

"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. 16.

New York, Friday, April 13, 1923.

Price 2 Cents

DISTRICT COUNCIL FORMED IN BOSTON

NEW ORGANIZATION LAUNCHED BY SIGMAN AND PERLSTEIN

The foregoing week witnessed a cycle of unusual activity in Boston. President Sigman, together with Vice-president Perlstein, who recently managed the organizing campaign in that city, spent several days there in winding up the affairs of the last strike and in endeavoring to bring greater coordination and a better system in the locals of the International in Boston.

By far the most important achievement accomplished was the formation of a district council to take in all the Boston locals including those belonging to the Joint Board of Cloakmakers' Local No. 49, and the Raincoat Makers' Union, Local No. 7. This was done at a conference of all the locals on Tuesday, April 3, 1923, presided over by Vice-president Perlstein.

It was originally planned to form one joint board of all these locals, but, upon further deliberation, it was decided to defer this plan for a while and to form the district council first. The difference between the joint-board form of organization and that

of a district council consists in the management of the finances and the control of the relationship of the in-

volved locals with the employers. Under a joint board, the finances and the (Continued on page 3)

STUDENTS AND TEACHERS WILL ENTERTAIN LABOR EDUCATION DELEGATES ON SUNDAY, APRIL 15

A SPECIAL SHOWING OF THE MOVING PICTURE ON THE EINSTEIN THEORY

This Sunday, at 4:30 in the afternoon, our students and teachers will assemble in the I. L. G. W. U. auditorium, 3 West 16th Street, to extend their welcome and entertain the delegates and guests of the Third Annual Convention of the Workers' Education Bureau of America, which will meet in this city on Saturday and Sunday, April 14th and 15th.

The main feature of the afternoon will be a special showing of the moving picture on "The Einstein Theory."

The affair will start at 4:30 and last until late in the evening, but the delegates will be entertained between 4:30 and 7 o'clock. "Eats," tea and refreshments will be served, and dancing will be part of the program.

The Arrangements Committee, appointed by the students, decided to charge a nominal admission fee of 25 cents. All those who received tickets can account for them at the office of the Educational Department, 3 West 16th Street, on Friday and Saturday, and on Sunday at the door.

SAMPLE MAKERS, LOCAL 3, ELECT OFFICERS

LEFKOVITS IS RE-ELECTED SECRETARY-MANAGER

Last Saturday, April 7th, the Cloak Sample Makers' Union, Local 3, met at Bryant Hall, Sixth Avenue and 42nd Street, and elected officers for the year. Vice-president Samuel Lefkovits was re-elected secretary-manager. An executive board of fifteen members and a sick fund committee of three were also elected.

The election of officers in Local 3 was to have taken place a few weeks ago, in January, when all the other locals of the Cloak Joint Board chose their officers. But, owing to the contemplated separation of the sample makers from the ladies' tailors this election had to be postponed until this division was carried into practice.

The elected officers were installed on Tuesday evening, April 10th, at the meeting hall of the new home of the Cloakmakers' Union, Lexington Avenue and 25th Street. President Sigman, Vice-president Feinberg, and Brothers Pinkovsky, Langer and Kaplowitz, the main officers of the Cloak Joint Board, and all of the district managers attended the meeting.

Local 3 will now begin with renewed energy to strengthen its position and fortify the local.

CLOAK PRESSERS UNION, LOCAL 35 CELEBRATES TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR RELIEF FUND

A BOAT EXCURSION FOR MEMBERS

Local No. 35, Cloak Pressers' Union of New York, decided to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the relief fund of their local by arranging an excursion of the entire membership on the Hudson River. Each member of the local will obtain a free ticket. Those desiring additional tickets will pay for them at the rate of fifty cents each.

The local will issue on this occasion a book describing the sick relief as-

SAN FRANCISCO CLOAKMAKERS

WILL FIGHT UNTIL THEY WIN

SECRETARY BAROFF ARRIVES ON SCENE OF CONFLICT

The strike of the several hundred cloakmakers of San Francisco is still at its height. The employers are as obstinate as before and will not hear of recognizing the union.

But the strikers are equally determined not to yield an inch of space, not to return to the shops unless as union men and women. They are

activities of the union. Members of the Local who desire to voice their opinion on this subject in articles or messages of greeting are requested to forward them at once to the office of Local No. 35, addressed to Joseph Breslaw, manager.

ready to fight as long as it will take to convince the cloak manufacturers of San Francisco that, after all is said and done, they cannot make cloaks and fill their orders without their workers.

Secretary Baroff arrived at San Francisco on Monday afternoon, April 9th, and at once took charge of the local situation. At the moment of this writing it is difficult to say whether he will be able to arrive at an understanding with the obdurate local employers. In a telegram to President Sigman, Secretary Baroff states that the strikers were greatly elated at his coming and that the

strike requires the moral and financial aid of the International. President Sigman conferred with the New York members of the General Executive Board on this matter and wired Secretary Baroff as follows:

"I have discussed the San Francisco problem with the New York members of the Board and we decided to let you know that you do your utmost to bring the strike to a satisfactory end."

Secretary Baroff therefore has full authority to give the strikers whatever assistance he might deem necessary.

New York Ladies' Tailors Obtain Separate Charter

LOCAL RECEIVES ITS FORMER NUMBER—38

The ladies' tailors of New York, who were recently separated from the sample makers' Local 3, with whom they had been joined for about two years, held a meeting last week and decided to apply to the General Office for a separate charter. As Number 38, under which the ladies' tailors have been known for many years, happened to be vacant on the roster of locals, the General Office granted to them their former number.

The meeting elected a temporary executive board to go on with the work of the local and Brother F. Rosenfarb was elected temporary secretary. At this meeting, Vice-

president Israel Feinberg, the manager of the New York Cloak Joint Board, declared to the ladies' tailors that the Cloakmakers' Union will always maintain friendly relations with their local and that it will at all times receive cooperation and assistance from the Cloakmakers. The new local is now looking for an office, in the meantime being located at the headquarters of Local 2.

According to Vice-president Lefkovits, secretary-manager of Local 3, friendly relations will always exist between Local 3 and the new Local 38. They will get on more harmoniously than they did while existing as one

Cleveland Wage Hearing Begins Next Week

PRESIDENT SIGMAN WILL ATTEND SESSIONS

The hearing on the subject of raising the wages of the cloakmakers of Cleveland, deferred from last fall to the spring of 1923, will take place on April 20, it was announced by Vice-President Perlstein, the manager of the Cleveland Joint Board

local. The ladies' tailors are not leaving Local 3 with empty hands. They will receive part of the treasury of Local 3 after the international auditor will have determined the amount due them in accordance with their numerical strength. It will surely amount to several thousand dollars.

who left last Saturday for Cleveland to make final arrangements for the hearing.

The union has made all necessary preparations. With the aid of the Labor Bureau, Inc. of New York—a nationally-known organization for the gathering of statistical data and the preparation of facts and figures for labor organizations in their conferences and negotiations, with employers—it has gathered all the information for the Cleveland Joint Board and prepared the case for the hearing. There seems to be no doubt

(Continued on page 3)

Topics of the Week

By N. S.

HATCHING A NEW ALLIANCE.

LOUIS LOUCHEUR, former French Minister, industrial magnate and aspiring premier, spent a week in England. He conferred with Premier Bonar Law, Lloyd George and other prominent political leaders. What is significant about these conferences is that he did not come to England as the official messenger of Foincaré. Lamer has said that Louchéur's visit is a clear indication that the opposition to Foincaré's policies is growing, that a new understanding with England is sought behind his back, and that a governmental crisis in France is speedily approaching.

However the case might be, there is little doubt that France is now out for a new scheme. Despite their hatred for the English the French are eager for a renewed alliance. The basis on which the Anglo-French alliance is to be built is the creation of a Rhineland State, under the control of the so-called League of Nations or some other international body.

Germany's hopes in a large measure lay in the disagreements among the Allies. It was America or Great Britain or both that many Germans hoped would stay the imperialistic hand of France. But now that France is wooing England with a chance of winning her, Germany has good reason for being nervous and depressed. But the situation is far from being settled. In France as well as in England and Germany, the divergence of opinion is sharp and deep.

FOSTER'S TRIAL.

"As you sit here do you believe that the dictatorship of the proletariat right here in America would remedy that situation (exploitation)?" was one of the questions the Prosecuting Attorney asked William Z. Foster at the Communist Trial in St. Joseph, Michigan.

"I think," Foster replied, "that the only way in which conditions can be finally remedied is for the farmers and workers to take charge of the government and operate the industries for the good of the broad masses of people."

At another point Foster said, "to me the Russian Revolution did not seem difficult to understand. It is only our own labor movement carried to its logical conclusion."

In the past few years such confessions sent many to prison. Juries generally reached an agreement after brief and perfunctory deliberations. But it has taken 31 hours of discussion in Foster's case for the jury to realize that it is hopelessly deadlocked. Thirty-eight ballots were taken and the vote stood 6 to 6 throughout. Half the jury voted for his acquittal, and half for his conviction. The make-up of the jury pleased even the editors of the New York Times, so that it cannot by any stretch of imagination be regarded as representing radical or liberal opinion. The deadlock may with justice be regarded as a sure indication that the clouds of reaction and fear are dispersing. It unquestionably represents a new turn in the tide. It may even lead to the repeal of the "criminal syndicalist" laws. In California, a movement has already been started to wipe these obnoxious laws off of the statute books. Michigan and other states may follow suit.

AN EXAMPLE OF ACADEMIC FREEDOM.

SUPPOSE a Communist organizer, a Bolshevik, a member of the Third International, a disciple of Lenin and Trotsky had been discovered teaching in Columbia University. What would President Nicholas Murray Butler do? The reply is of course too obvious. But when Arturo Giovannitti, General Secretary of the Italian Chamber of Labor and an organizer of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, wrote a letter to President Butler protesting against the retention of a professor at Columbia who had become local head of the Fascist movement in this country, a startlingly new note was heard from him. In his letter to Giovanniitti President Butler makes the following revelation:

"It is not unbecoming for me," he says, "to point out that Columbia University has through a long and honorable history lived up to the highest ideals of freedom to seek the truth and freedom to teach." And he concludes by stating that "to attempt to discipline a university teacher for his private or political opinions would be most unbecoming."

President Butler surely remembers the dismissal of the professors from Columbia University a few years ago for their "political opinions." He knows that students are not allowed to invite radical outsiders to address them. When he talks of the "highest ideals of freedom" therefore he must have something very definite in his mind. He must mean "freedom" to preach and propagate the "opinions" which are congenial to him and to the interests which he represents.

The Fascist organizations in this country are planning to do what the Fascists are doing in Italy. According to the Italian Chamber of Labor, it is their aim "to link with the Ku Klux Klan, to aid the newly contemplated open-shop drive and to furnish strike-breakers and gunmen to reactionary employers."

Such a program falls in line with President Butler's ways of thinking and a professor who actively advocates and promotes such a movement is slated for promotion rather than dismissal.

HOMES AND TAX EXEMPTION

TO MEET the appalling housing shortage, the New York State Legislature passed a law in 1920, permitting any municipality to exempt from taxation for ten years new residential construction undertaken during a limited period of time. Under this stimulus New York has enjoyed the greatest building boom in its history. About three weeks ago, that is, after a delay of two years, the law was declared unconstitutional by Justice Tierney. Seventeen days later the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court unanimously reversed his decision and sustained the authority of the Legislature.

This decision has brought relief to many home builders and contractors. The building boom has gained fresh vigor, and the expectation is general that rents will be lowered. It will at least provide more houses and thereby reduce congestion.

Union Health Center News

MAY FEVER SEASON

Appointments are now being made at the Union Health Center, 131 East 17th Street, for treatment of patients suffering from hay fever. This is the season when workers suffering from this most annoying malady begin to worry about what is in store for them in June. It is also the season when the doctor at the Union Health Center can accomplish the most toward effecting a cure if treatments are begun at this time. Make your appointments now for treatment against hay fever!

PREUDIAN PSYCHOLOGY

The course in Freudian Psychology will be given at the Union Health School by Dr. Lago Goldstein. This course will begin Tuesday evening, April 17th, promptly at 8:15 p. m. It will include a discussion of many questions pertaining to Freudian psychology that the average worker is interested to know about.

On Friday evening, April 20th, Dr. Dana Atchley of Presbyterian Hospital, will lecture on "The Story of a Physical Examination."

On Friday evening, April 27th, there will be a gala event—a real party and celebration of the closing of the Union Health School for this year.

THE STORY OF A PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

When you feel sick, or a little "under the weather," or have "pains all over"—nothing definite the matter with you, just tired, and down and out—it's either a sign of spring or a sign that you're not well. In either case you ought to go and see the doctor and have him give you a real physical examination.

What is a real physical examination, you ask, and what good will it do?

Come on Friday evening, April 20th, to the Union Health Center, 131 East 17th Street, and hear Dr. Dana Atchley, physician of the Presby-

terian Hospital of New York City, tell you in a delightful and interesting manner just what the doctor does when he thumps you on the chest and puts these telephone-looking things to his ears—or what it means when he asks you to cough three times or breathe deep or run around the room or do a hundred and one things that make you wonder whether you are getting a physical examination or are being put through a sort of incantation!

You have all sorts of questions in mind—if you have ever been to the hospital you will want to know why the doctor does certain things to you, why the nurse takes your temperature and many other things.

The veil of mystery of what the doctor does and what it all means will be torn aside. Here is your chance to understand just what a physical examination is and of what use it is to you.

Remember the date—Friday evening, April 20th, at 8:15 p. m., at the Union Health Center, 131 East 17th Street.

Remember the lecturer—Dr. Dana Atchley of the Presbyterian Hospital.

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BUILDING TRADES DEMAND WAGE INCREASE

WORKERS are beginning to demand a share in the widely advertised prosperity. Industrial and business expansion and the rising cost of living are generally recognized as conditions for increased wages. Add to this the fact that during the last period of depression wages were generally slashed so that workers suffered whether employed or unemployed. Demands for wage increases on the part of the workers cannot therefore be construed by the employers as a bolt from the blue.

The building trades workers are no exception. And at a meeting of the reorganized Building Trades Council last Saturday it was decided to present demands to the Employers' Association for wage increases from 1 to 2 dollars a day. The employers on the other hand are proposing a plan, consisting of "twelve points," the chief among them being, "compulsory arbitration" and the "open shop." It is the existence of a few moribund Brinell locals that gives the employers the confidence to advance such a plan. But the new Council is assured of the solidarity of the workers. At its last meeting it was reported that several unions had already made formal demands for wage increases. Within a few days it is expected that the plumbers, painters, marble setters, plasterers, etc., will present their demands to the employers. If the employers persist in their refusal to grant the workers' demands, it will mean a general strike and the tie-up of building construction in New York City on May 1.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES IN ENGLAND

INDUSTRIAL conditions in Great Britain have for the past few years been surcharged with unrest and disaffection. Unquestionably the most distressing factor in the situation has been the wide-spread unemployment. Those who are fortunate enough to find work are faced with the wage-slashing campaign of the employers. At the present moment over 700,000 workers are involved in disputes with their employers, and 56,000, including Welsh miners and Norfolk farm workers, are on strike. And if the building trades workers will not accept the new schedule of wages and hours proposed by their employers, a lockout of 500,000 workers may result. Another serious dispute in the pottery trades involves 60,000 men. Still another source of anxiety in the dispute which has arisen over the railway shopmen's wages. At Dundee, 36,000 jute workers have been locked out. So it goes.

With the reconvening of Parliament, these questions will be brought to the fore. The Bonar Law Government will be faced with serious problems and no vague or general reply will satisfy the Labor Party representatives. In addition to the different industrial disputes the resolution on Socialism introduced by Philip Snowden a few weeks ago will be taken up. Then there are the ever-present crises, the reparations, the Ruhr, the Near East, etc. Will the Bonar Law Government be able to meet these problems and survive?

England Shaken By Big Strikes

By EVELYN SHARP
(London Daily Herald Service)

Easter finds us this year in an industrial situation of considerable gravity. Wage disputes in five great industries have led already, or are about to lead to strikes and lock-outs; and there seems little prospect of industrial peace for some time to come.

The strike of farm laborers in Norfolk and Suffolk threatens to be the beginning of widespread agricultural trouble; for, although the farmers have yielded to the demands of the men in the latter country, those of Norfolk remain obdurate, and there are many signs that the trouble will spread to South Lincolnshire and to other countries as well. The seriousness of the farm workers' strike lies in the fact that it is not a straight fight between farmers and men; the whole system of land tenure and of disposal of produce is here at stake, and one cannot see any way out of it except a drastic revision of the whole agricultural system. It is, in fact, impossible for many farmers to pay decent wages and make farming pay under the present system which causes the middleman alone to flourish. There is no fixed or just price for the farmer's produce, and want of cooperation renders his struggle to live one long fight against impossible odds, in the majority of cases. Of course, this does not apply to certain rich owners of land, only to the average tenant farmer.

On the other hand, the grievances of the men are serious and indisputable. Since September, 1921, their wages in Norfolk have dropped from 46s. to 25s. a week, and the farmers now demand further cut, and an increase of hours from 50 to 54 a week. In some districts wages are down even lower still. "The laborers are cut down to the bone," said the Norfolk county chairman of the Agricultural Workers' Union, when asked if he thought arbitration (offered by the Minister of Agriculture, Sir R. Sanders, and already rejected by the employers) would help the situation. The threat of the farmers to bring in labor from other countries has been met by a counter threat from the Union to call a general agricultural strike all over the country if blacking labor is resorted to.

OTHER INDUSTRIES

Today also, a critical stage is reached in the building trades dispute, for the employers are meeting to decide whether they will lock out nearly 500,000 operatives who have refused to take reduced wages and a longer working week. The national delegate conference of the Miners' Federation met in London yesterday to consider the serious position of the mining industry, and the advisability of demanding the termination of the agreement to which they were forced to come after the last great lock strike, two years ago. In addition to these three big industries,

there is trouble also in the pottery trade where 60,000 workers are threatened with a lock-out for resisting wage cuts, and in the jute trade where 30,000 workers are already idle in the effort to resist worsened conditions.

LABOR IN PARLIAMENT

The strength of the Labor Opposition in Parliament has undoubtedly done much to modify public opinion with regard to all these trade disputes. One hears far less than formerly about the wickedness of idle workers who dare to strike for better conditions; and the unemployment and housing debates conducted by men who had first-hand knowledge of the conditions they exposed have opened the eyes of many to the way in which the majority of our workers live and starve. But in other ways also the humane influence of Labor in the House of Commons is being felt. The protests against the infliction of the particularly barbarous Field Punishment known as "crucifixion" have not, it is true, been made only by Labor Members; but it is doubtful if, without the unanimous condemnation of it by Labor it would ever have been withdrawn from the Army Regulations which, it is now announced, is to be the case.

George Lansbury's persistent attacks in the House upon the system of pensions also have fruit. Again and again he demands that the same close inquiry shall be made into the other sources of income of high-born pensioners of the State as into those of the old-age pensions or the disabled ex-soldier of the working class; and already one wealthy pensioner, Lord George Hamilton, has voluntarily renounced his £2,000 a year pension from the State, while Mr. Lansbury yesterday extracted from the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Baldwin, the interesting admission that he "thought the whole practice deserved consideration." This would simply not have been possible but for the presence of a strong labor minority in Parliament.

RELIGION IN THE COMMONS

It is true that the daily session of the House of Commons opens with prayer, but it is not often that so much religious fervor is shown by members as was seen yesterday afternoon when the Unionist Member, Sir John Rutledge, obtained leave to introduce his Bill "to prevent the teaching of seditious doctrines or methods to the young," which is aimed, according to the promoter, at the teachings of the proletarian (Socialist and Communist) Sunday schools. The contrast between his speech, with its vague allegations, and that of Mr. Ben Turner, the Labor member who opposed the Bill, was very great, and the speaker's rebuke of those who tried to shout down Mr. Turner's very apt quotations from the precepts of the Socialist Sunday schools struck an effective note. The Bill was read a first time, and that is probably the last that will be heard of it, for, if there is seditious teaching in the proletarian schools, there are already plenty of laws that can deal with it.

If you want the Negro workers in your shop to join the Union, to become members in the great army of organized labor, ask them to read—

THE MESSENGER

The Only Trade Union Publication for Negro workers in America

2205 Seventh Avenue
New York City

District Council Formed in Boston

(Continued from page 1)

relations with the employers are entirely unified and consolidated; while in the district council the affiliated bodies retain their individual financial systems and treasuries and also control directly their dealings with the employers.

The Boston district council was placed under the management of Vice-president Fred Monomon, with the active assistance of Israel Lewin, manager of Local No. 49 and of Abraham Tradiker, the manager of the Boston Cloak Joint Board.

On Wednesday, April 4, President Sigman arrived in Boston and on the evening of that day held a meeting with the Joint Board. He was greatly pleased with the formation of a district council and counseled the active workers of the Joint Board to give this district council every possible assistance and an opportunity to serve as the stepping-stone in the direction of even closer affiliation between the Boston locals in the future.

The following evening, between 6 and 8 o'clock, there was held a joint general member meeting of all the Boston locals at Lorimer Hall. It was one of the largest meetings of ladies' garment workers ever gathered under one roof in Boston. The hall was crowded to the doors with members of the Cloakmakers' Union of Local No. 49 and the Raincoat Makers' Local No. 7. While the meeting was in progress, the entire Local No. 12, the Pressers' Union, marching in a body, entered the hall carrying a huge bunch of flowers which they tendered to President Sigman on the platform. Vice-president Monomon was chairman of the meeting, which was addressed by President Sigman as chief speaker and Vice-president Perlestein. President Sigman dwelt particularly on the importance of having more unity between the local organizations,

forgetting about trade lines, and remembering above all that all the Boston workers are members of one union working for the same purpose and fighting a common enemy. He emphasized the point that the International will keep its eye constantly on Boston, that it will not rest until every cause that in the past has worked against harmony between local and local in Boston is entirely eliminated, that all the local energies are directed towards one aim; namely, the unifying of the remaining unorganized shops and of making every man and woman who works on ladies' garments in Boston a member of the International.

Later in the evening, President Sigman and Vice-president Perlestein attended a meeting of the executive board of Local No. 49, the Waist and Dressmakers' Union. At that meeting the affairs of the local, its organizing work, its finances and its prospects, were gone over in detail. The local has gained a great deal since the last strike and is beginning to get on its feet. The years of apathy and inactivity, however, are still evident in the waist and dress trade of Boston and a great deal of work will have to be done before the industry is thoroughly unionized. The local must be strengthened both internally and outwardly. Shop and district meetings must be conducted in all languages, including the Italian, Jewish and English, so as to approach and interest every worker in the trade. The problem of organizing the children's dress and the petticoat workers of Boston, who belong legitimately under Local No. 49, was also taken up and President Sigman promised the local that the International would help it in its work provided it showed a united will to do real constructive trade union work.

CLEVELAND WAGE HEARING BEGINS APRIL 20th

(Continued from page 1)

in the minds of the Cleveland workers that they have an impregnable case, which is strengthened by the fact that, during the last six months, practically every industry in the country had raised the wages of the workers employed in it, prompted thereby by the obvious inadequacy of present wages to meet the mounting cost of living. President Sigman has promised the Cleveland Joint Board to attend the sessions of the hearing.

During this week, Vice-President Perlestein will have a final meeting with the Cleveland Joint Board to elect a successor to himself, since, after accepting the post of general manager of the western organizing department of the International, it will be impossible for him to devote

himself exclusively to the Cleveland locals. He will, however, continue to supervise the activities in Cleveland in the capacity of general manager.

To bring the matter to the attention of all the locals in the Middle West, and to enlist their full cooperation for the new plan of organization control in their territory, President Sigman addressed a letter to all the locals and joint boards of Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis, in which he urged the locals and their members to stand by Vice-president Perlestein, and to make it possible for him to achieve better results for the involved locals and for the organization as a whole.

JUSTICE

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Boston News

By A LOCAL OBSERVER

We owe an apology to the readers of JUSTICE, generally, and particularly to our members in Boston. A great many things have occurred in the life of the locals of the International in Boston which were not reported in these columns. In fact, one might say that a revolution has recently taken place in some of the trades at which the members of the International are employed. Prior to the last general strike of the waist and dress, and cloak and suit industries which were conducted and brought to a successful conclusion with the aid of the International, the trades were disorganized to such an extent that conditions in the above-mentioned industries degenerated. It was hardly possible for a worker to make a decent living.

The manufacturers were under the impression that the union was dead, and that they are, therefore, the absolute masters of the workers in the shop. The few union shops that the locals had under control were hardly able to withstand the competition of these factories that were not organized. And just when things looked their worst, the General Executive Board decided that it was high time to begin an organization campaign among the ladies' garment workers of Boston. The response on the part of the workers was very encouraging, so much so, that when the strike order was issued, practically all shops making cloaks and suits, and waists and dresses came to a standstill. Manufacturers having had their experiences in former years with the Boston union, and knowing their fighting spirit, decided that it would be best to settle the strike as quickly as possible. They knew that the Boston locals with the powerful International Union and its one hundred and fifty thousand members back of them, were ready to give them a fight to a finish.

The result was that, within a period of two weeks, almost one hundred per cent of the employers settled with the union on terms satisfactory to the workers.

As mentioned above, the International gave its support in this struggle, which the Boston members greatly appreciated. The members are especially thankful to Vice-president Meyer Perlestein, who, for three weeks prior to the calling of the

general strike, conducted a vigorous campaign among the Boston ladies' garment workers. During the general strike, Vice-president Perlestein devoted days and nights, including Saturdays and Sundays, to the interests of the locals and was largely responsible for bringing this strike to a happy termination.

The victorious waist and dress, and cloak and suit members take this opportunity to express their heartfelt thanks to Vice-president Fred Monason, who in conjunction with Brother Perlestein did all within his power to help the striking locals gain their victory. Thanks are also due to the Executive Board and active members of the Waterproof Garment Workers' Union, Local No. 7, who volunteered their help to their striking comrades.

The Waterproof Garment Workers' Union is one of the oldest of the International locals in Boston and is thoroughly organized. It attained its height of success in the last few years under the leadership of Brother Monason. The years of experience in union matters proved to be very valuable to the members of the striking locals. We do hope that they will continue to give their moral aid to the newly reorganized trades.

The last few days we had two very important guests in the persons of Brothers Morris Sigman and Meyer Perlestein, President and Vice-president of the International Union, respectively. During their short stay here, both were kept constantly busy attending to the different meetings of the executive boards of the Boston locals and the Joint Board of Cloak and Suit Makers' Union. Thursday evening, April 5th, a big reception mass meeting in honor of our guests took place at Tremont Temple. In his address the President pointed out to the members the advantages of closer cooperation between the different locals in the city. While the trades are almost one hundred per cent organized, the number of members, which ranges between two thousand, five hundred and three thousand, does not warrant their being under three different managements and three sets of officers. The present form is too expensive, and not only could a great deal of money be saved by the change, but the efficiency of the management of the workers as well would be greatly improved.

YOUR DENTIST

Have your teeth thoroughly examined, without cost to you, by your own dentist at the Union Health Center, 131 East 17th Street.

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Little Sketches From Life

2. MRS. SMITH FROM SICILY

Her manner was convincing—more so than her story. The story came at the Teachers' Institute had progressed through theme, character and plot and was now in the throes of creating what might be so many claims to enduring fame. Today Miss Moore was to read her story and, of course, she was prepared. She would be. She was that sort of person, precisely like the popular conception of what a school-teacher should look like—but doesn't. Carefully typed manuscript in hand, she read to the intently listening class, her voice as neat as her stiff shirt-waist and trim blue skirt.

It was difficult to reconcile the prim Miss Moore with the lurid story she was reading. The setting was laid in Italy and on the Italian East Side. Vendetta from ocean to ocean! Side about to marry! The wedding night! Bride all in white! Father discovers daughter-in-law-elect is the child of his old enemy! Knife! Death! Bride falls dead in groom's arms! Scene changes to Sicily! More thrills.

The wilder and more preposterous grew the tale, the more entranced grew the audience. From a group of

young women—who, in their modish clothes looked like what school teachers ought not to look like, but do—rose ecstatic giggles. Someone muttered hoarsely, "My God, if it aint Tony the lecher!" Miss Moore glanced coldly at these frivolous students of literature and continued with her masterpiece.

At last the end! A grove of olives in Sicily and five corpses gazing with unseeing eyes at the azure bowl of heaven. Miss Moore cleared her throat and took her seat. Dr. Anthes, ignoring wildly waving hands, gravely inquired, "Where, Miss Moore, did you get your material?" Miss Moore answered modestly, "I know characters just like these I have described. I am very well informed on Italian. You see, I have taught in the Italian quarter of the East Side for fifteen years."

Still grave, the Professor continued, "And have you met many of that type of revengeful Sicilian?"

"Oh yes, I have worked with them for years. The Italians of Northern Italy are fairly decent but the Sicilians are impossible. They are sly,

proved. The same sentiments were expressed by Vice-presidents Perlestein and Monason; that the members present agreed with them could be seen from the vigorous applause that greeted their statements.

Brother Sigman had special meetings with the Joint Board of the Cloak and Suit Makers' Union and the Executive Board of the Dress and Waist Makers' Union, Local No. 49, at which the same point regarding

unification of the locals and their activities was stressed. The active members of the Boston locals are heartily in accord with the President of the International and, as a beginning, it was decided to organize at once a District Council for Boston and vicinity. At the meetings of this District Council, an exchange of opinions will be possible which will eventually lead to the organization of one Joint Board.

treacherous and deceitful."

Dr. Anthes interrupted, "Really?"

"Yes, Dr. Anthes, I can even recall one time when a Sicilian woman attempted to murder me." A gasp rose from the class. She needed little urging to continue. "Why, at that time I had a Sicilian pupil. She was run over by a car and crippled, and I went to see her. But the mother instead of displaying gratitude, grasped a bread-knife from the table and rushed toward me. Only a hasty exit saved my life."

The professor looked puzzled. "And she attacked you without cause? Did you say anything to anger her?"

"I did not. I was most sympathetic, although I did tell her in a very kind way that she should have taken better care of Serafina and that the street was no place for children to play."

"But where would you have children play in that congested district?" asked Dr. Anthes.

Miss Moore tried to evade the question. "Well, these Italian people have too many children anyway."

"Did you tell that to the mother?" he asked.

"I believe I did—but in what I thought was a very inoffensive manner. Her attack on me was utterly unjustified. I am not prejudiced

against Sicilians, but I have spent a long time working amongst them with no result. My efforts have been repaid with insults and even physical attacks such as I have related."

Mrs. Smith, a pretty, rather timid little woman, with soft dark eyes, rose to the defense of the much-maligned Sicilians. "Surely, Miss Moore, they are not all bad."

Miss Moore stood again and repeated in her positive way, "It is true. I know, for I have worked on the East Side for many years. Have you ever lived or taught in the Italian quarter there?"

"No."

"Then you see that you have not the actual knowledge of them that I have. It is kind of you to speak for these people, but my statements are based on fact."

Mrs. Smith's gentle eyes sparkled with laughter and perhaps a wee bit of malice. "I have never lived in the Italian district, but I do know a great deal about Italians and especially Sicilians. You see, I am married to an American, but I am a Sicilian. I was born in Sicily and so were all my people. And though I hate to admit it, there has never been even a second-degree murder in the family."

Miss Moore sat.

FRANCES ROBBINS.

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Twelve Thousand A Year

By A. LEBEDIGER

Most of Jules Verne's fantasies have by now become realities and all unusual things—weekday occurrences. Not only in the domain of submarine and flying machines, but in the realm of other human activities.

Take, for instance, suicide. It used to be a novelty, human beings so rarely practiced it that we used to think a person had to lose his mind before he or she would attempt self-destruction. A great calamity had to happen before a person would make up his mind to forcibly remove himself from this vale of tears.

Now, it is a daily, a common occurrence. Now a person commits suicide for disgustingly minor reasons. An annoying fly's bite is likely to make a man kill himself! Noodle soup served by friend wife, instead of the expected tomato soup is just as likely to drive one to a decision to make an end to all things.

The result: 12,000 suicides last year in America—a number large enough to make up the population of a substantial town. And yet, we read this "news"—and it barely impresses us. A little later, they will

stop mentioning these things in the papers—there'll be so many of them that people will get tired counting noses.

Now take another thing.

We used to hear from time to time that a girl would revenge herself on a faithless lover. But it was quite unusual, quite a rare occasion. The provocation had to be unusual, great or bitter. Nowadays it is the regular, the everyday thing. The very term "love" seems to connote these days: "You'd better hang on to me or else I'll pump you full of lead!"

It would seem that the moment a girl forms a steady acquaintance with a young man, she at the same time provides herself with a revolver and an adequate supply of bullets, and she is all but certain that she would have to shoot him sooner or later.

They shoot them nowadays—not for unspeakable crimes or outrages. A young man may miss his appointment by fifteen minutes—and bang! he is shot. It is enough that a young man should tell a young lady inno-

cently enough that he might marry her—particularly if the man in question has a presentable bank account—and piff—paff, she shoots! And the sort of girl that is doing this light artillery work today isn't of the old-fashioned, unsophisticated, easily-seduced type, either. Quite the contrary, oh, yes, altogether to the contrary. . . .

And together with the novelty of the thing the poetry and the "nobility" of it, if you please, is gone, too. Take, for instance, that selfsame business of suicide. Once upon a time it was something shrouded in poetry, a poetical business in a way. It was self-destruction, all right, but not every one could put such a stant over, not every one had the required courage, nerve and, yes, imagination.

Today everybody can commit suicide, even a millionaire. It has become a common morgue-supplying job, like the flu. Another while, and suicides will begin, doing their heroic stunts in bunches, in droves. The same is likely to happen in the case of the shooting females. Not every wearer of petticoats used to be capable in former days of popping a gun in defense of her rights or wrongs. Today, however, when every girl has mastered the art of gunnery, the glamor of the thing is

gone. It has become as ordinary a thing such as marriage, as divorce and similar everyday happenings.

In general, we are afraid, very soon there'll be very few extraordinary things left in this world of ours. Very soon everything will be as common as the newspapers, no one will care to read "news," because news there will be none. It will be a rapid, enuf-filled, stupid world!

And, then, again—may be we are wrong. Come to think, prophesying isn't our line at all!

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JUSTICE

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EDITORIALS

COUNTRY-WIDE WAGE RAISES AND OUR EMPLOYERS

In most textile factories in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and other New England States, manufacturers have raised the wages of their workers 12 1/2 per cent. Calculated in cold figures, these wage increases, in view of the large number of workers affected, amount to a very large sum. Similar increases have been granted in a number of other occupations. The longshoremen received a wage raise—and even Judge Gary, king of the steel interests, has come out with the announcement of a wage increase for the great army of human chattels employed in the steel mills.

An unsophisticated observer might be led to believe from these voluntary wage increases, granted by employers without the outside pressure of trade unions, that labor organizations play no part whatever in these wage fluctuations and are therefore quite useless in the industrial scheme of things. He might be led to believe that the ebb and flow in the wage scale is entirely dependent upon the degree of prosperity or the depression in industry and that the manufacturers guide themselves exclusively by such standards and criteria.

Nothing could be further from the truth. To begin with, the "voluntary" nature of these wage increases has yet to be established. Had the textile manufacturers, and to a degree even the steel kings, not felt and known that there exists among their workers widespread discontent; had these employers not known from past experience that their workers would eventually get together and demand an increase, this benevolent wage increase would not have occurred. The textile employers have acted shrewdly, wisely, we might say, but by no means voluntarily. Instead of waiting until the discontent of the workers would break through the dam—a prospect which did not smile to them at the present hour—they stole a march, as it were, on their workers and came forth with the announcement of a wage increase. It is quite obvious that therefore this maneuver was prompted not so much by the beneficent mood of the employers as by their legitimate desire to avoid a conflict with their organized or partly-organized workers.

Secondly: it is yet to be determined whether the employers' wage grant in this case represents an absolute increase or not. It must be kept in mind that only a while ago, during the period of depression, the employers in these industries carried out a general and substantial wage-cut. The workers struck for long and weary months in retaliation and have succeeded in gaining back a part of the wage-cuts. The present voluntary wage-increase puts the workers back to the position in which they were a few years ago. So while on the surface the move of the employers appears like a genuine increase in wages, in point of fact it is only a portion of what they are justly entitled to. And even this grant, as we stated above, was given to them not from the "fullness of their hearts" but upon the spur of the very natural assumption on the part of the employers that they might as well give of their free will what they would willy-nilly have to concede after a fight.

Frankly, we like this very much. We wish there were more employers in American industry endowed with such foresight and sagacity as these. The narrow-minded and obstinate employer must have his fight, his costly clash with the workers, before he learns his lesson. The narrow-minded and obdurate capitalist has a short memory. He learns but little from the past, always hoping for "better luck" in his next encounter with his worker. For the wise employer, however, a wink is sufficient. A capitalist with brains, who has once or twice experienced the taste of a bitter strike, remembers the lesson. He knows how to put on the glad face when the exigency so commands, and grants voluntarily what he would otherwise have to give under the pressure of the labor union.

As for the employers in the trades under the jurisdiction of our International Union, we can not honestly complain that they are either silly or obdurate. Most of them had learned a great deal, thanks to the union and the numerous conflicts they have had with it, and they have become wiser and farther-sighted persons than they used to be.

Yet, wise as they are, it is of paramount importance that they remember that there is a union of workers in their industry—a strong, influential union,—that is always on hand to prompt them to do a lot of "voluntary" things for the workers. Wouldn't it be a wise thing for our manufacturers, for instance, if they had made themselves heard from at this juncture—quite voluntary, of course—about an increase in wages for our workers? It is true that our workers have not as a rule allowed any

wage-cuts to take place in our industries during the period of depression. But as prosperity has unmistakably struck business all over the country and as this prosperity surely affects our trades as well, wouldn't it be just the proper thing for our manufacturers to come to the union with a voluntary proposal of a wage increase for the workers?

We wish to assure our employers quite earnestly that this would be a wise and clever move on their part. It would quite likely tend to improve their business as well, just as the cotton-mill owners expect to profit from the very wage increase they have granted their workers. Surely no one will expect them to sell their wares at former prices since the entire business world is aware that the workers in the textile industry are getting so much more today for their labor.

But, whatever the action of the New York cloak manufacturers might be, the cloak employers of Cleveland will certainly have to take up very earnestly the question of raising the wages of their workers. This question will come up very soon at a hearing of the Cleveland Board of Referees. The fact is that the Cleveland cloak manufacturers succeeded in reducing the wages of their workers ten per cent some time ago. The union at that time accepted the decision of the Board of Referees, having agreed to it in advance.

The union nevertheless remained greatly dissatisfied. The employers' argument, when that decision was granted, was that the cost of living was coming down, that America was returning to "normalcy" and that business was generally in a state of demoralization. This argument falls by the wayside today. The cost of living is mounting even higher and business conditions, thanks to the firm determination of the workers in opposing the planned reduction of living standards, have materially improved. There is not the slightest reason, therefore, why our Cleveland workers should not be granted the wage increase to which they are entitled from every point of view.

Let us hope, therefore, that the referees will consider, in deciding upon the demand of the Cleveland workers, the general tendency for wage increases in industry all over the country, and the justice of the union's request, and will grant the wage raise. It is a modest and inextricable demand, and the Cleveland cloakmakers are surely entitled to live the life of intelligent, self-respecting, American workers.

TRADE UNIONS AS BANKERS

The Amalgamated will open a bank in New York City in a few days. Some time ago, it organized a bank in Chicago which, it is reported, is proving to be a success. It is stated quite plausibly that the entrance of the Amalgamated into the banking business in New York is predicated upon the success of its banking venture in Chicago.

We wish America, from the fullness of our hearts, success in this undertaking. We wish the success to be so pronounced that it will inculcate our own International Union with a desire to emulate the good example of the Amalgamated. We cannot think of any substantial reason why a union bank should not be a success.

In a sense, a labor union has always been a bank for its members, a place where a member invested a fraction of his earnings. This investment would yield him returns in times of industrial peace as well as in times of strikes or in the form of sick and unemployment benefits. The difference between a commercial bank and a trade-union, of course, consists in the fact that, while money deposited in the bank is always subject to the right of withdrawal by the depositor, money invested by a worker in the labor union becomes the property of this union and cannot be withdrawn by the worker after he has detached himself from the organization.

This, however, is the only essential distinction. In all other respects, a union is a worker's bank. For his weekly deposit, he usually gets in return not only the value of his investment but a handsome interest in the form of higher wages, shorter work hours, better treatment from the employer or the foreman, a greater or lesser measure of control over labor conditions in the shop, etc., etc.

To all practical purposes, the union is such a bank for the worker to the extent of the small investment he makes in it every week. After the union worker had succeeded, thanks to the efforts of the labor organization to which he belongs, in "saving a cent," he usually takes it over to a private bank controlled as a rule by persons whose interests are antagonistic to his own and who quite likely are always ready to use their financial strength on behalf of those who fight him and are interested in keeping him in subjection. With the aid of the money which he deposits in these banks, there are frequently laws made which are inimical to his interests. With the aid of this money, political parties are supported to elect men to office and legislative bodies with the avowed object of not allowing the workers to become a political and social factor of importance.

It would appear that by banking their savings privately the workers are themselves aiding the direct opponents of their economic and social interests. Such playing into the hands of the enemy is obviously unwise and injurious to the cause of labor in general.

The idea of a labor bank is by no means a new one. Prudhon, the celebrated French philosopher and economist, had thought long ago of such a bank. There were many economic thinkers in America who had dreamed of such enterprises. Until very recently, however, this thought remained a mere dream. Only a few years ago, American workers began to materialize the banking idea and with considerable success.

The first in the field were the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. Their Cleveland bank proved to be a huge success.

The General Executive Board at Work

By S. YANOVSKY

II

Organization work in our International has been heretofore vested entirely in the hands of the president, who was chief organizer of the Union. If anything occurred in Boston the president had to go there to take personal charge of the situation. If a strike or strike preparations were taking place in Chicago, St. Louis or San Francisco, he had to go there. But as the president can only be in one place at one time, each city had to wait for its "help" and when the local situation could not wait, it would indeed be in a bad way at times.

According to the new plan, this system is now entirely changed. The president will retain in his hands all the strings of the organization work, it is true, but he will not be obliged to be everywhere and he is not presumed to take personal charge of every situation or emergency. The plan prepared by President Sigman amounts to the following:

The entire territory in which the International and its locals are interested is divided into zones. Each zone has a general manager who has the right to engage organizers and to control and supervise the union activity in the district. He manages all the organization campaigns in his territory and is to report weekly directly to the president on his activities. The president of the International is to keep in direct and uninterrupted touch with the general managers, and to advise them from time to time, and if necessary to visit any particular locality in which his presence might be deemed important.

For the time being, three zones have already been established, an eastern zone, which until now has been the out-of-town department, under the leadership of Vice President Halprin. This zone would include the country towns around New York City, and New Jersey and Connecticut. The second zone is in the Middle West,

which takes in Cleveland, Chicago, St. Louis, Cincinnati and Toledo. As chief organizer for this zone, as the readers of JUSTICE already know, Vice President Perlstien has been appointed, who for many years has been manager of the Cloakmakers' Union of Cleveland. The third is the Canadian zone, and organizing activity in that territory will be under the direction of Vice President Seidman, who has been doing work for our International in Canada for several months past.

According to this plan, the International will also engage a special person who will devote his time to all affairs affecting the smaller locals of New York which for several years have been a liability rather than an asset to the International. These locals have been living off the bounty of the parent organization ever since they had been organized. Most of them have now, owing to the victories gained everywhere in our trades, become self-subsisting for the time being. We emphasize this phrase "for the time being" because it will be the business of this new office to see to it that these organizations retain their present standing and never again become a burden in a financial and moral sense to the International. As yet, the person to take charge of this work has not been selected, but it is expected that President Sigman will soon pick the manager of this new activity of our International.

For the time being, the only territories that have not been taken care of are the New England States and the cities on the Pacific Coast. Before long, however, these will also be placed under organized control. That the plan in general is a workable one and very well adapted to our activities, there is no doubt. The general managers, however, in order to be successful, will have to have the full cooperation of the locals under their supervision. The International, in

selecting these managers, has chosen the best and most energetic and those whose records of past activities speak for themselves.

The most difficult job, no doubt, has been allotted to Vice President Perlstien. Our locals in Chicago, Cincinnati and Toledo are far from what they should be. But Brother Perlstien is accustomed to difficult jobs; the unionizing of the cloak industry in Cleveland was a very arduous task, yet it was accomplished under his management and is working very satisfactorily now.

We have deemed it necessary to go into detail concerning this decision of the General Executive Board, first, because, in our opinion, it is the most important accomplishment of the last quarterly meeting, and secondly, because the general managers have already begun working in their new capacity and it is important that our members be kept in touch with what is going on in the International.

President Sigman's report described rather broadly the condition of the International at the present moment. The reports of General Secretary Baroff and of the Vice-presidents, however, brought out a great many details which are very interesting and characteristic.

From Brother Baroff's report, covering the various strikes waged by the International in the last few months and concerning which he truthfully says that never in the history of our organization has there been so much accomplished in such a brief space of time, it is important to quote the following:

"Such was the background of our situation last January. The sudden shift of events dashed us somewhat, we must admit, but not for long. The faith we have had in our organization, its virility and the living bond which tied it inseparably to the lives and interests of our workers, very soon aroused us to the necessity of imme-

diately action, to the urgency of facing our great tasks like men on whom a great and solemn obligation rested and in whom the confidence of tens of thousands of men and women had been vested. The idea that we must make good, each and every one of us, permeated every member of the Board, and very soon after our return to New York, when we called a meeting of the New York members of the Board under the chairmanship of Acting-president Ninfo, the entire line of campaign was mapped out by us in detail and distributed in part to every vice-president. Vice-president Feinberg was assigned to help in the Philadelphia cloak and waist and dress situation, together with Vice-president Reishberg. Vice-president Perlstien was asked to go to Boston and take up the organizing drive in the waist and dress industry as well as the campaign among the shops controlled by the Boston cloak jobbers, with the assistance of Vice-president Monosson. Vice-president Halprin was charged with helping the management of the fight in the New York children's dress and bathrobe trades, while Vice-president Ninfo and myself were assigned to aid in the negotiations in the oncoming fight in the dress industry of New York. Vice-president Lefkowitz was assigned to conduct the campaign in the white goods industry."

Such a campaign required a great deal of money and the treasury of the International was at that time anything but full. Here is how this money was raised:

"Immediately upon my return to New York in the middle of last January, I called a meeting of our representatives of the New York locals and at this meeting placed before them the urgent necessity of raising such a fund immediately. I wish to say the vice-presidents of the New York Board have been very helpful in this matter and that the leaders of the New York locals who participated in this conference gave us their full cooperation and have enabled us to raise a fund that put us in a position (Continued on page 8)

and very soon their example was followed by many other unions. Now the Amalgamated has taken up the banking business and there is no ground to doubt that in a short time America will be covered by a net of labor banks conducted by and for the workers.

Once upon a time, such a banking enterprise would be confronted by two formidable obstacles. On the one hand, the workers deemed themselves so insignificant in comparison with the wiseacre Banker, that the idea of merging this august personage into the worker seemed absolutely incompatible. On the other hand, our idealists would meet a proposal of that sort with the fiery objection of usury, swindle, and dishonest manipulation,—activities entirely unsuited for and unbefitting to union workers. How indeed could workers aspire to fight capital if they themselves are capitalists? How could they talk then of the class struggle?

It would seem, however, that the labor movement has grown away from these infantile strictures. The worker does not regard himself any longer as lowly and incapable, and views the banking business with less awe and humility. The fact that here and there workers have dared to open banks and to make them a success is the best proof that they have in this respect changed a great deal. As regards the objection of the idealists in our ranks, it is now generally conceded that a union bank can be a success without engaging in speculations or questionable enterprises of any sort.

On the other hand, it is generally recognized that, to be a success, a union bank must be strictly honest. Instead of its earnings enriching a few men at the head, they are to be distributed equally among all those whose money makes this bank a going institution. Our idealists have come to realize that it was private banking which considerably hindered the worker in his class struggle. The union bank, under the control of good and loyal workers, can be made into a strong weapon in the fight of the worker.

There is a great deal more to be said about this subject. We shall return to it some other time in a special article. Here we only wish to emphasize the few, though minor, dangers that are lurking behind the undertaking of a labor bank. The unions must not expect too much from it and should not feel discouraged if the early results from such a bank are not as brilliant as anticipated. There is also a danger that those at the head of the union be not entirely swallowed up by the banking business and neglect the daily interests of the labor union.

We hope that this will not be the case in the instance of the

Amalgamated and that its large membership will take care that nothing of the kind happens. With these minor dangers out of the way, not the slightest reason exists for opposition to the extension of the labor union's activity into every domain of human endeavor. In this sense, we greet the very momentous experiment of the Amalgamated, as well as the similar ventures of many other of our unions which will surely follow it.

THIRD ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE WORKERS' EDUCATION BUREAU

That education for adult workers is of vital importance is today conceded by practically everybody. The whole labor movement of every shade and hue is becoming strongly interested in this problem and many international unions are beginning to contribute their share towards the education of their members.

Nevertheless, it must be frankly admitted that as yet there is nothing to boast about in the result of all these efforts. It stands to reason, too. First, the means for adult education at the disposal of the labor movement are quite limited. Second, the labor education movement is still in its swaddling clothes. Third, it isn't an easy matter to attract a grown person to education from which he cannot see immediate and practical results. Again, adult labor education is a new thing and has not as yet worked out its tenets and methods. It is obvious that the text-books and systems that are fit for the child cannot conform to the requirements of an adult. Indeed, the field of labor education is practically virgin, and the work is great and badly needed.

For this purpose, the Workers' Education Bureau was organized several years ago to serve as a central point for the activity of labor education in America. Each year the representatives of the various labor educational institutions come together to exchange thoughts and experiences on the subject of their work. These conventions are of great importance; they serve as an index of the work accomplished in the past year and indicate the line of activity for the next.

At these conventions, the delegates give talks on the means and methods of improving labor education, the best subjects fit for grown workers, text-books, outlines, etc., etc. The value of the work of these conventions and of the general activity of the Workers' Education Bureau, cannot be overestimated. We extend to the delegates of this convention, which begins on Saturday, April 14th, and will last until Sunday, April 15th, at the New School of Social Research, at 469 West 23rd Street, a hearty welcome and a fervent wish for success in their great work.

Health Education Among Garment Workers

By THERESA WOLFSON

(Educational Supervisor of the Union Health Center.)

In a recent article appearing in a New York paper, a strong plea was made by a prominent physician for large investments, on the part of business men, in health service in their factories. His argument was: "Why not recognize that the cost of industry is profitable production and to invest in health only as it increases production." He goes on to describe the advantages which certain business enterprises have had as a result of establishing medical clinics.

"The output of one worker supplies the material for another. Any factor that lowers production makes for 'unemployment within employment.' The overtired, coughing, aching worker is the one who spoils and wastes material and lowers a firm's reputation for high quality."

The point of view of the writer was undoubtedly one which is destined to influence the average business man to the necessity of increasing the health of his workers, eliminating fatigue and sickness and thereby lowering the cost of production. That is one side of the health story!

In this story, the health of the worker is merely an accidental cog in the wheel of production and results in profits to the employer. There is another side to the story and that is the workers' own interest in his own health. This interest is not only prompted by economic motives but by the purely human interest to be alive and well. The workers' interest in his health has never been an organized interest, until recently.

It has for the most part been individualistic. If Isaac Levine is sick, then Isaac Levine suffers; the rent is not paid, there is no money for food. On the whole the conception is that only he and his family are affected.

Today, there is developing that definite social feeling about the health of the worker—the same kind of consciousness that prompts the workers to organize in trade unions. All over the country the trade unions are beginning to organize their own health departments to take care of the health of their members not with any idea of increasing the output of the employer's business or adding to the pile of profits amassed by him, but rather with a definite idea of giving the worker a new kind of wealth—HEALTH!

The Union Health Center of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union is just such an enterprise on the part of workers to take care of their own health. The biggest factor in this movement is Health Education,—teaching the worker the fundamentals of physiology and anatomy, and above all giving him the principles of how to live and how to use his body in order that disease may be prevented. To this end the Union Health Center organized a Health Education Department to stimulate such an interest on the part of garment workers. This is the third year of its activity and the year has been exceedingly successful.

A regular course in Anatomy was given every Tuesday night during the months of November and December with an average attendance of 55 workers,—a nucleus not to be scoffed at when it comes to the question of disseminating health information; for these workers studied thoroughly the heart, the circulation of the blood in the body, the lungs and how they work, and many other topics of vital interest. This course was followed

by a series of interesting lectures on First Aid which were also extremely popular with the workers and then a course on Physical Exercises given by one of the leading physicians in New York City—a physician who is so vitally interested in the subject of Special Exercises for the Garment Worker that he visited good and bad shops in the industry and made a thorough study of the way in which workers sit at their machines and tables, and stand at their pressing boards.

The fifth course that was given at the Health School this year upon the request of many of the workers who were interested in finding out just what that mysterious subject is, was one on Freudian Psychology. For the worker who could not attend the consecutive course but who was at the same time interested in getting some phase of the subject, special lectures were arranged every Friday night in the auditorium of the Union Health Center, 131 East 17th Street. The topics of discussion included: Cancer, Psychology of Sex, Contributions of Pasteur, Koch and Metchnikoff to Science, Glances, and Personality, Teeth, etc.

This year the lectures that have been arranged have been exceedingly worthwhile, because a flood of questions pertaining to vital health matters have been asked at each lecture and have been satisfactorily answered. Above all, the Health School and the Health Nights of the Union Health Center provide a place where the worker can have any question, pertaining to health, answered and feel sure that it will be answered honestly and to his satisfaction.

The old adage that "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" cannot be more happily expressed. Health Education is one of the most important methods of securing an attitude on the part of the individual worker that he must take care of his health now, that he must know the functions of the organs in his body, now, in order that the dread figure of disease may be kept at a great distance.

In the last year approximately 1,400 workers attended the Friday night Health Lectures and 950 attended the regular courses given every Tuesday night.

The program for the next year will undoubtedly be even more extensive and we hope will reach more and more members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. Health Education is as yet a novelty.

There is an old Chinese proverb to the effect that "experience is that comb which nature provides us with after we have turned bald." It is the aim of the Health Education Movement of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union to prevent the worker from turning bald and enable him to profit by the experience of others.



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G. E. B. AT WORK

(Continued from page 7)

to meet our large current obligations as well as to finance a number of conflicts and strikes encountered in the last ten weeks."

Another point of Brother Baroff's report which should be mentioned here, as it involves a new activity on the part of our International, is the plan for a labor bar. According to the report, a conference under the leadership of the general office, with the warm support of the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union, of all the representatives of our locals in Greater New York, was held some time in February to discuss this project. Comrade Morris Hillquit, the legal adviser

of the International, was present at the conference, at which it was decided to organize a cooperative bank with a capital stock of \$300,000, to be subscribed by our locals in accordance with their financial strength.

"It will now depend on the New York locals of our International," Baroff concludes in his report, "to say whether they want a cooperative labor bank along these lines or not. If they respond with funds, this large venture will become a reality. If they, however, choose to remain apathetic, it will not be the fault of the moving spirits of this enterprise if it remains dormant."

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LABOR THE WORLD OVER

DOMESTIC ITEMS

MASSACHUSETTS MANUFACTURERS RAISE WAGES.

The Arlington Mills with plants at Lawrence and North Adams, Mass., announced an increase in wages to all employees on April 30th of 12½ per cent. About 3,000 workers will benefit by the increase. Smith & Doye linen manufacturers of Andover, Mass., announced a 12½ per cent increase in wages to their employees. The Bigelow Hartford Carpet Company employing nearly 5,000 announced a 12½ per cent increase in wages effective April 30th.

UNEMPLOYMENT CONFERENCE REPORT MADE PUBLIC.

Extensive recommendations for maintaining business conditions on an even tenor and for prevention of unemployment are contained in a report made public by a special committee appointed as the result of the unemployment conference held in 1921. The committee has developed some constructive suggestions as to the deferment of public work and construction work of public service corporations to the periods of depression and unemployment.

ILLNESS LOWERS WORKERS' EFFICIENCY IN SOUTH.

Mills and other New England industrial concerns that are moving to the south with a view to securing cheaper labor, longer working hours and freedom from the Child Labor Law may find that in the end they have not gained the economic advantage they expected, according to Dr. Donald B. Armstrong of the National Health Council in an address before the Boston Chamber of Commerce. The doctor told of the heavy illness losses amounting to 10 per cent in the south compared with only 2 per cent in New England, and gave it as his opinion that it was better to pay the higher wages required than to employ the lower paid, less efficient workers of the south. Dr. Armstrong is an authority on the subject of health in industrial establishments.

TARIFF INCREASES COST OF LIVING.

Living costs have mounted rapidly since last September,—clothing, building materials and other necessities showing gains all along the line from 2 to 22 per cent. Since the tariff went into effect in September mounting living costs have been reflected which seriously affect the wage-earning population of the whole country.

ENORMOUS LOSS IN POTATO STORAGE.

Of the last season's potato crop that went into storage, 40,000 carloads had deteriorated by March 1st until no longer fit for food or seed.

SUGAR INVESTIGATION TO TAKE SIX MONTHS.

Chairman Marvin of the Tariff Commission estimated it would take six months to go as far into the relation of the tariff and the prevailing high prices of sugar as President Harding's order appeared to demand. This prospect of long delay brought from progressives responsible for the present sugar agitation another expression of dissatisfaction with the Administration's unwillingness to attack the root of the trouble.

LAND GRANTS TO EX-SERVICE MEN.

About 400,000 acres of land in Utah will be thrown open to entry by former service men of the world war April 20th. Any land remaining unentered July 20, 1923, the Interior Department announced will be open to entry by the general public.

FEDERAL CONTROL OF PIPE LINES PROPOSED.

Lower gasoline prices may come through an amendment to the Interstate Commerce Commission Act. The amendment which will be introduced in the next Congress by Senator Harfield of Oklahoma would give the Commission authority to control crude oil pipe lines as it now controls railroads. It is through its ownership of pipe lines that the Standard Oil Company now has a monopoly on the industry and raises refinery prices at will.

NEW LEASE ON LIFE FOR KANSAS COURT.

The Kansas industrial court alded by a Republican legislature will live for two years longer as the legislature has failed to repeal the law creating the court.

WAGES AND EMPLOYMENT IN UNITED STATES INCREASE.

A marked increase both in the number of employees at work in the industries of the country and the amount of compensation paid them is indicated in the report of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor for the month of February. The number of employees of 4848 representative establishments in 43 industries increased by 2.3 per cent in February over January and wages increased 5.1 per cent.

AMERICA GAINS BY BRITISH UNEMPLOYMENT.

1176 immigrants, mostly skilled workmen from Great Britain, arrived in New York from Glasgow. Among them were plumbers, carpenters, bricklayers and hundreds of experts in the shipbuilding and building trades. The immigration is due to the great falling off of employment in Great Britain.

FOREIGN ITEMS

ENGLAND

HOUSING IN BIRMINGHAM.

It is stated that there are in Birmingham 45,000 back-to-back houses, with 200,000 people living in them. Most of these have no internal water supply and no fireplaces upstairs; and the sickness and death-rate in this area is higher than anywhere else in the town. Birmingham is the constituency of Mr. Neville Chamberlain, the new Minister of Health, who is now responsible for housing.

DISARMAMENT DEMAND.

A national conference representative of peace societies, labor and trade-union organizations, Christian churches and brotherhoods, has decided to hold on Saturday, July 28, the approximate anniversary of the outbreak of the Great War, demonstrations throughout the country, and to make their object a demand for universal disarmament.

LABOR PARTY'S HOLIDAY HOUSE.

On Saturday, March 24, the Countess of Warwick formally handed over to the British Labor party her Essex mansion, Easton Lodge, for use by them in Conferences, Party week-ends, and so forth, much as the "Chequers" is now used by the Government.

CONSCRIPTION AT 90!

Speaking at a meeting in London of the Independent Labor party, Mr. Neil Maclean, M. P., said—"As far as I am concerned, there will never again be conscription. If there is will start at 90 and come down. We will start on the editorial offices in Fleet Street. Then there will be an immediate demand for peace by negotiation."

BRAVE GERMAN CREW.

The thanks of the British National Transport Workers have been conveyed by Mr. Robert Williams to the crew of the German trawler Schleswig Holstein, who rescued the crew of the Grimsby trawler Sargon. After saying that "the honorable and heroic traditions of the sea are re-asserting themselves after the effects of the war," the letter added a wish that "the British working class by its political and industrial solidarity could strike a blow at the horrible policy which the French Government—not, I am sure, supported by the French working-class—is now waging against the German people."

COST OF LIVING.

The average level of retail prices on all commodities on March 1, according to the official figures in the Ministry of Labor Gazette, including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, was approximately 76 per cent above that of July, 1914. For food alone, the increase was 71 per cent.

INDIA.

"GANDHI DAY" CELEBRATION.

Gandhi Day, appointed by the Indian National Conference as a day of peaceful "hartal" (cessation from labor), in commemoration of Gandhi's imprisonment, was observed most peacefully throughout India. In Bombay many fasted and prayed all day long, and the cloth markets and bazaars were closed, though in other directions business was carried on as usual.

FRANCE

FRANCE'S MILITARY SECURITY.

The question of France's security has now entirely overshadowed the question of financial reparations from Germany. . . . Most French politicians have already realized that nothing tangible in the way of gold or goods can be obtained from the Ruhr occupation. . . . "France's military security" is a phrase under which some kind of moral, political or financial control by France over the Rhineland is to be insisted upon as a necessity of the first importance to the preservation of European peace.

STRIKE BREAKERS IN THE RUHR.

The General Council of the International Transport Workers' Federation met at the end of March in Cologne. It was found that the number of strike-breakers introduced into the Ruhr by the French was insignificant, and that the measures taken by the French Transport Union in declaring all work in the Ruhr to be blackleg work will probably be sufficient to deal with the situation. It appears that the German transport strike, which includes also Rhine river transport, is completely wrecking French plans to get coal out of the Ruhr. In general it seems that the brunt of the fight against French Imperialist Capitalism in the Ruhr is being borne by German labor, assisted by the Transport International, while the German and French captains of industry are preparing the ground for compromise.

FRENCH STEEL PRODUCTION AT STANDSTILL.

The French steel industry is now at a standstill. Over 80 per cent of the blast furnaces have been damped down, and the remainder are working only half or quarter time. Since the beginning of the occupation, it appears, not a single ton of metallurgical coke has entered France from the Ruhr, and the stocks of coke existing in this country in January are now exhausted.

POLAND

EASTERN GALICIA GIVEN TO POLAND.

A new war between Russia and Poland is rendered inevitable by the handing of Eastern Galicia to Poland in the belief of Ukrainians all over Europe. They consider that it will not be long before the Ukrainians on both the Russian and the Eastern Galician sides of the frontier will make common cause for the eventual unification of their country.



EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES

The Educational Season of the International 1922-1923

The educational activities of the I. L. G. W. U. for the season 1922-1923, are practically finished. At this time, we find it useful and necessary to examine our accomplishments. We want to answer the questions, What has been done, Was it worth while?

The first thought that strikes us as examining the record of our activities for the past season, is that the splendid educational work of the I. L. G. W. U. is going on, more successful each year. Larger numbers of our members have been reached than in the past. Several thousand men and women attended the classes and lectures given under our auspices. At these, they learned many important things; chiefly those that helped them to understand more clearly than before the economic and social organization of present day society, the position occupied there by the workers, and the history, aims, problems and methods of the labor movement.

That these subjects are of overwhelming importance to workers is obvious. The economic strength of organized labor becomes more effective as the rank and file gain a clearer conception about all such matters. Such knowledge cannot but lead to intelligent and successful action.

Our members studied these subjects in the Unity Centers and the Workers' University where courses were given by special teachers and specialists on labor subjects. They also met with teachers who gave their courses in the offices of their local unions. They listened to lectures at the business meetings of their unions. All of these were carried on in the language they understood best,—English, Yiddish, Russian or Italian.

But the cultural interests of our members were not neglected. While naturally we gave our greatest effort and attention to subjects concerned with the interests of labor, we also aimed to satisfy the need of the members for the beautiful and interesting. The popularity of the courses in Literature, given both in English and Yiddish, showed that these satisfy a real desire of our people. Courses in history and social psychology were also given partly from a cultural point of view. But in these, chief emphasis was placed on the interpretation of life and society in connection with vital problems of working men and women.

The educational department was again successful in helping our members to enrich their aesthetic needs by securing for them tickets at reduced rates to plays and symphony concerts. Also our arrangement with leading publishers, enabled us to supply our members with books on all sorts of subjects at lower cost.

The social life of our members was stimulated by a number of social gatherings, dances, entertainments, hikes, etc., organized by our Students' Councils with the assistance of the educational department.

An interesting new feature of last year's activities was the utilization of the new building of our International for educational social purposes. The beautiful large auditorium was used for lectures, classes, and social gatherings. These brought our membership into immediate contact with the building—a concrete expression of the beauty, dignity and power of their International Union.

As formerly, the educational department assisted local educational committees in other cities to organize educational activities for their members. This was done in Philadelphia, Boston, Montreal, Newark, and other cities.

The above record, however, does not express all that our International has done in the cause of Labor Education. More important than the actual courses and lectures given, and the number of persons attending them, is the glorious spirit which animated and permeated these activities of our International. It was only yesterday that labor leaders thought that the only function of a Union was to secure economic advantages for its members. Some went further and thought that Unions should have not only immediate but also ultimate aims, but also only on the economic field.

It is different today. Leading thinkers agree that everything in the life of workers, is a proper field for Union activities. And of these, what is more important than Education? Spiritual needs are as important as economic. It is true that changes in economic conditions will bring corresponding spiritual changes, but economic changes will occur more rapidly and effectively if the minds of those who want changes are clear as to their aims, programs and methods.

It is a matter of pride for our membership, that the I. L. G. W. U. was the first trade union in America to recognize this fact, and to initiate educational activities. It is a source of joy to observe how this idea has spread throughout our country. Labor classes have been organized in practically every section of the United States. The American Federation of Labor has not only approved this movement, but is taking actual part in it, by joining the Workers' Educational Bureau of America.

It does not require an excess of optimism to vision a glorious future for this movement. Economic conditions are forcing the American workers to realize the need of solidarity and organization. They are also forcing them to recognize the need for intelligent, well planned, efficient action. American workers will soon realize that education will help tremendously. Not education in the sense of knowing a few more or less pleasant and pretty things, not education in the sense of being acquainted with demerit facts that have no connection with their life and work,—but Labor Education,—education which will help them to realize their aims and aspirations, and which will ultimately help them to secure a rich and happy life.

WORKERS' EDUCATION BUREAU OF AMERICA

THIRD ANNUAL CONVENTION

NEW YORK
April 14-15, 1923

Sessions to be held in Auditorium of New School for Social Research, 469 West 23rd Street, New York.

Weekly Calendar



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

UNITY CENTERS

A COURSE ON THE HISTORY, AIMS AND PROBLEMS OF THE I. L. G. W. U. BY MAX LEVIN in the following Centers:

MONDAY, APRIL 16th, 8 p. m.: Waistmakers' Unity Center—P. S. 40—329 East 20th Street—Room No. 305.

TUESDAY, APRIL 17th, 8 p. m.: Bronx Unity Center—P. S. 61—Crotona Park East and Charlotte Street—Room No. 501.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18th, 8 p. m.: East Side Unity Center—P. S. 63—4th Street near First Avenue—Room No. 404.

ENGLISH

SATURDAY, APRIL 14th: Local No. 9—228 Second Avenue.

1:00 p. m. Max Levin—Aims and Problems of the American Labor Movement with Special Reference to the I. L. G. W. U.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18th: Waistmakers' Unity Center—320 East 20th St. 6:00 p. m. Loretta Ritter—Physical Training.

THURSDAY, APRIL 19th, Waistmakers' Unity Center—320 East 20th Street. 6:00 p. m. Jacob A. Rubel—English.

CLASSES IN ENGLISH MEET IN ALL CENTERS ON MONDAY, TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY.

YIDDISH

MONDAY, APRIL 16th: Local No. 92—Asteria Hall, 64 East 4th Street. 9:00 p. m. Max Levin—History, Aims and Problems of the I. L. G. W. U.

THURSDAY, APRIL 19th: Ladies' Branch of Local No. 9—231 East 14th St. 9:00 p. m. Dr. B. Z. Liber, of the New York Tuberculosis Association—The Worker and His Health.

Third Annual Convention of the Workers' Educational Bureau of America

All of our readers who are interested in workers' education, whether they have been students in our classes or not, will undoubtedly follow the proceedings of the third annual convention of the Workers' Educational Bureau, which will be held on Saturday and Sunday, April 14th and 15th, at 469 West 23rd Street.

This convention is of tremendous importance to labor education in America. As is well known, the Bureau is a clearing-house for workers' educational experiments in America, and at this convention there will be presented the experiences of the past year, new ideas, suggestions for increasing the effectiveness of the work, and a great many matters which seriously concern the success not only of workers' education, but of the entire American labor movement.

We hope that many of our members, in addition to the regularly elected delegates from our classes, will attend these meetings. They will hear a great many interesting reports and discussions, and will leave the convention more enthusiastic than ever as to the ultimate goal and success of our great labor movement.

The first session will take place on Saturday, April 14th, at 10:00 a. m., when prominent speakers will open the convention, and the Executive Committee will present its report.

At the second session, on Saturday, April 14th, at 2:30 p. m., addresses on educational matters will be made by Professor Overstreet of City College and Professor Carman of Columbia University. Discussion will follow these addresses.

On Saturday evening, at 7 p. m., the annual dinner will take place at the Yorkville Casino, 210 East 86th Street. President James H. Maurer will be the toastmaster, and such eminent persons as Samuel Gompers, president of the A. F. of L.; Morris Sigman, president of our International; Professor Robinson and others, will deliver addresses. Tickets to this dinner at \$2.50 can be obtained at the office of the W. E. B.

On Sunday morning, April 15th, at 10 a. m., there will be meetings of various committees to discuss a number of topics in connection with the educational work of the W. E. B.

On Sunday, at 2:30 p. m., reports of committees will be presented and the officers will be elected for the following year.

On Sunday, at 4:30 p. m., the delegates and guests of the W. E. B. are invited to a reception given by the students' council of our Workers' University and Unity Centers. This reception will be held in our building, 8 West 16th Street, from 5 to 7 p. m. A special feature will be a showing of the moving picture on "The Einstein Theory." The reception will be followed by refreshments and dancing. Our members are particularly urged to attend this reception.

On Sunday evening, at 8 p. m., addresses will be delivered by Mr. Schwartzbrauer of the Portland Labor College and Mr. Bennett of the Brookwood Workers' College. These will be followed by discussion from the floor.

OWING TO LACK OF SPACE THE INSTALLMENT OF DR. CARMAN'S OUTLINE OF HIS COURSE ON "SOCIAL AND POLITICAL HISTORY OF THE U. S." IS OMITTED IN THIS ISSUE.

Workers' Education

By JOSEPH F. FREY
(Editor International Molders' Journal)

Unfortunately, the wage earners' education, relative to their problems, does not precede their trade union membership in the same manner as academic training in the professions precedes the experiences of professional life. With the latter the thorough education received has established a background of knowledge which enables them to grapple intelligently with the problems which confront them. The workers, however, in many instances, because of the absence of sufficient knowledge, are compelled, by the strenuous and frequently bitter struggle for existence, to grapple with problems which are but dimly understood, and to deal with economic, social, and political principles with whose operation they are insufficiently familiar.

The public and private forms of education at present in operation do not prepare the wage earners to thoroughly understand the many angles of the problem they face upon becoming employees. It is quite possible that the incentive for acquiring this necessary education may not develop before the wage earners themselves are forced, by the conditions encountered, to search for information which would enable them to more effectively deal with the problems and conditions which their experience proves to be injurious and unjust.

Even if public schools endeavored to give children all of the instruction possible relative to industrial, economic, social and political problems, the youthful mind would fail to grasp much of the knowledge presented to it. There would still be a necessity for a further educational training intended for the adult mind. The actual condition today is that the overwhelming number of wage earners entering commerce and industry, and afterwards becoming members of trade unions, have but little practical knowledge of the problems they must become familiar with before they can safely and successfully apply the power they enjoy through organization to their best advantage and that of the community and the nation.

In addition to the practical knowledge which the wage earners' welfare as such demands, there is also a necessity for opening the doors to cultural knowledge which have been closed to so many. The wage earners are as much entitled to the benefits of culture, and their position in life is such that the uplifting influence of literature, music, and art, is even more necessary than for those whose income enables them to have the many advantages which are de-

nied to those who earn their bread by the sweat of their brow.

Within comparatively recent times efforts have been made by those who had enjoyed the advantages of a thorough education, to assist wage earners in securing a larger measure of practical and cultural knowledge. But almost invariably these individuals have assumed to know what this education should consist of, and the manner in which it should be taught. They were to be the big brothers, to be appreciated and obeyed because of their interest in the welfare of the less fortunate, and their superior knowledge.

Few, if any, of the educators interested in workers' education have realized the great basic truth, that unless the wage earners can save themselves, no one can do it for them, and that just as truly if the wage earners can not educate themselves no one else can educate them, for much of the wage earners' necessary education can only be made manifest by their practical personal experiences.

One of the most hopeful developments within the trade union movement has been the definite realization that the workers, not only should develop their own educational movement, but that they were fully competent to do this and to direct the services of the professional teachers they would find it necessary to employ, instead of having these highly trained educators assume the authority of dictatorship.

The international union, which, as pioneers, blazed a way for workers' education in the United States, undertook a most necessary and praiseworthy effort. They are entitled to a most generous measure of appreciation and praise. As a result of their efforts and experiences, and the active cooperation of the American Federation of Labor, workers' education, provided for and supervised by trade unionists, has become an actuality. The movement has been centered in the Workers' Education Bureau, through which trade unionists enlist the assistance of educators and direct their work.

Organization is the wage earners' first essential step. This, however, is but the beginning, for organization without education in its truest, fullest sense cannot fit the workers to successfully undertake the all-important task of abolishing industrial injustice and elevating the standard of living of the masses. Experience is the compass, and education the chart which the wage earners must have if they are to safely steer their craft across the industrial and political seas, where storms and submerged barriers are a constant menace.

FEDERATION WEEK

Seventy trades have been organized into committees to conduct an East Side campaign for increased membership in the Federation for the Support of Jewish Philanthropies, 114 Fifth Avenue, which is being launched during Federation Week, April 8 to 16, according to an announcement made by Judge Otto A. Rosalkey, chairman, at a special meeting of the Business Men's Council at the office of Felix Warburg of Kuhn, Loeb & Co., who is associate chairman of the campaign.

Federation supports 91 societies for welfare, remedial and educational purposes among the Jews of New York. The East Side is the

home of 27 of these, including organizations for the care of the sick, crippled, delinquent, destitute, widows and infants, as well as societies for recreation and for religious education. None of these ever solicit funds for individual purposes, but each receives an appropriation according to its needs from Federation funds.

The campaign, according to Judge Rosalkey, is to be primarily educational—designed to acquaint Jews of the Lower East Side with the benefits which each of the societies in which they are interested gains by membership in Federation.

Some Underlying Factors in Workers' Education

By DAVID J. SAFOSS
(Member of Faculty Brookwood Labor College)

The salient policies and problems of workers' education, appear to me in tabloid as follows:

Function of Organized Labor: The labor movement is the expression of articulate working class ideology, and the precursor of the future society. Organized labor as the economic expression of the working class is the basic unit. The leaders are the chosen guardians of the interests of the working class. Auxiliary activities, aiming to serve the workers and prepare them for their rightful heritage as rulers of the future, must be controlled by organized labor. In the past subsidiary activities have failed the labor movement at critical times. For example, innumerable instances are recorded where so-called labor papers bearing the endorsement of organized labor betrayed it during a crisis. Only direct control can avert such occurrences. Representatives of organized labor must not endorse or support allied or supplemental activities without having a majority representation upon the governing body.

Place of the Intellectual: Experiences of organized labor with intellectuals have been unfortunate. As a free lance he is generally irresponsible. As a technically trained person he is apt to assume a dictatorial attitude. Leaders of organized labor have become suspicious of intellectuals. The intellectual who aspires to directly serve the labor movement must affiliate himself with it, and submit to its discipline. The capitalist class has long required this of its intellectuals. Under this arrangement they become consultants and experts, guiding, advising and executing, but not directing. Policies must be determined or passed upon by the leaders directly responsible to the rank and file. The execution of policies requiring technical knowledge and training may properly be entrusted to intellectuals or experts with the proper qualifications, but always under the general direction of chosen representatives of organized labor. It is not a contradiction of this principle to enlist the services of unaffiliated intellectuals in an advisory and consulting capacity.

Purpose of Workers' Education: Workers' education should aim primarily to train workers more intelligently to participate in the labor movement, either as leaders or followers. It must not be perverted into a "stepping stone" for leaving the working class. Emphasis must be given to political, economic and social subjects so as to develop virile, independent workers' point of view, instead of so-called cultured persons inclined to dabble in the arts and letters. Ultimately it may be desirable to train technicians to serve the labor movement. For the present it is imperative to concentrate on educating workers to understand the accumulated knowledge, so that they can use it in the interest of labor, and pass it on to their fellow workers.

Forms of Workers' Education: In planning workers' education facilities should be provided whereby all the workers can avail themselves of it in one form or another. Not only should attempts be made to reach the adult, but it is equally important to disseminate labor's point of view among the children.

ADULT EDUCATION

(a) College Courses: It should be recognized that labor colleges will reach but a fraction of the workers. This small element is, however, the vanguard of the labor movement. It consists of the more alert and thoughtful

young workers—those having initiative, imagination, and a willingness to apply their leisure to intensive study. In the near future, the destiny of the labor movement will rest with them. The future progress of the labor movement will depend upon the education and training they receive before becoming the dominant personalities in it.

(b) Corresponding Courses: There will undoubtedly be a number wishing to do intensive work who will be unable to attend classes. To gratify their yearning for learning correspondence courses should be established.

(c) Mass Education: Intelligent leaders can be effectively hampered and even blocked by an unintelligent rank and file. The degree of responsiveness of the followers will depend upon the point of view and amount of general information. It is hopeless, with the limited resources at the command of the labor movement and the present make-up of society, to accomplish more than, (1) to pry open the minds of the mass of workers so that they will become conscious of the fundamental political, economic and social problems confronting them, (2) to crystallize for them their semi-conscious thoughts and feelings, (3) to develop a critical attitude towards the direct and indirect capitalist propaganda of present day institutions of opinion—the schools, press, pulpit, theatre, etc. Mass education will have to be largely extensive, informative, and interspersed with entertainment and other social activities. Educational meetings for specific trades or "nationalities," or general meetings properly organized will probably serve this purpose. Study groups and circles might be another means of furthering extensive and informative educational work. This popular educational work would also serve as a recruiting ground for the intensive educational work.

(d) Reading Guidance: There will be an element that will want more intensive study than the popular, educational mass meetings, but yet not as methodical and continuous as that given in the college or correspondence courses. There will also be those who will want to master a particular subject. For these a form of reading guidance should be established.

Child Education: Present day formal and informal education of the youth is designed to perpetuate and bolster up existing institutions. Those who are interested in a different future society must devise means of preparing the future citizens for it. Perhaps Sunday schools, kindergartens, or separate meetings for children in conjunction with the educational mass meetings would serve this purpose. At any rate it is exceedingly important to make provision for this form of education.

The Labor Press and Workers' Education: Outside of organizing campaigns and mass meetings, the labor press is the earliest form of extensive labor education. Like the organizing campaigns it is essentially propagandist, and because of the lack of education of the masses, its reading matter is largely rudimentary. As the workers become more educated the labor press will find it feasible to run more thorough and fundamental matter. It will also be the medium through which the educated worker will be kept abreast of political, economic and social development. The immediate service which the labor press can render to workers' education is to popularize it and create a demand for it among the working class.

The Week in Local 10

By JOSEPH FISCH

CLOAK AND SUIT

With the conclusion of the last general strike in the cloak and suit industry, the Joint Board of Cloakmakers began to realize that it must devise ways and means of controlling the jobbers in that industry, as there has been a pronounced tendency on the part of a number of apparel and suit manufacturers to give up their factories and go into jobbing. As yet, this tendency has not reached the proportions which it has attained in the waist and dress industry.

The Joint Board of Waist and Dressmakers, confronted with a bigger problem than that facing the cloak and suit people, realized the necessity of having agreements with the jobbers' association in the waist and dress industry. The Cloak and Suit Joint Board, although not confronted with as big a problem, realized, nevertheless, the necessity of controlling the jobbers, and a jobbing department was recently organized. Up to about two weeks ago the department was under the direct supervision of General Manager Feinberg. Only recently did the Joint Board realize that it must increase the scope of activities of the jobbing department, and it began seeking a suitable man to take charge of these activities.

The choice of the head of this department fell upon Vice-president Harry Wander, who up till recently had been manager of Local No. 23 for quite a number of years. And now, with the direct supervision of Brother Wander, this department will be able to extend its activities.

So far, there have been but three men working from this particular department; upon the installation of the new manager, a request for three additional men was sent in, which request was granted by the Joint Board. We believe that the jobbing department under the able leadership of Brother Wander, will produce the desired results.

The main object in view in creating the jobbing department was to see that the jobbers did not send work to non-union shops, where not only no cutter is employed but the rest of the work is done under non-union conditions, thereby endangering the union standards of our members and compelling the workers of the union shops to compete with those of the non-union shops.

So far the union has a formal agreement with the Merchants' Association, as they call themselves, with a membership of 136, among whom are the biggest men in the industry. Aside from the agreement with the Merchants' Association, the union also deals with about 100 jobbers who do not belong to the Association and have direct relations with the organization.

In conjunction with this, we wish to call the attention of our members to the fact that there are a number of small jobbers who do their cutting in the evenings, Saturdays or Sundays, and also some jobbers who have small cutting departments not on their own premises, which it is a difficult matter to locate. The cutters are therefore urged that, whenever they secure any knowledge to this effect or should they work in any of these shops, they are to get in touch immediately with the jobbing department, which will surely take steps to see that these jobbers come under the control of the organization.

The jobbing department has arranged a conference with the Merchants' Association, to place before them certain suggestions, the execution of which the union believes is imperative for the welfare of the members. These suggestions are:

First, that every jobber get a list

of union shops, and that each jobber be obliged to send work to any of the shops that are on the list, and be held responsible if he sends work to any shop that is not on the list.

Second, that every jobber is to submit a list, at the beginning of each successive season, of the contractors with whom he has dealt during the previous season.

The jobbing department also contemplates requesting the Merchants' Association to place an additional man or two to go out with the representatives of the union, as the force at present is inadequate to meet the demands made upon it.

Brother Wander expects to call to account every jobber who is sending his work to non-union shops, as has been done with a few jobbers who were fined heavily for this violation. Since this office has been in action, the union has been able to stop a number of jobbers from sending their work to non-union shops, thereby deviating the work from non-union help working under non-union conditions to union help working under union conditions.

The Joint Board is to be commended on its action in creating the jobbing department and in placing at its head Vice-president Wander. We are sure that the Joint Board has taken the right step in the right direction and that the efforts of the department will be crowned with success.

WAIST AND DRESS

An interesting meeting of the waist and dress division took place on Monday, April 9th, in Arlington Hall. The main feature of the evening was the report of Brother Harry Berlin, who is president of the Joint Board, and the report of General Manager Dubinsky, covering the activities of the office for the first three months of the year, together with the activities of Brothers Stoller and Hansel for the same period.

The first part of the report of Brother Berlin dealt with the proposed establishment of the employment bureau, to which the Manufacturers' Association has consented, in the agreement they reached with the union at the end of the recent general strike in the waist and dress industry. Brother Berlin outlined a few points covering the benefits to be derived by the members from the organization of an employment bureau.

The second part of this report dealt with the organization work of the Joint Board which has to be constantly carried on, due to the fact that quite a number of manufacturers are constantly coming in. He requested the cutters to help the organization in every way possible.

Before proceeding with his report, Brother Dubinsky commented on the employment bureau and stated it as his opinion that the employment bureau would not be beneficial to the cutters unless the Joint Board grants the cutters a cutting department which will have direct supervision over this work.

This subject, although not part of the regular business for the evening, was discussed by the members, and the general consensus of opinion was that the employment bureau so far as the cutters are concerned will not be looked upon very favorably by them.

Below is given a copy of Manager Dubinsky's quarterly report:

QUARTERLY REPORT—JANUARY 1ST TO MARCH 31ST, 1923 WAIST AND DRESS DIVISION COMPLAINTS

Employer is doing the cutting, no cutter employed
Unfounded—cutters were found working

Cutters were placed to work	14	Filed with Local No. 23	1
Firm paid fine	4	Pending	5
Instructions	7		
Out of business	3	Total	20
No work in shop	15	Total complaints filed from January 1st to March 31st	259
Firm gets cut work (controller investigating)	1	Total complaints adjusted from January 1st to March 31st	245
Withdrawn (no evidence)	9	January, February and March complaints pending	44
Firm cut work during strike	2	Filed in February	7
Firms out of Association	2	Filed in March	37
Open shops	5	Total	44
Dropped when strike was declared (some adjusted since then—balance refiled)	40		
Pending	18		

Total	153
Boas is helping cutter at table	
Instructions	1
Unfounded	3
Dropped when strike was declared—refiled	1
Pending	4
Total	5

Cutters discharged	
Reinstated	8
Cutters to leave job (received compensation)	2
Withdrawn	2
Dropped when strike was declared (adjusted since then)	4
Pending	4
Total	20

Non-union cutters employed	
In favor of union	12
Unfounded	5
Dropped when strike was declared (some adjusted since then)	8
Pending	2
Total	27

Cutter is member of firm	
Dropped when strike was declared (making further investigation)	1
Equal division of work	
In favor of union	3
Dropped by consent of D. Dubinsky	1
Total	4

Cutters violating union rules	
Dropped when strike was declared	2
Dropped members employed	
In favor of union	1
Dropped when strike was declared—refiled	2
Pending	1
Total	4

Cutters have no working cards	
In favor of union	9
No such shop on record	1
Dropped when strike was declared (some adjusted since then—balance refiled)	9
Local No. 23 shop	1
Total	20

Reduction in wages	
In favor of union	4
Open shop	1
Pending	1
Total	6

Firm refused to pay wages due cutter	
In favor of union	14



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CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10

Notice of Regular Meetings

SPECIAL MISCELLANEOUS	Monday, April 16th
GENERAL	Monday, April 30th
CLOAK AND SUIT	Monday, May 7th
WAIST AND DRESS	Monday, May 14th

Meetings Begin at 7:30 P. M.

AT ARLINGTON HALL, 23 St. Marks Place