INCREASE.

The Federated Shop Crafts Committee of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad has demanded a conference with the management on a proposed increase in wages of 10 cents an hour with time and a half for Sundays and holidays for machinists, blacksmiths, boiler makers, sheet metal workers, electricians and car repairmen.

CHILDREN IN THE "LOWER DEPTHS."

Wholesale violation of the child labor laws, illiteracy of working children and maintenance of squalid and unsanitary conditions were charged against the coal mining industry in a statement broadcasted by the Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor. The report charges that in one anthracite town out of every thousand babies born 187 were dying in their first year.

A LEGAL INFORMATION BUREAU.

In a letter to officers of trade unions, President Gompers of the A. F. of L. announced the establishment of a legal information bureau to be directed by Vice-President Matthew Wall, under the supervision of the Executive Council. The Bureau will collect all laws and judicial decisions relating to the rights of labor and prepare briefs on the fundamental and more important issues, involving labor litigation.

A FUND TO PROSECUTE THE ARKANSAS "VIGILANTES."

A three million dollar fund to prosecute the "citizens committee" in Harrison, Arkansas, is planned by labor organizations. The fund will be used to secure arrest and conviction of those guilty of the lynching of E. C. Gregor and the flogging and deportation of scores of other striking railroad workers, according to the Federated Shop Crafts of Fort Smith, Arkansas where this gigantic plan was launched.

WHO PICKS THE JUDGES?

Supreme Court Justice Ford of New York declared in a recent speech that "the selection of Judges is in the hands of a few men and they are at the head of the Bar Association. Everyone of them is retained by the powerful corporations that are interested in a great bulk of the litigation that comes before the courts of New York City."

FOREIGN ITEMS

INDIA

NEW INDIAN HOME RULE PARTY.

A split among the members of the Indian National Congress has followed the resolution passed at Gaya recently against the participation of Nationalists in the Legislative Councils under the present Government of India. Mr. Das, Atherton President of the Congress, has retired to lead a new party, the "Congress Khilafat Swarajya Party," whose policy is to enter the Legislative Councils if possible, and obtain a Nationalist majority in order to paralyze the Councils. This, according to Mr. Das, will mean adherence to the policy of "non-violent non-co-operation" with the British Raj.

ENGLAND

GOVERNMENT HOUSING.

British private enterprise has failed to furnish an adequate number of small houses for the workers, according to a statement issued by the national housing and town planning council. Building costs so high that private enterprise could not be guaranteed adequate profits "in the form of rents within the capacity of prospective tenants to pay" is given as the cause for the breakdown of the building industry.

"Where no state housing schemes have been in operation," declares the council, "the housing problems of the people have been neglected. As far as the building of dwellings to be let at rents within the capacity of the average working class family is concerned, it would be futile to hope for any great resumption of activity by private enterprise."

CANADA

POLITICAL RIGHTS GAINED.

President Thornton of the Canadian National Railways has rescinded the order issued by former President Hanna prohibiting the employees from taking part in politics.

"Shortly after I came to Canada," explained President Thornton, "I found that the men were smarting under a sense of injustice with regard to the order which prevented them from taking advantage of their full rights of citizenship. I did not believe that the national railways could prosper under those conditions. These men pay their taxes, are good citizens of the country, and are entitled to the full rights of citizenship."

COMMUNITY EGGS.

The provincial department of agriculture and the Ontario Agricultural College have inaugurated a 500-acre community poultry farm near Toronto in the interest of greater egg production. The farm will be subdivided into 75 poultry plants, each owned independently, but operated on a semi-co-operative basis. The eggs will be graded in accordance with the government standard and sold under the community trade mark direct to consumers.

SWEDEN

SWEDISH EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE JOKER?

The report of the special committee appointed by the government to investigate unemployment insurance opposes collecting any portion of the insurance fund from either employers or local communities and recommends that the fund shall be contributed in equal amounts by the workers and the government.

Unemployment relief is limited to one-half the wage rate for seventy days in one year and will be paid on condition that the unemployment "is not attributable to the act or fault of the workman."

Careful students of labor legislation fear that under the administration of the proposed measure unemployed workers who refuse to become strike-breakers will be held to be unemployed because of their "act or fault."

MEXICO

MEXICO CITY STRIKE.

The striking mechanics of the Mexico City street railway system have won 111 out of 114 demands upon the company. The men and the company are deadlocked over the remaining three.

As a persuasive measure in the interest of the mechanics the motormen's and conductors' union, 3,000 strong, have also struck.

RUSSIA

RUSSIA AND THE RUHR.

A striking protest against the action of France in the Ruhr has been issued to the Peoples of the World by the Russian Government, in which they place the responsibility for this menace to "a cruel international butchery" not only upon Imperialist France, but also upon "the Governments of London, of Rome, of Brussels and of Tokio." Saying that the world is once again menaced by war, the manifesto concludes with the words—"Europe has been changed by the Treaty of Versailles into a powder magazine in which sparks are continually falling."

ENGLAND.

TRADES UNION ACTION.

All the Trade Union delegates to the meeting of the Committee of Action against War and Militarism in Amsterdam on January 16 promised their support of any action of the International Trades Union Federation in regard to the Ruhr occupation. On January 25th the Executive of the Vienna International of Socialist parties is meeting at Frankfurt, and on the following day, a joint meeting for further discussion of common action is being held by the Executives of the International Federation of Trades Unions, the Vienna International and the Second International. Mr. Charles Roden Buxton, M. P., has gone from England to attend these meetings as a representative of the British Independent Labor Party, and to carry a message of sympathy to those who are suffering in Germany from the occupation of the Ruhr. The Independent Labor Party sees in the European situation a possibility of reuniting the international movement on the Continent.

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COURSES BEGINNING
February 17th, 11 a. m. - SCOTT NEARING
"Applied Sociology"
February 24, 8:40 p. m. - HERMAN V. EPSTEIN
"Methods of Marxism"
February 10th, 3:30 p. m. - CARL VAN DOREN
"Walt Whitman"

Educational Comment and Notes

LECTURE AND CONCERT FOR OUR ITALIAN MEMBERS A SUCCESS

Last Sunday afternoon a number of our Italian members assembled in the auditorium of our building and listened to a beautifully performed musical program. Mme. Boni thrilled the audience with her beautiful voice, and deeply moved those present when she sang in Italian, Helen Kellar's, "The Song of the Dark." A real contribution to the success of the musical program was made by Maestro Cesare Sodero's excellent accompaniment.

The meeting was presided over by Brother Ronde. Miss Fannia M. Cohn spoke on the aims and object of our Educational Department. Arturo Giovannitti gave an excellent talk on "Culture and the Worker."

The audience was hot contended with the singing of the numbers and the program and persuaded Mme. Boni to give a few encores.

after the lecture. A family spirit prevailed throughout the meeting.

All those present participated in an interesting discussion of the educational activities initiated for our Italian members. They expressed their gratification over the fact that they too would benefit from the Educational activities carried by our International Union.

It was unanimously agreed that such lectures with musical programs should be given twice a month, on Sunday afternoons in the I. L. G. W. U. Building.

We hope that this start will bear fruit and that our Italian members will make a success of the educational activities, as decided upon at yesterday's meeting. Our Educational Department will spare no effort to make its contribution.

LECTURES ON HEALTH

We note with satisfaction the success of our lectures on Health, which are arranged by our Educational Department. These lectures are given at the business meetings of our local unions as well as at special meetings arranged for that purpose. The lecturers are experienced physicians assigned by the New York Tuberculosis Association. The talks are given in Yiddish, English and Russian. We expect soon to have them also in Italian.

Needless to say how important it is for our members to keep informed

on how to take care of their health. Especially is this important for our members, whose work is indoors and most of whom lived an out-door life before they came to this country.

All of us appreciate the importance of preventive measures, because it is so much easier to prevent a disease than to cure it, especially for workers.

We expect that more of our locals will co-operate with us in arranging such lectures.

H. ROGOFF IN OUR HARLEM EDUCATIONAL CENTER, FRIDAY EVENING, AND IN THE BRONX CLUBROOMS OF LOCAL NO. 1 ON SATURDAY

H. Rogoff will lecture this Friday evening in the Harlem Educational Center of the I. L. G. W. U., 62 East 106th Street. The subject of the lecture will be "The Duties and Rights of a Citizen in a Democracy."

On Saturday evening at 8 o'clock, Mr. Rogoff will speak in the Clubrooms of Local No. 1 on "Lincoln, the Thinker and Statesman."

On Sunday morning at 10:30 a. m. in Harlem, Mr. Levin will continue his course on the "Economic Structure of the Present System," and in the Bronx Clubrooms Mr. Lehrer will continue his talks on "Social Psychology."

The Saturday evening and Sunday morning lectures, which are arranged by the Educational Department in cooperation with the educational committees of the locals, will continue throughout the season. Admission is free to members of the International.

HALF PRICE TICKETS FOR R U R

By special arrangements with the Theatre Guild, the Educational Department obtained cards that will entitle our members to half price tickets for "R U R," which is being played now at the Princes Theatre. We advise those of our members who have not as yet seen this play, to take advantage of our arrangement.

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

This Saturday, February 10th, is the dance and get-together of the students of our Workers' University and Unity Centers and their friends in the beautiful auditorium of our building.

The committee in charge made all the arrangements for our members to spend a really pleasant evening. There will be social dancing and folk dances to the strain of beautiful music. Delicious Russian tea and refreshments will be served. The Reception Committee will be on the lookout above everything to bring together the members of our numerous locals and make it possible for them to spend a few hours in sociability and good fellowship.

For this entertainment, the Committee obtained the use of the auditorium free, but to cover some expenditures involved, an admission charge of 10 cents will be made.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, IN THE I. L. G. W. U. BUILDING

A Blanket Equality Bill and its Relation to Women in Industry. Speaker: Mrs. Clara Mortenson Beyer.

How the Woman's Party Proposes to Bring About Sex Equality. Speaker: Mrs. Betsy Graves Rayneau.

A symposium. Both speakers represent different points of view on this question. Now that there is a Blanket Equality Bill before the legislature of the State of New York, this subject should be of great interest to our members.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

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

Saturday, February 10th

- 1:20 p. m. Social Forces in Literature—Poetry and Life.
Dr. E. Lieberman—Poetry and Life.
2:30 p. m. Dr. Leo Wolman—Policy of American Trade Unions Towards Unemployment.

Sunday, February 11th

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

UNITY CENTERS

Tuesday, February 13th.

- Harlem Unity Center—P. S. 171
103rd Street, Near Fifth Avenue, Room 404.
8:45 p. m. Theresia Wolfson—The Aims and Objectives of Labor.
Waistmakers' Unity Center—P. S. 40
220 East 20th Street, Room 305.
8:00 p. m. Solon De Leon—Banking and Control of Industry.
Wednesday, February 14th
East Side Unity Center—P. S. 63
4th St. Near 1st Ave., Room 404
8:30 p. m. Theresia Wolfson—The American Federalism of Labor.
Bronx Unity Center—P. S. 61
Crotona Park East and Charlotte St., Room 501
8:45 p. m. A. L. Wilbert—The Trust As An Economic Institution.
Waistmakers' Unity Center—P. S. 40
320 East 20th Street
6:00 p. m. Loretta Ritter—Physical Training

Friday, February 16th

- P. S. 150—Christopher Ave. and Sacman St., Room 208.
8:00 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
Brooklyn Ave. and McKillop St., Brooklyn
Classes in Elementary, Intermediate and Advanced English—IN ALL CENTERS on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.
Admission to all of these courses free to members of the International.

EXTENSION DIVISION

Friday, February 9th

- Russian-Polish Branch, 315 East 10th St.
8:00 p. m. A. Bralowsky—Psychology of the Worker.
Harlem Educational Center of the I. L. G. W. U.
62 East 106th Street
8:00 p. m. H. Rogoff—The Duties and Rights of a Citizen in a Democracy.
Saturday, February 10th
Local No. 9—228 Second Avenue
1:00 p. m. Max Levin—The Aims and Problems of Contemporary Labor Movements.
Local No. 17—144 Second Avenue.
1:00 p. m. Vice-President I. Feinberg, Chairman of the Educational Committee—Are "Time-Agreements" Useful?
Local No. 1—Club Rooms, 1581 Washington Ave., Bronx.
8:00 p. m. H. Rogoff—Lincoln, the Thinker and Statesman.

Sunday, February 11th

- Local No. 1—Clubrooms, 1581 Washington Avenue, 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.
Thursday, February 15th
Local No. 8—85 East 4th Street (Casino Mansard).
9:00 p. m.—How the Worker Should Care for His Health at Home and in the Factory?
I. L. G. W. U. Building.

- 8:00 p. m.—A Blanket Equality Bill and its Relation to Women in Industry.
Speaker: Mrs. Clara Mortenson Beyer.
How the Woman's Party Proposes to Bring About Sex Equality.
Speaker: Mrs. Betsy Graves Rayneau.

Applied Economics

By SOLON DE LEON

(Description of Course given at Harlem Unity Center, P. S. 171, Season 1922-1923)

In order to advance their interests in industry, the workers should know how the present industrial system works. They should know what benefits it gives over earlier systems. They should also understand where the system is at fault and how it may be improved.

To this end the course on "Applied Economics" takes up first the production and distribution of wealth. The development of industry is traced, from the hunting and fishing stage to modern large-scale industry. How the various sections of the population share in the wealth produced is discussed. Existing inequalities in the distribution of wealth are traced to differences in economic power.

The nature of wages is next taken up, along with a study of the causes which send wages up or down. Wages are considered carefully in relation to cost of living, so that the workers' actual condition can be seen.

How the banks are conducted, and their influence on industry through the control of credit, are brought out. Another question of importance to workers is that of waste in industry, through poor methods, production of worthless goods, and other causes. Industrial crises are described and analyzed. The various causes of crises, their international spread, and their effects on the workers, are linked up with the actual experience of the students.

Throughout the course, the latest government and private researches are used, and the students are referred to brief selections in easily available books for their own reading.

With the Waist and Dress Joint Board

By M. K. MACKOFF, Secretary
(Minutes of Meeting January 24, 1923)

Brother Berlin in the Chair.

A special joint meeting of all the Executive Boards constituting the Joint Board of the Dress and Waist-makers' Union, was held on Friday, January 26, 1923, at 221 East 14th Street, Brother Berlin presiding.

The following order of business was adopted:

1. Report of Conference Committee.
2. Appointment of General Strike Committee.

Upon opening the meeting, Brother Hochman submitted a detailed report of the conferences held between the Union and the Jobbers' Association and the Contractors' Association.

Brother Hochman gave the substance of that report as submitted at the last Joint Board meeting on January 24th.

The members present listened attentively to everything reported of the conferences held and the stand taken by the representatives of the Union.

Brother Hochman also reported about the temporary injunction obtained by the firm of Baum & Wolfe and which was contested by our Union through our attorney, Morris Hillquit. This case came up for trial on January 23, 1923, after almost two years had elapsed with the result that the court denied Baum & Wolfe a permanent injunction and according to the court procedure the Union is in a position to sue Baum & Wolfe for damages incurred.

The report of Brother Hochman was concurred in.

The question of the appointment of the General Strike Committee was then taken up and after a lengthy discussion it was decided to create a General Strike Committee whose functions should be as follows:

1. A Hall Committee whose duty shall be to engage as many halls as necessary to accommodate the strikers and assign from its number a chairman and assistants to take care of the strikers in the respective halls.

2. An Organization Committee should be created to organize the various units in the respective halls and to issue working cards before the workers are sent back to work, it being understood that no settlement will be made with independent shops before the Organization Committee faces the shop in question.

3. A Picket Committee whose duty it should be to assign all the necessary picket committees to picket the shops on strike.

4. An Out-of-Town Committee which in conjunction with the Organization Department of the International should try to organize all the out-of-town shops in connection with the New York shops.

5. An Entertainment Committee which should secure taking in order to entertain the strikers.

6. A Finance Committee whose duty should be to approve all expenditures incurred in connection with the General Strike.

7. An Information Bureau where all available information in connection with the strike should be secured with the least possible delay.

8. A Court and Law Committee whose duty should be to take care of all arrests of members.

9. A Relief Committee whose duty should be to act upon all applications of members for relief.

10. A Settlement Committee to have charge of all settlements made and agreements signed between the Union and the employers.

11. A Speakers' Committee whose

duty shall be to secure the necessary speakers to address the strikers.

12. An Emergency Committee to take care of all complaints lodged during the strike and to see to it that all complaints which come in during the strike are taken care of properly.

13. An Executive Committee of the General Strike to consist of the chairmen of the respective committees.

As to the outlying districts, the committee recommends that committees should be appointed for the Brownsville, Brooklyn, Harlem and Bronx district who should work in conjunction with and under the supervision of the respective committees of the General Strike.

Nominations and elections for the members of the respective committees were made. Each committee as it was announced by the chairman was discussed by the members present who considered how many people it would be advisable to have on this committee and after due deliberation it was decided that the committees should be as follows:

For the Hall Committee (Five members)

I. Horowitz, Chairman.
S. Milazzo, Vice-Chairman.
Mr. Winkowsky, Secretary.
P. Rotenberg.
B. Every.

Information Bureau (Two members)

Sarah Camen.
Kate Campanella.

For Organization Committee (Five members)

Samuel Farber.
Rose Wolkowicz.
Lena Goodman.
Jos. Fish.
J. Columbus.

Court and Law Committee (Three members)

M. K. Mackoff, Chairman.
I. dianco.
J. W. Settle.

Picket Committee (Five members)

Harry Berlin, Chairman.
Isidori, Vice-Chairman.
I. Schoenholtz, Secretary.
Anna Sosnofsky.
Max Gutzman.

Relief Committee (Seven members)

A. Lapin, Chairman.
Chas. Stein.
Dora Leit.
Louis Reiff.
Emil Auerbach.
Frank Milazzo.
Sam Etkin.

Out-of-Town Committee (Three members)

N. Reisel.
F. Liberti.
H. Robbins.

Speakers' Committee (Two members)

I. Antonini, Chairman.
Fannia Cohen, Secretary.

Finance Committee (Ten members)

Anna Kronhardt, Chairlady.
M. Di Maggio, Secretary.
H. Buchman.
Jos. Fish.
I. Schoenholtz.
C. Jacobson.
N. Schechter.
E. Auerbach.
I. Antonini.
H. Wander.

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Settlement Committee

(Seven members)

J. Hochman, Chairman.
Friaemt.
Sam Shenker.
P. Rotenberg.
G. Di Nola.
Shapiro.
N. Shechter.

Brownsville District

S. Goldstein, Chairman.

Harlem and Bronx District

Sal. Amico, Chairman.

BROOKLYN DISTRICT

A. Crivello, Chairman

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After the various committees were elected it was understood that these committees will meet with a view to preparing for the task for which they were elected and it was also understood that they will try to secure as many members as they may deem ad-

visable on their committees in order that the work may be attended to in the best way possible.

IN THE WAIST INDUSTRY

In regard to the waist industry Brother Hochman reported that Sister Trachtman who was assigned to investigate the waist shops submitted a detailed report to him. Brother Hochman suggested that for the time being circulars for the waist industry should be distributed for the purpose of enlightening the people in that industry in regard to the situation. He furthermore advised that this should be done continually during our coming campaigns, it being understood that attempts will be made to organize as many waist shops as possible during the campaign.

A lengthy discussion developed in which many officers and delegates participated, some of the speakers suggesting that the Joint Board does for the waistmakers what they did for the embroidery workers, while others differed, claiming that the waist industry as it is at the present time cannot be approached on the same lines as the embroidery workers were. Upon motion it was decided that the question about organizing the waist makers be referred to the board of directors.

Union Health Center News

On Friday evening, February 9th, Dr. Hans Zinner, Professor of Bacteriology of Columbia University and author of several works on Medicine, will lecture at the Union Health Center, 131 East 17th Street, on "Robert Koch, the German Scientist, and His Contributions to Tuberculosis." This lecture is the second of the series of very interesting lectures on "Great Men in Medicine." Every worker should take advantage of the opportunity to hear this splendid series.

The second lecture of the series on First Aid, will be given Tuesday evening, February 13th. Dr. Rogers will discuss the important questions of "What to Do in Case of Suffocation, Drowning or Hysterical Seizures" and will show how to create ar-

tificial respiration. This is a splendid lecture, where for the first time workers are shown what to do in case of an emergency and how to do it.

The meeting of the Relief Committee of the various locals belonging to the Union Health Center was postponed from last week until Saturday afternoon, February 10th, at 1 p. m. All members of the Relief Committee are urged to attend this meeting which will include a discussion of the proposed Sickness Insurance program. Dr. George M. Price, Director of the Union Health Center and Mr. Harry Wander, Chairman of the Executive Board of the Union Health Center will lead the discussion of the meeting. All members of the International who are interested in the proposed Sickness Insurance plan are invited to attend.

Educational Comment and Notes

LECTURE AND CONCERT FOR OUR ITALIAN MEMBERS A SUCCESS

Last Sunday afternoon a number of our Italian members assembled in the auditorium of our building and listened to a beautifully performed musical program. Mme. Boni thrilled the audience with her beautiful voice, and deeply moved those present when she sang in Italian, Helen Keller's, "The Song of the Dark." A real contribution to the success of the musical program was made by Maestro Cesare Sodero's excellent accompaniment.

The meeting was presided over by Brother Ronde. Miss Fannia M. Cohn spoke on the aims and object of our Educational Department. Arturo Giovannitti gave an excellent talk on "Culture and the Worker."

The audience was not contented with the singing of the songs announced on the program and persuaded Mme. Boni to give a few encores,

after the lecture. A family spirit prevailed throughout the meeting.

All those present participated in an interesting discussion of the educational activities initiated for our Italian members. They expressed their gratification over the fact that they too would benefit from the Educational activities carried by our International Union.

It was unanimously agreed that such lectures with musical programs should be given twice a month, on Sunday afternoons in the I. L. G. W. U. Building.

We hope that this start will bear fruit and that our Italian members will make a success of the educational activities, as decided upon at yesterday's meeting. Our Educational Department will spare no effort to make its contribution.

LECTURES ON HEALTH

We note with satisfaction the success of our lectures on Health, which are arranged by our Educational Department. These lectures are given at the business meetings of our local unions as well as at special meetings arranged for that purpose. The lecturers are experienced physicians assigned by the New York Tuberculosis Association. The talks are given in Yiddish, English and Russian. We expect soon to have them also in Italian.

Needless to say how important it is for our members to get information

on how to take care of their health. Especially is this important for our members, whose work is indoors and most of whom lived an outdoor life before they came to this country.

All of us appreciate the importance of preventive measures, because it is so much easier to prevent a disease than to cure it, especially for workers.

We expect that more of our locals will co-operate with us in arranging such lectures.

H. ROGOFF IN OUR HARLEM EDUCATIONAL CENTER, FRIDAY EVENING, AND IN THE BRONX CLUBROOMS OF LOCAL NO. 1 ON SATURDAY

H. Rogoff will lecture this Friday evening in the Harlem Educational Center of the I. L. G. W. U., 62 East 106th Street. The subject of the lecture will be "The Duties and Rights of a Citizen in a Democracy."

On Saturday evening at 8 o'clock, Mr. Rogoff will speak in the Clubrooms of Local No. 1 on "Lincoln, the Thinker and Statesman."

On Sunday morning at 10:20 a. m. in Harlem, Mr. Levin will continue his course on the "Economic Structure of the Present System," and in the Bronx Clubrooms Mr. Lehrer will continue his talks on "Social Psychology."

The Saturday evening and Sunday morning lectures, which are arranged by the Educational Department in co-operation with the educational committees of the locals, will continue throughout the season. Admission is free to members of the International.

HALF PRICE TICKETS FOR R U R

By special arrangements with the Theatre Guild, the Educational Department obtained cards that will entitle our members to half price tickets for "R U R," which is being played now at the Frane Theatre. We advise those of our members who have not as yet seen this play, to take advantage of our arrangement.

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

This Saturday, February 10th, is the dance and get-together of the students of our Workers' University and Unity Centers and their friends in the beautiful auditorium of our building.

The committee in charge made all the arrangements for our members to spend a really pleasant evening. There will be social dancing and folk dances to the strain of beautiful music. Delicious Russian tea and refreshments will be served. The Reception Committee will be on the lookout above everything to bring to the members of our numerous locals and make it possible for them to spend a few hours in sociability and good fellowship.

For this entertainment, the Committee obtained the use of the auditorium free, but to cover some expenditures involved, an admission charge of 10 cents will be made.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, IN THE I. L. G. W. U. BUILDING

A Blanket Equality Bill and its Relation to Women in Industry. Speaker: Mrs. Clara Mortenson Beyer.

How the Woman's Party Proposes to Bring About Sex Equality. Speaker: Mrs. Betsy Graves Reinecke.

A symposium. Both speakers represent different points of view on this question. Now that there is a Blanket Equality Bill before the legislature of the State of New York, this subject should be of great interest to our members.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

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

Saturday, February 10th

- 1:20 p. m. Social Forces in Literature.
Dr. E. Lieberman—Poetry and Life.
2:30 p. m. Dr. Leo Wolman—Policy of American Trade Unions Towards Unemployment.

Sunday, February 11th

- 10:30 a. m. A. Fickel—Psychology of Current Events—Psychology of Ku Kluxism.
11:30 a. m. Dr. H. J. Cameron—Political and Social History of the United States.

UNITY CENTERS

Tuesday, February 13th.

- Harlem Unity Center—P. S. 171
103rd Street, Near Fifth Avenue, Room 404.
8:45 p. m. Theresa Wolfson—The American Federation of Labor.
Waistmakers' Unity Center—P. S. 40
320 East 20th Street, Room 305.
8:00 p. m. Solon De Leon—Banking and Control of Industry.

Wednesday, February 14th

- East Side Unity Center—P. S. 63
4th St. Near 1st Avenue, Room 404.
8:00 p. m. Theresa Wolfson—The American Federation of Labor.
Bronx Unity Center—P. S. 61
Crotona Park East and Charlotte St., Room 501
8:45 p. m. A. L. Wilbert—The Trust As An Economic Institution.
Waistmakers' Unity Center—P. S. 40
320 East 20th Street
6:00 p. m. Loretta Ritter—Physical Training

Friday, February 16th

- P. S. 150—Christopher Avenue and 106th St., Room 206.
8:00 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
Bushwick Ave. and McKibben St., Brooklyn
Classes in Elementary, Intermediate and Advanced English—IN ALL CENTERS on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.
Admission to all of these courses free to members of the International.

EXTENSION DIVISION

Friday, February 9th

- Russian-Polish Branch, 315 East 10th St.
8:00 p. m. A. Bralovsky—Psychology of the Worker.
Harlem Educational Center of the I. L. G. W. U.
62 East 106th Street
8:00 p. m. H. Rogoff—The Duties and Rights of a Citizen in a Democracy.

Saturday, February 10th

- Local No. 9—222 Second Avenue
1:00 p. m. Max Levin—The Aims and Problems of Contemporary Labor Movements.
Local No. 17—144 Second Avenue.
1:00 p. m. Vice-President I. Feinberg, Chairman of the Educational Committee—Are "Time-Agreements" Useful?
Local No. 1—Club Rooms, 1581 Washington Ave., Bronx.
8:00 p. m. H. Rogoff—Lincoln, the Thinker and Statesman.

Sunday, February 11th

- Local No. 1—Clubrooms, 1581 Washington Avenue, 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.

Thursday, February 15th

- Local No. 90—85 East 43rd Street (Casino Mansion).
9:00 p. m.—How the Worker Should Care for His Health at Home and in the Factory?
I. L. G. W. U. Building.
8:00 p. m.—A Blanket Equality Bill and its Relation to Women in Industry.
Speaker: Mrs. Clara Mortenson Beyer.
How the Woman's Party Proposes to Bring About Sex Equality.
Speaker: Mrs. Betsy Graves Reinecke.

Applied Economics

By SOLON DE LEON

(Description of Course given at Harlem Unity Center, P. S. 171, Season 1922-1923)

In order to advance their interests in industry, the workers should know how the present industrial system works. They should know what benefits it gives over earlier systems. They should also understand where the system is at fault and how it may be improved.

To this end the course on "Applied Economics" takes up first the production and distribution of wealth. The development of industry is traced, from the hunting and fishing stage to modern large-scale industry. How the various sections of the population share in the wealth produced is discussed. Existing inequalities in the distribution of wealth are traced to differences in economic power.

The nature of wages is next taken up, along with a study of the causes which send wages up or down. Wages are considered carefully in relation to cost of living, so that the workers' actual condition can be seen.

How the banks are conducted, and their influence on industry through the control of credit, are brought out. Another question of importance to workers is that of waste in industry, through poor methods, production of worthless goods, and other causes. Industrial crises are described and analyzed. The various causes of crises, their international spread, and their effects on the workers, are linked up with the actual experience of the students.

Throughout the course, the latest government and private researches are used, and the students are referred to brief selections in easily available books for their own reading.

With the Waist and Dress Joint Board

By M. K. MACKOFF, Secretary

(Minutes of Meeting January 26, 1923)

Brother Berlin in the Chair.

A special joint meeting of all the Executive Boards constituting the Joint Board of the Dress and Waist-makers' Union, was held on Friday, January 26, 1923, at 231 East 14th Street, Brother Berlin presiding.

The following order of business was adopted:

1. Report of Conference Committee.
2. Appointment of General Strike Committee.

Upon opening the meeting, Brother Hochman submitted a detailed report of the conferences held between the Union and the Jobbers' Association and the Contractors' Association.

Brother Hochman gave the substance of that report as submitted at the last Joint Board meeting on January 24th.

The members present listened attentively to everything reported of the conferences held and the stand taken by the representatives of the Union.

Brother Hochman also reported about the temporary injunction obtained by the firm of Baum & Wolfe and which was contested by the Union through our attorney, Morris Hillquit. This case came up for trial on January 23, 1923, after almost two years had elapsed with the result that the court denied Baum & Wolfe a permanent injunction and according to the court procedure the Union is in a position to sue Baum & Wolfe for damages incurred.

The report of Brother Hochman was concurred in.

The question of the appointment of the General Strike Committee was then taken up and after a lengthy discussion it was decided to create a General Strike Committee whose functions should be as follows:

1. A Hall Committee whose duty shall be to engage as many halls as necessary to accommodate the strikers and assign from its number a chairman and assistants to take care of the strikers in the respective halls.

2. An Organization Committee should be created to organize the various units in the respective halls and to issue working cards before the workers are sent back to work, it being understood that no settlement will be made with independent shops before the Organization Committee O.K.'s the shop in question.

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5. An Entertainment Committee which should secure talent in order to entertain the strikers.

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As to the outlying districts, the committee recommends that committees should be appointed for the Brownsville, Brooklyn, Harlem and Bronx district who should work in conjunction with and under the supervision of the respective committees of the General Strike.

Nominations and elections for the members of the respective committees were made. Each committee as it was announced by the chairman was discussed by the members present who considered how many people it would be advisable to have on this committee and after due deliberation it was decided that the committees should be as follows:

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S. Milazzo, Vice-Chairman.
M. Pickowicz, Secretary.
P. Rottenberg.
B. Every.

Information Bureau (Two members)

Sarah Camen.
Kate Campanella.

For Organization Committee (Five members)

Samuel Farber.
Rose Wolkowitz.
Lena Goodman.
Jos. Fish.
J. Columbus.

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M. K. Mackoff, Chairman.
I. dianco.
J. W. Settle.

Picket Committee (Five members)

Harry Berlin, Chairman.
Jandoli, Vice-Chairman.
I. Schoenholtz, Secretary.
Anna Sosenfay.
Max Gorman.

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Chas. Stein.
Dora Leit.
Louis Reiff.
Emil Auerbach.
Frank Milazzo.
Sam Etkin.

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N. Reisel.
F. Liberti.
H. Robbins.

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M. Di Maggio, Secretary.
H. Buchman.
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Settlement Committee

(Seven members)

J. Hochman, Chairman.
Friesant.
Sam Shenker.
P. Rottenberg.
G. Di Nola.
Shapiro.
N. Shechter.

Brownsville District S. Goldstein, Chairman.

Harlem and Bronx District Sal. Amico, Chairman.

BROOKLYN DISTRICT

A. Crivello, Chairman

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The Week in Local 10

By JOSEPH FISH

WAIST AND DRESS

With the expiration of the agreement between the Union and the Waist and Dress Manufacturers' Association, Inc., on February 1st, the union has presented to the manufacturers a number of demands, the most important of which is the proposition of week-work.

When the conference committees of the Union and the Association got together, the manufacturers demanded that the Union withdraw the demand for week-work and they would then proceed with the other demands presented by the Union. The answer of our Conference Committee at the time was that they would not withdraw this demand, whereupon the conferences between the two bodies temporarily ceased.

The manufacturers, realizing their error, subsequently sent in a communication to the Joint Board of Waist and Dressmakers, stating that they were ready to proceed with negotiations. Conferences between the Union and the Association were then resumed.

The Conference Committee took up the various demands presented by the Joint Board and agreements were reached on a number of other demands. When it came to the proposition of the business agents of the Joint Board being granted permission to visit the shops of the Association without being accompanied by clerks of the latter organization and also the question of week-work, the manufacturers again balked, and it appeared that the conferences would again be broken off. And until last Saturday no definite answer had been submitted by the manufacturers regarding these two questions.

Finally, the manufacturers' conference proposed to the Union's representatives a new proposition: that instead of the week-work system as demanded by the Union, a forty-hour week be installed in our industry. The conferees representing the Manufacturers' Association requested that this new proposal offered by them should be referred to a general membership meeting of their members, which was held on Monday, February 5th, a definite answer to be given to the Union by Tuesday, February 6th.

The Conference Committee representing the Joint Board agreed to this, and a meeting of the General Strike Committee was called for Monday afternoon, February 5th, to accept or reject this new offer of the manufacturers. The General Strike Committee consists of the various locals comprising the Joint Board as well as of the Joint Board, and the members of the executive boards of the various locals comprising the Joint Board; i. e., Locals 10, 22, 23, 25, 60, 66 and 89.

At this meeting, which was held in Beethoven Hall, Brother Julius Hochman, General Manager of the Joint Board, explained the entire situation to those present. After due deliberation, the action of our Conference Committee was concurred in, although there was a very strong minority favoring that we do not accept any substitutes whatsoever, but that we immediately proceed with calling a general strike in the industry, as they do not believe that the manufacturers are in earnest, but are simply playing for time. This meeting was held in the afternoon.

In the evening, there was a special meeting of all shop chairmen held in Webster Hall, to discuss the recommendation of the General Strike Committee. This was an overflow meeting, and the shop chairmen, like the General Strike Committee, concurred

in the action of our conferees, to the effect that if the manufacturers do not render a definite answer by Tuesday morning, February 6th, either granting the week-work system or else the forty-hour week, the General Strike Committee should be empowered to call a general strike of the industry as soon as deemed advisable, leaving the date of the calling of the strike in the hands of this committee.

On Tuesday morning, February 6th, a definite reply was received from the Manufacturers' Association by the Union, declaring that they are not willing to grant either week-work or forty-hour week. By the time these lines will be read, the cutters therefore will undoubtedly be out on strike, unless, at the eleventh hour, the manufacturers should concede to either of the above demands.

Appropos of this, we wish to remind the cutters that at the Special Waist and Dress Meeting held on November 13th, 1922, a number of demands were adopted, which included the demand that our representatives be permitted to visit the shops of the Association without being accompanied by clerks of the Association. This demand has already been refused by the manufacturers.

This question was discussed very thoroughly at the special meeting held on the above date, and we are sure that the cutters will be interested and insistant that this demand presented by our organization become effective in our industry, as it already is in the Cloak and Suit Industry.

The General Strike in the Waist and Dress Industry will actually be in full swing by the end of this week. And we are sure that the cutters will respond to the call of the General Strike as they always have in the past, and will fight alongside of the rest of the workers in the industry, to bring this General Strike to a successful conclusion.

MISCELLANEOUS

Organization campaigns in the Children's Dress, House Dress and Underwear trades are in full swing. The general walk-out in the Children's Dress and House Dress trades, a call for which was issued by Local Nos. 40, 41 and 50, took place on Tuesday, February 6th. An effective tie-up of these two trades was the result of the walk-out. The workers employed in these two Miscellaneous trades were more than anxious for a strike, as the employers were becoming quite arrogant in the treatment of a strike.

A strike in the Underwear trade is not expected until the latter part of February or the early part of March, owing to the fact that an Association exists and the agreement does not expire until some time in March. In spite of this, however, Manager Snyder of Local No. 62, in conjunction with Local No. 16, is paving the way for the strike. Shops are being canvassed daily, extra organizers have been placed to work, and shop meetings are being called.

A shop of about eighty people was already out on strike, and after a very complete tie-up, the employers, who were members of the Association, agreed through this organization to take up the Union's grievances, in accordance with the provision of the agreement. The standards in this shop were found to smack of the sweat-shop days, the wages being the lowest ever paid to the workers in the Underwear Industry.

The strike in the trades under the control of Locals Nos. 41 and 50 and the preparations for the campaign in

the White Goods Industry are under the direct control of the International. Liberal aid is extended by the Cloakmakers' Union. Three veteran organizers have been placed by the Cloakmakers to help these two locals in their campaign. Local No. 10, being involved in it, it has placed Brother Morris Alovio, whose special duty is to care for the organization and interests of the cutters.

Meetings of the executive boards of the locals in these trades took place last week, where the plans were gone over. Owing to the fact that Manager Dubsky was taken up with conferences in the Waist and Dress Industry, Brother Shenker attended these meetings, where matters affecting the cutters were taken up by him. He was appointed on the Settlement Committee in the strike of the Children's Dress and Wrapper and Kimono trades.

Even before the strike was decided upon, Locals Nos. 41 and 50 were compelled to take action against two shops. In one of these the workers were called out on strike, and in the second shop, through the efforts of Local No. 10, a strike was averted and the differences were adjusted.

In spite of the fact that the Children's Dress and House Dress trades are more than ripe for a strike, Local No. 10 seems to be confronted with a greater difficulty as regards conditions of the trade in the White Goods Industry. It seems that the Association here exists only in name. Its members lend their name to it more for prestige than for collective bargaining with the Union.

As ready as the workers in the Underwear Industry may be for an organization campaign, the Union is compelled, as was stated above, to bide its time until the expiration of the agreement with the Association. However, the workers in this trade, thanks to the present efforts of the Union, will be more than ready when the question of launching a campaign comes up.

International vice-presidents are in full charge of the organization affairs of the Miscellaneous trades. Vice-President Halperin is in charge of the strike carried on by Locals Nos. 41 and 50. Brother Halperin has placed Philip Oretsky, a member of Local No. 10, who is connected with the Out-of-Town Department of the International as Chairman of the Picket Committee.

Vice-President Lefkowitz is in charge of the Organization work in the White Goods trade.

The cutters who walked out of the Wrapper and Kimono and Children's Dress shops in Tuesday's general walk-out, congregated in the halls assigned to the rest of the workers in these trades. These halls are: City—Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place; Brooklyn—Royal Palace, 16 Manhattan Avenue; Brownsville—Labor Lyceum, 219 Sackman Street.

Cutters desiring information will

secure same from the chairmen of the respective halls. In very urgent cases, they may call at the office of Local No. 10, 231 East 14th Street.

TO OPEN UP LOGAN COUNTY

In an effort to end the condition in southern West Virginia under which the coal operators "have for years prevented the miners of five counties from organizing or from exercising their rights of free speech and free assembly," two independent lines of attack were announced by the American Civil Liberties Union and by District 17 of the United Mine Workers with headquarters at Charleston.

The American Civil Liberties Union plans to hold a free-speech meeting in Logan County, the anti-union stronghold, in the near future, with distinguished speakers, in order to expose the right of the miners to meet, speak and organize. The United Mine Workers is seeking an injunction in the Federal Court at Charleston to restrain Don Chafin, sheriff of Logan County, his deputies and the coal companies from interfering with the officers of the United Mine Workers in their effort to hold meetings and organize in Logan County, and also enjoin the Logan Coal Operators' Association from continuing to pay the salaries of the sheriff and his deputies. The injunction is directed against "intimidation, harassing, beating and assaulting" of union agents exercising their lawful rights in Logan County.

As a beginning of this campaign, they have fixed upon a meeting at Logan with distinguished speakers of national reputation, who will discuss the constitutional rights of free speech and freedom of assembly. If there is any interference with the meeting, they are prepared to go into the courts with whatever proceedings are necessary to protect the meeting or to insure the holding of another.

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CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10

Notice of Regular Meetings

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

GENERAL.....Monday, February 26th
CLOAK AND SUIT.....Monday, March 5th

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