

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

—Job 27.6

JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE

NATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

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

Vol. V, No. 11.

Friday, March 9, 1923.

Price 2 Cents

PHILA. DRESS AND WAISTMAKERS OUT IN GENERAL STRIKE

EFFORTS OF UNION FOR AMICABLE SETTLEMENT FAIL—THOUSANDS LEAVE WORK ON WEDNESDAY AT 10 O'CLOCK—PRESIDENT SIGMAN LEADS STRIKE

PHILADELPHIA WAISTMAKERS SPURRED ON BY VICTORIES IN BOSTON AND NEW YORK

On Wednesday, March 7, at 10 o'clock in the morning the dress and waist makers of Philadelphia walked out in general strike.

All efforts of the Union to reach an amicable settlement with the manufacturers resulted in failure. They have turned down the proposal of the Philadelphia city authorities to appoint a commission to investigate the conditions in the waist and dress industry and to submit its recommendations. They feared lest the commission favor a collective agreement with the Union which they are madly combatting. They have forced the workers to take the only alternative open to them.

At the general mass meetings last Tuesday evening the Philadelphia dress and waist makers have shown a spirit which knows no defeat, and which the manufacturers will have to take into account. Under the leadership of President Sigman and Vice-President Reiberg the strikers are inspired with confidence as to their victory.

The Union has clearly stated that it is prepared to negotiate an agreement with the waist and dress manufacturers. And when the invitation from the Philadelphia city authorities came, the Union, although knowing the baronate state of mind of the employers, has nevertheless accepted the

opportunity to present its case again.

The dress and waist makers of Philadelphia are no novices in the art of industrial warfare. They demonstrated their fighting ability in the strike which occurred last year. And they are now fighting with renewed vigor and enthusiasm for the elemental rights of working under union conditions.

The Philadelphia waist and dress makers are spurred on in their fight by the remarkable victories in New York and Boston. They are determined not to fall behind the landmarks set by the waist and dress makers of these two cities. The Philadelphia workers are out to win.

Local 62 and Manufacturers Continue Negotiations

PRESIDENT SIGMAN AND COMRADE HILLQUIT ARE SPOKESMEN AT FIRST CONFERENCE

A formal conference between the White Goods Workers' Union, Local No. 62, and the Cotton Garment Manufacturers' Association, took place Monday evening, March 5. A committee of Local No. 10, whose members work side by side with those of Local No. 62, was also present.

President Morris Sigman and Comrade Hillquit were the spokesmen of the Union. The demands presented by the representatives of the Union are in brief as follows:

1. The Union demands a substantial wage increase. During the last few years of depression the employers, under the pretense of increasing sales by reducing the operating costs of their products, slashed the meager wages of the workers. The Union consequently demands that this wrong should be remedied.

2. The Union demands that the minimum scale of wages for week workers established some time ago shall be raised in accordance with conditions.

3. Piece work rates shall be adjusted by the price committee in each shop.

4. Workers shall get paid for six legal holidays. They are now entitled to three-and-a-half holidays.

5. A complete union shop.

6. Workers shall have the right to strike in Association shops when the union conditions are violated.

President Sigman and Comrade Hillquit have presented their arguments and reasons for embodying these points in the new agreement. The Association has also presented its case. It was mutually decided to select a sub-committee to go on with the negotiations and try to reach a settlement.

The following are the Union members of the sub-committee: S. Grackin, Miss Bremen and Miss Kruglik.

from the Philadelphia city authorities came, the Union, although knowing the baronate state of mind of the employers, has nevertheless accepted the

Boston Strike Ends in Victory

PERLSTEIN, BAROFF AND MONOSSON ADDRESS MEETINGS OF STRIKERS—A VICTORY BANQUET IN BOSTON

The Boston waist and dress makers as well as the cloakmakers are victorious. A holiday spirit prevails among the workers, for after a relatively brief struggle they have scored a far-reaching and significant victory. A collective agreement was effected between the Union and the manufacturers and jobbers of Boston which makes this practically a 100 per cent union city.

The agreement with the Dress Manufacturers' Association, which controls or owns 43 waist and dress man-

ufacturing shops, is a complete and thoroughgoing victory for the workers. It guarantees union conditions of work, it provides for a ten per cent wage increase, six legal holidays, and a voice in the determination of working conditions in the shop.

The cloakmakers of Boston have likewise achieved startling success. The evil of the small "social" shops has been effectively dealt with. This monstrosity, fostered by jobbers in recent years, has seriously undermined union conditions and union standards. The eradication of this evil has therefore been one of the chief aims of the cloakmakers' fight. In effecting an agreement with the cloak jobbers, the Union has delivered a death blow to the intolerable system of the "social" shops.

This brilliant struggle was directed by Vice-Presidents Perlstein and Monossion. From reports of Vice-President Perlstein we are assured that this victory will become the basis of the waistmakers and cloakmakers for continued union activity. They determined not only to hold on to the gains but to continue their onward struggle toward a 100 per cent organization.

This week is being devoted by the Boston workers to celebrating their victory. They have arranged for a series of mass meetings ending with a "Victory banquet." Secretary Baroff spent most of the week in Boston and addressed many meetings.

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

On Thursday evening, March 15th, in the I. L. G. W. U. Building, Mr. Stuart Chase, of the Labor Bureau, will discuss before a group of our members, "What We Get Out of Life."

We urge our members to set aside that evening for this very interesting discussion.

Judge Mack Resigns from Cleveland Board of Referees

Judge Julian W. Mack has resigned as Chairman of the Board of Referees of the Cleveland Cloak Industry. He has been chairman of that Board since 1919, during which time he earned for himself the esteem of the Union as well as the Manufacturers' Association.

His resignation occasioned general regret, for both the Union and the Manufacturers have come to recognize the clear understanding and fair-

ness with which he handled the involved disputes arising in the cloak industry.

Judge Mack himself expressed regret for having to take this step. But in a letter which he addressed to the Cloakmakers' Union and to the Association, he stated his health and his duties as a judge impell him to take this course.

Both parties are now in search of a new chairman.

All Russian Needleworkers Federation and International Exchange Greetings

The all-Russian Needleworkers Federation, now in convention at Moscow, cabled to the general office of the International the following message of greeting:

March 2, 1923:
Headquarters of the International Ladies' Garment Workers',
31 Union Square, New York.

Sixth all-Russian Needleworkers convention sends greetings to our American comrades of trade in convention assembled. We express our wishes and hope of your entering on revolutionary road of class struggle.
Freedom of Convention.

In return the International sent the following greeting:

March 5, 1923.
All-Russian Needleworkers Convention,
Moscow, Russia.

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union delighted to return fraternal greetings to all-Russian Needleworkers convention coupled with wishes and hope for substantial material and spiritual achievements for our Russian fellow trade workers.

MORRIS SIGMAN, President.
ABRAHAM BAROFF, Secretary.

Topics of the Week

By N. S.

CONGRESS TAKES A VACATION

LAST Sunday, March 4th, the Sixty-seventh Congress adjourned. As is customary the last days of the session were stormy and eventful. Few legislators succeeded in getting a wink of sleep. There were mountains of bills, measures, projects, money grabs, and fat jobs that had to be disposed of or pigeon-holed. There were filibusters that had to be met. There were farwield speeches of "lame duck" Senators. Sleepless, weary, sweating, the legislators, under the spur of the relentless party whips, were hammering away at something of which they hardly had any notion. But those who are coming back to the next session at least felt consoled at the prospect of a nine months' vacation, for it is understood that the next Congress will not convene before sometime in December.

Why this hurry? Why such furious speed? Senator Norris answered these questions in the following way.

"Most of the time has been taken up in the consideration of one bill, the Ship Subsidy, which cannot pass, which is conceded now to be dead and which would not have been here at all if we had no short session. If the new Congress had commenced in January after it had been elected, the ship subsidy would not have been here at all, because it is conceded that the new Congress would not pass it.

"What is the result? We get half-baked legislation. We get all kinds of jokers in our laws. We are prevented from passing valuable legislation which everybody admits ought to be passed."

What has Congress accomplished during the wild rush? The Rural Credits bill, a compromise measure, which aims to furnish greater facilities to farmers for borrowing money, is ready for the President's signature. A number of pork bills have been passed. A long string of Presidential nominees have been confirmed. But the Administration proposal for American participation in the International Court of Justice was snuffed under by a vote of 49 to 24. It must now await the coming of a new Congress next December. Despite the jam and confusion of the last moments of Congress, Senator Brookhart introduced a brand new bill. It asked for an investigation into the recent advances in the price of sugar. The bill failed.

If President Harding is right we are in for a period of prosperity. And that will be wholly due to the fact that business and industry will for the next six months be unhampered by various legislative restrictions or investigations that Congress might undertake. With Congress not operating, business will breathe freely, will thrive and expand and we will all be happy. For, as is well known, the President had decided to give the legislators a long vacation in the interests of business revival. President Harding knows as well as anybody that Congress has woefully failed to cope with the problems of the day. Neither can he boast of his own measures. He therefore resorted to another alternative, that is, no legislation, no governmental interference, free play to the business man. But isn't this disrespect for the law—rank anarchy?

LABOR vs. EDUCATION

THE CARNEGIE FOUNDATION has been triumphantly pointed to as the demonstration of the harmony between capitalism and broad, constructive, socially-minded endeavor. Is not this Foundation making it possible for knots of scientists to do research in various fields? Has it not enriched human knowledge? Is it not furnishing its millions of dollars for the benefit of all?

These and many similar questions are usually hurled at the distrustful and disparaging. But the other day the Carnegie Foundation issued a startling report on education which throws new light on its activities. It not only demolishes the legends, woven around this great-scale institution of philanthropy, but it unmistakably reveals the class-conscious plans of the industrial and financial plutocrats of this country.

The Carnegie report finds that "while the population has increased between 1890 and 1920 by about two-thirds, the growth in the number of pupils attending the elementary schools increased approximately in the same proportion, but the attendance at the high-schools and the colleges grew at a rate many times faster than that of population; and that, while the national income has also grown notably in these thirty years, the burden laid upon the people of the country has enormously increased." That is, the cost of public schools increased from \$146,000,000 in 1890 to \$1,000,000,000 in 1920, and that while enrollment in elementary schools during this period has increased some 70 per cent, that of the secondary schools has increased 1,000 per cent.

Many people will doubtless be gratified rather than alarmed by these significant figures. They regard the expenditure of a million dollars a year on education as a safe and sane investment. The New York World voices the sentiments of liberal and democratically minded citizens when it says that if the American people can afford to spend a half billion dollars a year on candy and ice cream, they can surely afford to spend double the sum and more for the benefits of education.

But the arraignment of the costliness of education is only a smoke-screen behind which the Carnegie Foundation is trying to carry out a sinister scheme engineered by the ruling class. This can readily be seen in the remedies the Foundation report is offering. It suggests that higher education be closed to those "great numbers of pupils whose intellectual endowment is ill-suited for formal study." Stripped of its camouflage, it means that the large masses should be barred from educational opportunities and placed in the mines and factories instead. It seeks to separate labor from education, the hard worker from the brain worker. It seeks to establish a chasm between the workers and a superior intellectual caste. It aims to monopolize science and art for the sole use of the industrial and financial oligarchy. It is trying to reduce the workers to mere hands, efficient machine-tenders, with a minimum of intelligence and initiative. It is a plea for industrial slavery.

The educational "reform" propounded by the Carnegie Foundation is

being challenged by the labor movement. What labor thinks about education and the increased use of science in its daily struggle is amply shown by the educational efforts of the trade unions.

THE END OF THE LUSK LAWS

BY A VOTE of 26 to 22 the New York State Senate passed two bills to repeal the Lusk educational laws. The Assembly will unquestionably sustain this action, and the Governor has long declared himself as favoring the repeal of these laws. It can therefore be confidently expected that the Lusk legislation will in the near future be wiped off the statute books, remaining only as a sign-post of the hysterical and witch-hunting period that followed the war.

The Lusk laws, which establish a loyalty test for teachers in the public schools and require private schools to obtain a license from the Board of Regents, which that body has the power to revoke where such institutions are found by the Luskers to be disseminating "dangerous" teachings—these laws were met with the united opposition of the labor organizations and the liberal elements of the State. The Rand School of Social Science has occupied a pivotal position in this fight. The Rand School had been dressed up by the Luskers as one of the chief Bolshevik bogies to frighten the loyal citizens. But the vigorous and persistent struggle conducted by the trade unions, the teachers, and the group of prominent college professors have finally forced the Legislature to repeal them. Having rid itself from the Lusk menace, the labor movement is now facing the Lockwood menace. The bill for the incorporation of trade unions, framed by Mr. Untermyer, is now before the State Senate. It is doubtful whether enough votes will be mustered at this session to pass this bill. But for some time to come labor will have to marshal all its strength to prevent the adoption of an incorporation plan of one sort or another.

SENATE REPORT ON STANDARD OIL

IN 1911, the United States Supreme Court decreed the dissolution of the Standard Oil Trust. But the Senate Committee on Manufacturers, headed by Senator LaFollette, found after nine months of investigation, that the Standard interests have a greater strangle hold on oil, gasoline, and kerosene than ever before. "Standard Oil today," the report states, "fixes the price which the producer of crude oil receives at the well, the price which the refiner receives for his gasoline and kerosene, as well as the retail price paid by the consumer." The consumers are at the mercy of "a combination which advances or depresses prices as it pleases."

Senator LaFollette informed the Senate that it would be useless in the closing days of the session to present a bill attempting to regulate the oil industry. He offered eight "immediate remedies" which only a remote Congress might take up. Meanwhile the Rockefeller trust, in violation of the Supreme Court order, will continue its illegal practices to reap the huge profits by squeezing the oil, gasoline and kerosene consumer to the very limit.

WILL AMERICA INTERVENE IN THE RUHR?

FRANCE is worried over the persistent rumors coming from Washington and London that the American and British governments are hatching a scheme for the settlement of the Ruhr situation. Although Premier Poincaré confessed that the only thing the French get out of the Ruhr is German hatred he is nevertheless determined to see his program through. For after all what the French Government wants is not so much reparations as control over the German coal and iron districts and a weak and helpless German nation.

The French are going deeper and deeper into Germany. They have cut off from Germany two of the richest provinces, the Rhineland and the Ruhr. They have stopped the main supply of coal. They have prohibited the export of steel and iron products. They have compelled obedience of the population to their orders. They fine an entire town for a single act of sabotage. Germany hardens under French terroristic rule. Chancellor Cuno has summoned the Reichstag for March 6 to consider a new plan for meeting the crisis. It is doubtful whether conciliation with France will be the result. What is more likely to happen, according to a statement of the German Embassy at Washington, will be "explosions" on the part of the German people, who "already severely tried, may yet be led to acts of desperation."

The French regard the German problem as peculiarly their own. And, although they may not turn down the mediation offer from Washington and London, they will put up demands which America and England will find difficult to meet. In fact the French Government has already unofficially stated some of the demands. It wants a cancellation of the French debt to foreign nations, American and British guarantee for German reparations, guarantee against future revenge by a revived Germany. France wants to collect the money owed her, but she does not want to pay the money she owes other nations. It is doubtful whether America and England will agree to this scheme.

THE HARD-COAL MONOPOLY

ATTO RNEY GENERAL DAUGHERTY has often been charged with undue friendship for big business combinations. His impeachment was sought on the ground that he used his high office to serve Wall Street. The Congressional Committee investigating these charges whitewashed him, but the stains of the moneyed interests remained clearly perceptible. He therefore decided to do some self-cleaning by plunging headlong into the anti-trust fight.

He picked the Anthracite Coal Trust. What he is after is "the complete elimination of the control by the railroad company over the mining and selling of anthracite coal." This plan is of course not original with the Attorney General. In 1921 the United States Supreme Court ordered the dissolution of this trust, and as late as 1922, Mr. Daugherty found a defect in the plan of the railroads for carrying into effect the Supreme Court mandate. He now insists that the court should retain jurisdiction to guard against any attempted evasion of the decree.

Why this concern of Mr. Daugherty? Why did he pick on the hard-coal trust? What is the matter with the Standard Oil Trust and numerous other trusts? The Attorney General knows that there is a Federal Coal Commission investigating coal. He also knows that the United Mine Workers have within the last few weeks submitted data before this Commission showing the monopolistic stranglehold over the hard-coal industry. Shrewd friends must have advised him to remove some of the hatred he gained for his anti-labor activities by eliciting himself against the same powers the miners are fighting.

The Labor Injunction

By JOHN P. FREY

A REVIEW BY S. YANOFSKY

In the ranks of the American Federation of Labor the name of John P. Frey is well known and is universally beloved and esteemed. He is a member of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor. He is one of the most distinguished editors of trade union publications. He is an admirable speaker, a brilliant debater who employs iron logic rather than winged words, polished phrases and pointed allusions. Mr. Frey is one of the few leaders in the labor movement who distinguish themselves by their sterling intellectual honesty. He studies every question to the very bottom and, if the results of his study lead him to a conclusion contrary to the accepted views, he has the courage and integrity to declare those views untenable.

John P. Frey is an American in the best sense. To him the American Government is far superior to any other existing government, while the American Constitution is something sacred. He has absorbed the tradition that there is no-class struggle or class rule in this country. And yet, in reading his book, "The Labor Injunction," you feel that everything that is so near and dear to him, which, through education, has become an integral part of him, is now being shattered and demolished by his own hands, when the hard facts of life are forcing him to do so. He does not attempt to smooth or glide over things. He is too sincere for that. He admits quite frankly that the injunction eradicates and destroys everything that is beautiful, lofty and noble in the theory and principles of American government.

The book is remarkably moderate and restrained. Still it seems to us that essentially it is one of the most revolutionary books ever penned by a labor leader. His iron logic, his marshalling of facts, leading from one idea to the next until there emerges an imposing structure which cannot be overthrown, gives this work of John Frey a usefulness to the labor movement which can hardly be overestimated.

To our view this book is particularly valuable because the injunction is discussed from the standpoint of an American citizen. And the most compelling argument of the book is the luminous and cogent way in which is shown the fact that, as soon as the citizen becomes a trade unionist and begins to struggle for his rights, he loses all his citizenship rights which were guaranteed him by the Constitution.

Or to put it in other words, in reading John Frey's brilliant marshalling of facts, it becomes transparently obvious even without any argumentation on his part that a trade unionist is regarded as an "outlaw" in the eyes of the law, whenever he comes into conflict with capitalistic interests.

It is this treatment which makes this book singularly useful. For, after all, the question whether the entire social life is dominated by the class struggle is, to Mr. Frey's way of thinking, of minor importance. His impressive array of facts amply shows that the class struggle is celebrating its maddest orgies in our society, and that the labor injunction is not, as some may think, the cause of the class struggle, but its inevitable result.

John Frey holds that the labor injunction is the abuse and miscarriage of the law, or, as he puts it, of the courts of equity. He admits that there are eventualities when injunctions are necessary, as, for instance, when their purpose is the protection of property from irreparable injury. But the use of the labor injunction in

case of a strike is an abuse of this institution. What Mr. Frey therefore demands is the removal of this abuse. Then America will again become the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Well, we cannot for a moment accept this argument. For, to our way of thinking, there never has been a law which was framed for the protection of the weak, which was not sooner or later abused, and which became the greatest calamity for the weak.

Besides it is uncommonly difficult for us to discern the subtle distinction Mr. Frey finds between "property" and "business." While he holds that the injunction is justifiable when applied to the protection of property from irreparable injury, it is unjustifiable when applied to business. Business, Mr. Frey says, is not one's property.

Or to put his argument in his own words: "Business is not property! Business is the energy, activity, and method by which men dispose of property for profit. Business is a personal right only. Labor is not property! Labor is the service which one man gives to another for wages, and the energy which is applied by men to create something for his personal use or for sale to others. Labor is a personal attribute; it is only the result of labor which can become property."

"The essential distinction between business and property is clear, definite and impossible of misconstruction."

"An illustration is afforded by the retail dealer; the building in which his store is located is property, all of the stock of goods in the store is property. To convert this property into profits, the property owner must engage in business so that he may sell his goods to others. . . . To those who come into the store."

"It is evident that the store-keeper has no property right in the person who enters the store to purchase, even though the customer may have dealt with him for years."

"Should an old customer be entitled to another dealer because of more favorable prices, or any other consideration—what has taken place? The original store-keeper still owns his property—it has not been destroyed or irreparably injured—all that has occurred is a long of profit through failure to make certain sales."

From a legal point of view, this reasoning may be very acute, but to us, there seems to be a basic flaw. We value property so highly not because of its intrinsic value but because property is the vehicle and producer of business. What benefit would one derive, say, from a big tenement house, if he could not for one reason or another rent it? Suppose a rumor has been spread that the house is occupied by ghosts and spirits. Because of the superstition of people the house would remain vacant. Here we have a case where a house has sustained no tangible damage, yet no one will deny that the rumor has injured, badly injured, the property rights of the landlord.

Let us take another example. The property of a newspaper admittedly has great value. But its chief value is found in its circulation and reputation rather than in its physical property, such as machinery and paper. How then can one argue that when a machine is damaged the principle of property is violated, but when the editor is vilified and libelled the property of the newspaper had not been affected?

That is why this argument of Mr. Frey does not seem to us convincing. It appears to us that, once you admit that courts of equity may issue in-

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junctions for the protection of property, they may on the same grounds and with an equal degree of justice issue injunctions for the protection of business against irreparable damage.

The only sound and incontrovertible contention against the labor injunction is furnished by the failure of the same courts of equity to issue injunctions in the case of a dispute between two manufacturers who seek to injure each other's business. In such a case, when the conflict is between two equals, the courts declare, 'the law cannot interfere. But when the conflict takes place between workers and manufacturers then it is a different matter. The fundamental reason for it is to be found in the fact that the right of workers to organize and to protect their interests is not recognized as equal to the right of manufacturers to do business. That is why courts of equity issue injunctions in case of a strike but never use the same weapon in a dispute between two manufacturers.

This is the only point with which we cannot altogether agree. The rest of the argument is brilliant and incontrovertible, particularly from the point of view of law and property.

For this reason we believe Frey's book to have a wide appeal. One can reason against the injunction from a Socialist viewpoint. Such reasoning will obviously appeal only to Socialists. Another may argue against it from an Anarchist position, but it will then reach even a smaller circle of people. Mr. Frey, on the other hand, writes from the standpoint of a American who swears by the Constitution, who holds democracy and denies the existence of class rule; his appeal is that of the trade unionist who struggles for his rights as

citizen and worker which are guaranteed him by the Constitution. Mr. Frey's book will therefore meet with widespread and deep interest, and will unquestionably contribute toward a fuller and more intelligent understanding of this question.

In addition this book gives a rigorously accurate account of most of the injunctions issued by courts of equity during the last thirty years, so that the reader is actually enriched by the compact mass of facts.

We are inclined to believe that our newspaper writers, and even our editors would do well to provide themselves with a copy of "The Labor Injunction" for handy use, so that whenever they choose to write about the injunction question they can do so with a deeper and more intelligent understanding of it.

It is our sincere opinion that in bringing out his book Mr. Frey has given to the labor movement a distinctly serviceable gift.

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JUSTICE

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EDITORIALS

THE SITUATION IN THE PHILADELPHIA DRESS AND WAIST INDUSTRY

War or peace? No conclusive reply could as yet be given to this question as regards the ladies' waist and dress industry in Philadelphia. We are hopeful that this uncertainty will eventually lead to peaceful negotiations between the Union and the Dress Manufacturers' Association and that a satisfactory adjustment will be effected. If, however, it should come to a showdown, the Union, it must be definitely affirmed, will hold itself in full readiness for a fight, not because, as we have often repeated, it has a peculiar penchant for warfare but because there remains no other alternative.

In fact, a strike in the dress and waist industry in Philadelphia had already been scheduled to take place on Wednesday, February 28. But a few hours before the appointed time the Union and the Manufacturers' Association had received an invitation from the Mayor of Philadelphia asking them to make another effort to settle their controversy in conference. The representatives of our Philadelphia union—Elias Reisberg and Max Amur—as well as President Sigman, complied with this request. The manufacturers did likewise. And for the first time during the stretch of a year the representatives of both parties met face to face to discuss the situation. It is of unnecessary, particularly for the members of Local No. 15, to enter into a detailed account of the facts, evidence and arguments submitted by either side. Suffice it to say that our Union has declared itself completely prepared to submit the entire matter to arbitration. Will the manufacturers agree to this proposal? The answer to this question was due Tuesday, March 6. If they favored it, the strike, of course, would be averted. If not, the strike would inevitably take place the following day, Wednesday, March 7.

It would be futile to indulge in prophecy as to the outcome of the situation, for, although we claim to know and understand the spirit of the workers and of our Union, we cannot boast of having the confidence of the manufacturers. What we definitely know, however, is that under no condition will our Union abandon the workers in the dress and waist industry to the whim and caprice of disorganization and chaos. As long as they will have to sell their labor to earn a living, so long will our Union be their guardian and spokesman. The workers on their part are wholeheartedly devoted to their Union and will always continue to be so, no matter how trying or adverse the conditions might be. For they know that the Union may sometimes find itself in a position where it could not render all the help it should like to. Yet such an eventuality is infinitely superior to a state where the workers are divided, isolated and torn asunder. We are therefore profoundly convinced that whatever the reply of the manufacturers may be, the dress and waist makers of Philadelphia will under no condition tolerate the establishment of the "open," non-union shop. They are resolved to give the manufacturers no rest until all their demands are granted. They are prepared to fight until the manufacturers agree to deal with their Union.

THE VICTORY OF THE WAIST AND DRESS MAKERS IN BOSTON

The victory of the Boston waist and dress makers is marvelous in more senses than one. It is marvelous because it is so complete, because the struggle had only lasted a few short weeks, because the situation in Boston appeared so gloomy and depressing. It may now be confessed that the unions in the various branches of our industry in Boston were unhinged, tottering and in a measure demoralized so that Boston had always been one of the puzzles at the meetings of the General Executive Board, "What's to be done with Boston?" appeared to be one of the bewildering and insoluble questions.

And now that we have before us the report of Vice-President Perlestein, chief of the organization campaign in Boston, in which he tells us of the victory, we can only marvel and applaud. We are impelled to ask Vice-President Perlestein about the methods he employed in persuading the manufacturers and jobbers so expeditiously to grant the Union demands. Has he hypnotized them? And, pray, what has he done to our Boston members who until recently religiously observed the practice of assailing and demolishing one another on any and every trifling pretext, but who now are united, fraternal, splendid trade unionists, without a trace of misunderstanding, discord and factionalism, who have now become an enthusiastic band of fighters?

But what is pertinent now and what will clearly attest to the consummate victory is an account of the agreement itself

which had been reached between the Union and the Dress Manufacturers.

Let us enumerate its chief points: 1. Manufacturers shall only employ union members. 2. The workers in each shop shall elect their shop chairman who shall act as their accredited representatives. 3. A union officer shall have the right to visit the shops in order to see whether the union conditions are observed. He shall also have the right to examine the books of the firms in question with a view of ascertaining the amount of the workers' earnings, or the source or destination of the manufactured articles. 4. A worker who had been employed more than two weeks shall not be discharged without a hearing. 5. During slack periods the work shall be equally divided among all the workers in the shop. 6. Full pay for six legal holidays. 7. Cutters receive 45 dollars a week; pressers, 49; machine operators, 30; finishers, 22; drapers, 28; examiners, 22; sample makers, 35. Piece workers' rates are as follows: operators, 29 cents an hour; finishers who had until now worked below the scale get an increase of not less than 10 per cent. 8. No overtime should be permitted when there are unemployed workers in the trade. Overtime shall be paid at the rate of double time. 9. Work under non-union conditions is prohibited. 10. Disputes arising in the shop shall be adjusted by the shop chairman and the employer and in case of failure shall be referred to a union officer and the employer. Upon failure of these parties to agree the dispute shall be submitted to arbitration. 11. The manufacturer deposits a fund with the Union as surety for his observation of the agreement.

It is undeniable that this agreement constitutes a great victory for the workers, that it is a brilliant achievement. But it is also true that the best agreement is only a scrap of paper if the workers are split, indifferent and apathetic. Furthermore, it commonly happens that when workers are united, vigilant and intelligent an inadequate agreement is gradually transformed into real and vital gains. We therefore want to say to the dress-makers of Boston, the members of Local No. 49, that, having won a glorious victory, they may through neglect and frivolity lose it, or they may extend their organization and gain a voice in the determination of conditions in their industry. We have every reason to believe that the members of Local No. 49 are enlightened enough to act as intelligent, class-conscious workers in promoting their own interests and establishing a 100 per cent organization. In the confident hope that our Boston members will effectively hold to the fruits of their brilliant victory we extend to them our sincerest congratulations.

THE VICTORY OF THE BOSTON CLOAKMAKERS

The victory of the Boston cloakmakers is not less marvelous. The "social shop" which has demoralized the entire cloak trade in Boston and which has not failed to exert its baleful influence on the Union has sustained a death-blow through the agreement between the Union and the jobbers. Here and there one may still detect signs of life in this hideous monster but there is no doubt that very soon it will cease to contaminate the air with its foul and poisonous breath. All strikes and victories were nugatory when the monstrosity of the "social shop" was left intact. The far-reaching and fundamental significance of the present struggle consists in the annihilation of this pestiferous growth.

The victory of the Boston cloak makers can be better appraised if it is borne in mind that the jobbers have until the signing of the agreement been totally ignorant of the existence of the union. They let their contracts where the cost of labor was lower. This led to scandalous conditions in the trade. At best the Union was only tolerated, its power and influence were negligible. And now, according to the agreement, the entire cloak trade is under union control. But here this very pertinent question arises: Will the cloakmakers be intelligent and class-conscious enough to maintain this Union control? We want to be frank with the Boston cloakmakers and say that if they will continue to act in a manner as unjustified and as futile as hitherto, if the too numerous locals will continue their wrangles and quarrels among themselves, leading in opposite directions, paralyzing thereby the control of the Joint Board, the present struggle will have been fought in vain. The Boston cloakmakers must clearly bear in mind that they alone will either make this victory enduring and a benefit to themselves as well as to the entire membership or they will make it a momentary firework which after a dazzling instance vanishes into nothingness. But having learned through bitter lessons the necessity of a strong union, we feel certain that they will solidify their ranks, and through a powerful and effective organization will continue their upward struggle for a broader and fuller life.

We desire to extend our heartfelt congratulations to all our Boston workers who so courageously fought for their rights as well as to their brilliant leaders. We sincerely applaud the splendid generalship of Vice-Presidents Perlestein and Monosson, Brother Zodikor, manager of the Joint Board, former Vice-President Feder, and many others. They may well be proud of their achievement which will be greeted by all the members of the International. For the victory of a single union is the victory of the entire International.

FAREWELL, JUDGE MACK

Judge Julian W. Mack, one of the best friends of our Cloak Makers' Union in Cleveland, and the best chairman of the Board of Referees, whose purpose it is to adjust various disputes arising between the Union and the manufacturers, has unfortunately decided to resign. His reasons for this step the reader will find elsewhere in this issue. We can only express our deepest regret that Judge Mack was obliged to resign as member and chairman of the Board of Referees. For he has always shown a keen understanding of the problems of industry and a profound sym-

The Jewish Worker In England

By LEON CHASANAWICH

(Special European Correspondence to "Justice")

During a recent short visit to England, I made an effort to acquaint myself with the general condition of the Jewish workers and the state of the Jewish labor movement in Great Britain.

What I learned, from discussions with Jewish labor leaders as well as from personal observation, was, to say the least, very depressing. The economic side of the life of the Jewish worker is hard and full of uncertainty, and the labor movement is in a very unsatisfactory condition. Politically, the Jewish workers in England are hardly organized at all, and cultural activity among them amounts to zero.

When speaking of the Jewish workers in England, one has in mind, as in the United States, the workers employed in the tailoring industry. The Jewish labor movement in England is the oldest in the world—it is the mother movement among Jewish workers the world over. And one cannot escape a feeling of sadness in contemplating the amount of travail and generations of sacrifice spent in building up labor organizations among these workers and the meagre results accomplished. Indeed, the Jewish labor movement in England is grey and age-weary, but it has little substantial to point to after all these years of up-hill fighting.

The general precarious economic situation in England and the universal industrial crisis have of course had their effect on the Jewish trades in England. The purchasing power of the unemployed, with a steady reserve of unemployed numbering over two million, has been substantially diminished, and it is only natural that such an industry as clothing-making, which works exclusively for the consuming market and caters to the needs of the large masses, would be affected first by widespread and chronic unemployment. Another factor is the recent effort on the part of some of the English colonies which before the war offered a great market for the English clothing industry, to become in this respect economically independent. Australia and South Africa are now importing textiles in large quantities instead of clothing, and are producing clothing in their own factories.

There are altogether about 300,000 Jews in England, of whom 100,000 can be classified as "immigrants." Of these there are about 40,000 wage-earners, who, with their families, comprise a population of approximately 120,000. The greatest part of these workers are employed in the production of men's clothing. In this trade, conditions are nothing short of despondent. Unemployment, disorganization and apathy are its most prevalent features. In the women's garment trades the situation is somewhat better. The largest Jewish labor union in England is the London "United Ladies' Tailors' Union," with a membership of 4,000. There are approximately 6,000 organized Jewish workers in all England, of which total the above-mentioned organization of ladies' tailors contains fully two-thirds. This trade union of Jewish workers has remained today the only independent Jewish trade organization. Since last year, it has been affiliated with the British Trades Un-

ion Congress, and just at present it is negotiating for amalgamation with the English organizations in the tailoring trade. All the other Jewish trade unions have already been united with the general organizations in their respective trades.

The Jewish ladies' tailors, it seems to me, have no cause to complain about earnings. In fact, they earn much more—when they have work—than their English trade-brothers. For example, while the normal scale of English ladies' tailors amounts to three or three-and-a-half pounds per week, the minimum scale of the Jewish workers ranges from five and a half to six pounds weekly. The Jewish workers, however, earn on the average even more than that, and their wages during the season reach as high as eight, ten and twelve pounds per week. Prices for labor, however, are very poorly systematized and the difference between the minima and maxima is astonishingly great. As everywhere, in the garment trades, however, the seasonal character of the industry presents its worst feature, and in this respect conditions seem to have grown more exasperating lately than they ever were before. Ladies' tailors used to work eight months a year in London; but in the last two years the seasons have dropped to four, six, and, at best, seven months for the year. The ladies' tailoring trade too has always suffered from changes of fashion; but, in recent years, these changes have become so rapid that they are playing havoc with the earnings of the workers and the periods of regular employment. The shops are degenerating into smaller and other smaller units, a phenomenon for which the workers somehow have to pay most.

An additional affliction in the tailoring trade is the steady influx in recent years of married women and girls who work for very low prices and are crowding out the old-time Jewish mechanics. The women began to come into the ladies' tailoring trade during the war years when there was a shortage of workers. Today they represent a substantial factor in the trade, which has a decidedly demoralizing effect upon trade conditions. Several of the Jewish labor leaders are very pessimistic about this competition from the women workers. They have told me plainly that they are afraid that, within five or ten years, these women will "push the men workers out of the trade entirely." The thing to do, of course, would be to meet this menace by energetic organizing activity; to enroll these women into the unions and to conserve in this manner the working conditions and all the other gains and advantages won by the organized Jewish workers after years of struggle and sacrifice.

To illustrate the political backwardness of the Jewish workers in England, I shall cite the following fact: The unemployment and economic crisis in England has forced the government to give the unemployed, in addition to the old unemployment dole, special temporary contributions for their families. "Aliens" are excluded from this temporary relief—which means that the majority of the unemployed Jewish workers, who are largely not natural-

ized, cannot benefit from this special relief measure. And let us state in passing that it is difficult, indeed, for the Jewish workers in England to become naturalized. One has to pay a fee of thirteen pounds and produce five native English citizens to testify that they have known the applicant for more than five years, before one can obtain citizenship papers—a task largely beyond the ability of most Jewish workers.

So, on the one hand, the Jewish worker is politically disenfranchised because it is practically impossible for him to become a citizen, and, on the other, he is economically punished because he is not one.

To give you an idea of the spiritual poverty prevailing among the Jewish workers, I shall only state that the 40,000 Jewish laborers in England have not a single weekly or monthly journal devoted to their interests and serving as a spiritual center for them. The only trade union that could have taken upon itself the initiative for publishing such an organ would be the above-mentioned United Ladies' Tailors' Union, of which Benjamin Schlesinger was elected honorary president a year or two ago, and which is in a spiritual way closely allied with the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union of America.

This last-mentioned organization would be doing a great and lasting service to the Jewish labor movement in England if it should now come to its aid, and create such a spiritual pivot for the badly harrassed and rather poorly organized Jewish workers of Great Britain.

New York Call Benefit Performance

Friday, March 16

at 8:30 P. M.

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By SHOLOM ASCH

WITH

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"Tremulous intensity—restrained power—deep feeling." Burns Mantle in News.

"A magnificent performance—as good as anything our theatre has to offer." Heywood Brown in World.

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"His acting is electrifying." Robert Welsh in Telegram.

"Will be long remembered." James Craig in Mail.

"Unfailingly sincere and effective." John Corbin in Times.

"They were still cheering and haw-waving when we left for the subway, all excited over the things we had witnessed."—Percy Hammond in Tribune.

"Only a little short of superb."—Kenneth Macgowan in Globe.

ABOUT THE PLAY
"Theatre-goers who like meals as their dramatic fare will be intensely interested—has elements of greatness." Stephen Rathbun in Sun.

"Stark realism."—James Craig in Mail.

"Only for post-graduates."—Percy Hammond in Tribune.

"Horrible and also honest. Whether or not it should be seen may be left to the public." Heywood Brown in World.

"Deeply cut—rare slice of life."—Burns Mantle in News.

pathy for the aspirations of the workers. His decisions have not always been favorable to the Union; but we always felt that he was impelled by high motives. It will be difficult for the Union as well as the manufacturers to find somebody to fill his place who commands equal esteem and confidence. The Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union in Cleveland as well as our entire international feel deeply grateful for the high services Judge Mack has rendered to the workers.

Union Health Center News

On Friday evening, March 9th, Dr. J. Smith, neurologist for the Union Health Center, will lecture on the Psychology of Cosmism and Other Mental Fads. Dr. Smith is a member of the Neurological Institute and is a prominent neurologist himself. He has attended many of the clinics of Dr. Coué when the latter was here in America, and he has a great deal to say about such fads. Workers who are interested in the so-called new methods of curing diseases will undoubtedly be very much interested in Dr. Smith's presentation of facts. This lecture will start at 8:15 p. m.

promptly, at the Union Health Center, 131 East 17th Street.

ATTENTION, MEN MEMBERS OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

On Friday evening, March 16th, Dr. M. W. Brunet of the Medical Department of the American Social Hygiene Association, will lecture on Sex Hygiene. This will be a special lecture for men only. This lecture has been specially arranged for upon request of many of the students of the Union Health School and will consist of an illustrated lecture on the elements of Sex Hygiene.

ATTENTION, WOMEN MEMBERS OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

On March 23rd, there will be a special lecture for women only on the Physiology of Women's Dress. This lecture will be given by Dr. W. S. Boorstein, Orthopedist of Fordham Hospital.

On Tuesday evening, March 13th, the first lecture of the series of demonstration lectures will be given by Dr. Ward Crampton on Physical Exercises. This first lecture will deal with What Good Posture is Worth to the Workers. Workers attending this series of lectures will be asked to co-operate with Dr. Crampton in taking the special exercises that he gives and in practicing them at home as well as

in the class. This is really a unique series of extremely worthwhile lectures.

It is important that every member of the I. L. G. W. U. know the few simple exercises to take which will give them the feeling that they are not yet old and worn out and will rather have that exhilarating, restful feeling and the ability to relax. Don't forget the date! March 13th, Friday evening, at 8:15 p. m.

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EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES



Two Lectures on Contemporary Drama

By Dr. H. W. L. DANA

Our students will be glad to hear that Dr. Dana will give two lectures on "Contemporary Drama," at our Workers' University. Dr. Dana's two lectures will follow Dr. Lyon's lectures on "The Drama."

The first lecture will deal with the remarkable recent movement in drama that has sprung up since the war. It will treat the modern plays in relation to the modern social movements and in particular the labor movement.

Get-Together of Students and Teachers of Our Workers' University and Unity Centers

Now, as our season is nearing its end, the Arrangements Committee of the students of the Workers' University and Unity Centers will be getting busy on the arrangements for a get-together of our students, our teachers, and their friends.

This affair is always very inspiring. The students and teachers meet informally and discuss the work done during the season. They also spend some time in good fellowship and sociability.

ment.

The second lecture will take up some one recent play, analyze its main theme, and discuss its significance as an illustration of the general principles outlined in the previous lecture. The selection of the play for discussion will be made by the students of the first lecture.

The lectures will be given on Saturday, March 17th and March 24th, at 1:30 p. m.

The Committee will meet within a few days and work out a plan for this celebration. The date and the character of the entertainment will be announced in the JUSTICE.

Classes in English and Courses for Members of Locals 17 and 9

The best measure of the importance of the activities of our Educational Department is the rapid spread of this idea among our local unions. From the start, the Educational Department realized the importance of the study of English for our members, considering that so many of them are of foreign birth and that, as workers and citizens, they ought to know the language of their newly adopted country. Thousands of our members availed themselves of the opportunity of attending the classes in English that were specially organized for our members in public school buildings. Although the teachers for these classes were assigned by the Board of Education, they cooperated with the Educational Department to make the work more effective.

Now this work is taking a new turn. Our Reefmakers' Union, Local No. 17, organized classes in English in their own headquarters. Two rooms were set aside for this purpose. They were furnished with comfortable students' chairs with rests, a blackboard, and a teacher's desk. The members of this organization assemble there every Thursday evening from 6 to 8 to study English under Mr. Henry Goldstein, who is a highly experienced and competent teacher, and who takes a personal interest in this work.

All the expenses, including the teacher's fee, are met by the Local.

Each Saturday at 1 p. m., a group of the members of this Local assemble in the same place to listen to talks

and discussions by lecturers or teachers on different subjects of interest to them. These lectures are arranged by the Educational Department of our International.

Now our Cloakmakers' Union, Local No. 9, also decided to organize two classes in English for their members. Since they cannot at present spare the room in their headquarters for this purpose, these classes will meet in the Waitmakers' Unity Center, Room 402 and 403, on Thursdays, between 6:30 and 8:30. We succeeded in securing a very competent teacher, Mr. Jacob A. Rubel, who is principal of an evening school. He is in sympathy with our plan, and we are certain that the members of Local No. 9 will profit greatly from the two hours a week that they will devote to the study of English.

On the second and fourth Saturday of the month, the members of Local No. 9 meet in their headquarters where courses on economics and the labor movement are given. On Saturday, March 10, Max Levin will start his course on the Economic Structure of the Present System. This activity has been carried on by the Local for the last two years.

We hope that the members of Local No. 17 and of Local No. 9 will feel the responsibility of this experiment and make it a success. This they can do by regularly attending the English classes as well as the Saturday afternoon lectures.

Admission to these activities is free to our members.

WHAT DO WE GET OUT OF LIFE?

(A personal confession)

By STUART CHASE

(Description of a lecture to be given in our building, on Thursday, March 15th)

The philosophers have been trying to define life for 5000 years. Beyond a few hints and suggestions, they have not got very far with it.

The scientists, who have been at the job only a hundred years or so, have done better. They have given us the theory of evolution, the germ cell, the electron, and psychoanalysis. But they have not yet reached the heart of the matter. I will back the scientists against the philosophers any day, but both groups I fear have a long, long road to travel.

We do not know what we are, or how we got here, or where we are going. We only know that here we are, whether we like it or not, and that some aspects of life are very satisfying, and that our job seems to be either to make life as rewarding as possible or else to commit suicide with all possible dispatch. Faced with these alternatives, I have tried to work out an engineering time-study of my life as I live it from day to day in an attempt to find out when it is rewarding and when it is disappointing. I have tried to work off my hours of real living from my hours of dreary existing, and to find out what causes the real living and what causes the dreary one.

Weekly Calendar

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

Saturday, March 10th

1:30 p. m. Social Forces in Literature.—The Drama.
Dr. John H. H. Lyons—Lecturer.

Saturday, March 17th

1:30 p. m. H. W. L. Dana—Contemporary Drama.

Sunday, March 11th

10:30 a. m. Alexander Fichandler—Psychology of Current Events.
11:30 a. m. Dr. H. J. Carman—Political and Social History of the U. S.

UNITY CENTERS

Monday, March 12th

Lower Bronx Unity Center—P. S. 43
Brown Place and 136th St., Room 505
8:30 p. m. Dr. Margaret Daniels—The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.
Brownsville Unity Center—P. S. 84
Stone and Gloucester Aves., Room 310
8:30 p. m. Sylvia Koppald—Can Capitalism Reconstruct Itself?

Tuesday, March 13th

Harlem Unity Center—P. S. 171
103rd Street, Near Fifth Avenue, Room 406.
8:45 p. m. Theresa Wolfson—The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.
Waitmakers' Unity Center—P. S. 40
320 East 20th Street, Room 305.
8:00 p. m. Solon De Leon—Land Ownership and the Worker.

Wednesday, March 14th

East Side Unity Center—P. S. 63
4th St. Near 1st Ave., Room 404
8:30 p. m. Theresa Wolfson—The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.
Bronx Unity Center—P. S. 61
Crotona Park East and Charlotte St., Room 501
8:45 p. m. A. L. Wilbert—The Market As An Economic Institution.
Waitmakers' Unity Center—P. S. 40
320 East 20th Street
8:00 p. m. Loretta Ritter—Physical Training

EXTENSION DIVISION

Thursday, March 8th

Russian-Polish Branch
215 East 16th Street
8:00 p. m. Dr. M. M. Kadets—The Worker and His Health.

Thursday, March 15th

I. L. G. W. U. Building.
8:00 p. m. Stuart Chase—WHAT DO WE GET OUT OF LIFE?
Local No. 9—Waitmakers' Unity Center—P. S. 40
320 East 20th Street—Rooms 402-403
8:00 p. m. J. A. Rubel—English.
Ladies' Branch, Local No. 9—231 East 14th Street
8:00 p. m. Symposium on "The Place of Women in the Labor Movement."
Speakers: Miss Theresa Wolfson, Miss Fannie M. Cohn.

YIDDISH

Saturday, March 10th

Local No. 9—228 Second Avenue
1:00 p. m. Max Levin—The Economic Structure of our Present System.

Sunday, March 11th

Local No. 1—Clubrooms, 1581 Washington Avenue, Bronx
10:30 a. m. I. Lehman—Social Psychology.
Harlem Educational Center of the I. L. G. W. U.
62 East 166th Street
10:30 a. m. Max Levin—The Economic Structure of our Present System.

"PLACE OF WOMEN IN THE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT" SYMPOSIUM MISS THERESA WOLFSON AND MISS FANNIA M. COHN

"The Place of Women in the Trade Union Movement" will be the subject of a lecture (symposium) to be given before the members of the Ladies' Branch of the Cloakmakers' Union,

Local No. 9, on Thursday evening, March 15th, at 231 East 14th Street. Members of the International are invited to attend.

On Saturday, March 10, at 8 p. m., H. Glantz will lecture on the Old, New, and the Newest in Yiddish Poetry, in the clubroom of the Cloak Operators' Union, Local No. 1, 1581 Washington Avenue, Bronx.

I have discovered eleven reasons for living, and five reasons for existing, but my time-study shows that I live only about 25 per cent of the time. Do you have a higher ratio?

It seems to me that all social progress which amounts to anything is simply an increase in this ratio. Instead of 25 per cent, can we so arrange our environment that we can live life to the full 50 or 60 per cent of the time? Furthermore I am convinced that I cannot do much about it personally. In the last analysis—despite much beating against the bars—my life ratio can only grow with that of my fellowmen. And that is why I am a Socialist, instead of the go-getter business man I was brought up to be.

In my talk, I will try to show what life means to me, and perhaps stimulate you to find out what it means to you and finally how we may cooperate to better it for both of us some day.

The Week in Local 10

By JOSEPH FISH

GENERAL

Some few months ago, the membership, at a General Meeting, decided to empower the Executive Board to place controllers to go out controlling our shops. When this was originally begun, Local No. 10 placed a number of controllers at the place. The reason for this large number was the fact that these men were generally placed in the slow season at a salary of \$30 per week, but, as soon as any one of them had the opportunity of getting a job, he immediately dropped the controlling business and went to work. The result was that every other week we had to place new men on the job, with the exception of one man who stuck it out to the end of the year, namely, Brother David Fruhling, who having shown his qualifications, was subsequently elected business agent for the Waist and Dress Division.

Quite a number of these controllers also advanced, as an excuse for leaving, the fact that they did not wish to become acquainted with too many of the manufacturers, as it was at some later date impair their chances of getting a job with any of the manufacturers with whom they might come in contact.

The result of this was that, by the time the busy season drew near, there were no controllers to be had; nor were we interested in getting any, as the trade was busy and there was very little work for the controllers. Nevertheless, the Waist and Dress Branch still needed a couple of men to control the shops, as the industry was not busy. Brother Dubinsky therefore recommended the appointment of Brother Haniel as a controller for the Waist and Dress Division. Brother Haniel is still with us.

As conditions stand today, the Cloak and Suit Industry is quite busy and there is no necessity for having controllers at present. However, since the strike was called in the Waist and Dress Industry, a new situation has developed, which concerns the open shops.

In quite a number of these shops the cutters employed are either dropped members or members in bad standing, and it would be an easy matter for the organization to organize them. In a number of other shops, the cutters have responded to the strike-call; in others they remained at work and it required the continuous efforts of our organization to go after these people in order to organize them. We have already been successful in accomplishing this in some of the shops, such as those of Son & Arch, Larry Margulies, Mamie Conti and others.

Complaints have also been filed with this organization, that the majority of those pertaining to violations of manufacturers who are members of the Contractors' Association. And in order that the work be accomplished, Brother Dubinsky recommended to the Executive Board the appointment of a competent man to attend to this work.

The man in question, whose name was recommended to the Executive Board, is well known to the membership, as he has served in the capacity of business agent, chairman of the Executive Board, and chairman of the organization. He is Brother Max Stoller. The Board was but too glad to concur in the recommendations, as it was well acquainted with the qualifications of this brother and knew that the work outlined for him would be attended to satisfactorily.

Among the various communications received by the Executive Board last week was one from the Union Health

Center with reference to Health Insurance, and one from the International regarding a labor bank.

The communication from the Union Health Center was a formal request that the Executive Board set aside an evening for a committee of their body to appear and explain the proposition of Health Insurance. As yet, we are not in a position to state just exactly what points they mean to bring out, but it is understood that the Union Health Center wants to undertake to supply medical examinations either at the office of the Union Health Center or at the home of the members, at \$1.00 per annum per member.

The Executive Board decided to comply with the request of the committee and will notify them in the near future as to the date on which this committee may appear. As soon as the committee will have appeared before the Board, the members will get full information on this subject and also the recommendation of the Executive Board as to final action.

The second communication, which was from General Secretary-Treasurer Baroff of the International, explained to the Executive Board that the International has decided to form a labor bank, along the same lines as those conducted by the Locomotive Engineers in Cleveland and the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America in Chicago. As yet, it is not definitely known what the capitalization of this proposed institution will be, but it is understood that the International will try to keep at least sixty per cent of the stock, so that it may be known as the bank of our own International. The balance of the stock will be sold to other labor organizations as well as to the individual members of our International.

The above communication also informs us that the allotment granted to our local is \$10,000, which the Executive Board recommends be concurred in by this body. This means that our organization will become stockholders, but, instead of it being a private enterprise, it will be an enterprise of our own.

We hope that the International will organize this bank in the very near future and that it will make a success of this undertaking.

CLOAK AND SUIT

General Manager Dubinsky rendered his report before the Cloak and Suit Branch meeting held on Monday night, March 5th, in Arlington Hall. The report was well received by the membership. The three outstanding points dealt with in the report were: the violation of working on Saturday afternoons and legal holidays, the employment of non-union boys, and the innovation on the part of some manufacturers in installing ten-inch up-and-down cutting machines in their cutting department.

As mentioned in last week's issue of these columns, the Executive Board authorized the office to send out committees to apprehend cutters who went to work on Washington's Birthday, and those who were found in the shops are being called before the Executive Board and proper action against them is being taken. The Executive Board is not at all lenient in these cases, as, aside from the imposition of a fine, the offenders are also being removed from their jobs either immediately or at the end of the season.

Brother Dubinsky, in the course of this report, advanced, as a warning to the members, that violation of the constitutional provisions regarding working on Saturday afternoons or legal holidays will be met with drastic action on the part of the Executive Board, and that committees are al-

ways at hand in the office to be sent out every Saturday afternoon, whenever information is received or suspicion aroused that the cutters in certain shops are committing such a violation.

Brother Dubinsky again stressed the point regarding the non-union boys, contending that it is the fault of the members themselves, and that the office is trying its utmost to eradicate this evil. In most of these cases, the cutters do not come to report the matter, and, by the time the information reaches the office, these men have already been working in the business long enough to have learned the trade, so that we are actually forced to admit them into the organization as members. This adequately explains why, at every Cloak and Suit, or even Waist and Dress meeting, there are always at least twenty-five to thirty-five applicants sworn in.

In the dress division, the comparison cannot be made, due to the fact that there has been a general strike in the industry, and, in addition to this, the percentage of unorganized shops, when compared with that in the Cloak and Suit Industry, is found to be much greater. Brother Dubinsky therefore again warned the members that it is for their own good to see to it that whenever there is a non-union boy employed in their shop they should immediately report the fact to the office, whereupon action will be taken against the house in question to see that the non-union boy is kept out of the cutting room.

The third question to which the manager called the attention of the members and with which many of them are well acquainted was the new practice on the part of some manufacturers of placing ten-inch up-and-down machines in their cutting departments. This is the first time that these machines have been placed on the market and the members are quite incensed over it. The cutters working in the shops where these machines have been placed are very much opposed to their use on the ground that it impairs their health, their contention being that it is a difficult enough job to push an eight-inch machine, let alone a ten-inch one.

Those members at Monday night's meeting also expressed their opposition to the introduction of this machine in the shops, and, if we are to judge correctly, the machine company which is putting it on the market will have difficulty with its new machines, as the cutters do not intend endangering their health and energy to the extent that these machines would require.

WAIST AND DRESS

Last week was the first week that the Waist and Dress Industry worked on the new basis of the forty-hour week. The organization, in the meanwhile, has not been idle, but has made it its business to see that the forty-hour week is carried out. The Joint

Board, for this reason, had all its officers and active members ready on Saturday morning, March 3rd, in Beethoven Hall, at about eight o'clock, whence they were sent out to various shops which were suspected of failure to live up to the new agreement. So far, the results of these committees have been very satisfactory, as there were very few persons found committing the violation. We hope that the committees will not prove to be a necessity, as the members will no doubt take advantage of the benefits derived from the past strike.

The Joint Board has given up all the halls that were hired for the duration of the strike, with the exception of Beethoven Hall, where all the business connected with the past general strike is being taken care of. It is not yet definitely known when Beethoven Hall will be given up, as there are still a number of shops that are out on strike. When these shops are settled up, it is understood that all business will then be conducted from the office of the Joint Board, 16 West 21st Street.

The Joint Board, on the other hand, does not intend to let up on this organization work, as there are a few shops yet to be tackled, and the Organization Department will see to it that these shops are unionized as soon as possible.



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D'BARNETT L'BECKER
OPTOMETRIST • OPTICIAN

CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10

Notice of Regular Meetings

WAIST AND DRESS	}	Monday, March 12th
MISCELLANEOUS		
GENERAL		Monday, March 26th

Meetings Begin at 7:30 P. M.

AT ARLINGTON HALL, 23 St. Marks Place