

"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. 19.

New York, Friday, May 4, 1923.

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## WESTERN OPEN CHICAGO

President Sigman Installs Vice-President Perlstien as Manager—Katofsky and Kreindler to Manage Cleveland Affairs

Right after the Cleveland Board of Referees had rendered a decision granting a wage increase to the local workers, President Sigman and Vice-president Perlstien attended a meeting of the Cleveland Joint Board to arrange local organization matters. At that meeting it was decided that Brothers Katofsky and Kreindler jointly manage the affairs of the Cleveland Joint Board and take charge of organizing activity in our trades in that city. The delegates were in high spirits over the wage gains scored by the decision of the Referees and pledged themselves to conduct an energetic organizing drive to enroll every man and woman in the Cleveland women's garment trade into the union.

There are still a number of cloak-

makers outside the fold of the union in Cleveland including among them the workers of the Prints-Biederman shop, a large factory which has been waging a fight against the union for over a year. A special committee was organized to take care of activity in and around this shop.

Practically the whole of last week President Sigman spent in Chicago in connection with the installation of the western office of the International in that city. He arrived there on Tuesday, April 24th, in company with Vice-president Perlstien, the manager of the new office, and during the week attended several meetings of the local executive bodies to coordinate and arrange the new activities. The delegates of the Chicago

Joint Board displayed great interest in the work undertaken by the International and a large organization committee was immediately appointed and put to work. Already in the course of the first week, this committee, under the leadership of Brother Perlstien, was on the job distributing literature and holding meetings in the dress shop district.

For the time being, the office of Vice-president Perlstien will be located at the headquarters of the Cloakmakers' Joint Board in Chicago, until a suitable location for him is found. There seems to be little doubt that, under the energetic and capable management of Vice-president Perlstien, the work will proceed in a vigorous, efficient and productive manner.

## CAPMAKERS IN BIENNIAL CONVENTION

On Tuesday morning, May 1st, the biennial convention of the United Cloth Hat and Capmakers' Union of North America opened its session at the Headgear Workers' Temple, 210 East 6th Street.

The opening session was attended by thousands of workers in the cap and millinery trades. Max Zaritsky, president of the Capmakers' International opened the convention with an impressive and solemn speech.

Among the first speakers who came to greet the delegates of the Capmakers' Union were Abraham Cahan, editor of the "Forward," who was received with an ovation, and ex-Congressman Meyer London. James O'neal, of the editorial staff of the New York Call, also spoke at the first session of the convention and a message of greeting was read from Justice Jacob Panken. President Morris Sigman of our International forwarded the following telegram to the convention which was read by General Secretary Zuckerman and received with hearty applause:

"I regret very much that I cannot be with you on the opening day of your convention. If I return to the city during your sessions I shall consider it a privilege to address your delegates. To me the fact that your Union has always met in convention on the First of May, the day which demonstrates working-class solidarity, symbolizes the position of the Cloth Hat and Capmakers' Union in the front ranks of American labor, serving as an inspiration to the entire working class. Best wishes for the future success of your undertakings and the continuance of the splendid spirit of cooperation which exists between your organization and ours."

## Big Bridgeport Corset Shop Settles With Union

Warner Brothers Comes to Terms With Vice-President Halperin—Wage Raise Granted.

During the industrial depression which followed the war-years, the two corset workers' locals of the International in Bridgeport, Conn., Locals 33 and 34, had been reduced to mere paper existence and lost their entire influence in the local corset shops. The employers, taking advantage of the general bad conditions, abrogated relations with the union and sought once more to introduce into their factories the open shop with all its intrigues.

A group of workers which remained loyal to the union, notwithstanding the adverse conditions, nevertheless continued with praiseworthy persistence to maintain the semblance of an organization in the corset trade in Bridgeport. While helpless to achieve anything substantial, they kept on meeting, hoping for an opportune moment to rebuild these locals.

This moment finally came a few months ago when some trouble broke out in the big Warner Brothers corset factory, and the International office was appealed to for aid. Vice-president Halperin, manager of the Eastern Organization Department,

with some organizers, at his at-T, immediately went to Bridgeport to take up the grievance of the workers. Fearing trouble and realizing that the workers of their shop were flocking to the organization, the firm settled with the union and granted a number of concessions to their employees.

The settlement took place last week at a conference between the firm and the union at which the union was represented by Vice-president Halperin, Organizer Elsie Gluck, and a committee from Locals 33 and 34. The settlement grants the workers a raise in wages amounting to ten to fifteen per cent, the recognition of the union, and guarantees that no discrimination will be practiced against workers for union activity. It also provides for equal distribution of work in slack times.

Warner Brothers employ over a thousand workers. There is no doubt that this settlement will have a salutary influence upon the workers employed in the smaller corset shops in Bridgeport and that it will serve as a stimulus for further union activity in that city.

To be sure the organizing work of the International in Bridgeport has already had a stimulating effect upon the other labor unions in that city. Upon the initiative of our organizers, the Bridgeport Central Labor Union has recently held a conference of representatives of all the workers' organizations in the city, at which a concerted unionizing drive was launched with highly promising results ahead. At this conference Miss Gluck and Miss Anna Claughey represented our union.

## Cleveland Cloakmakers, Union Wins Important Law-Suit

Case Lasted Three Years

The Cloakmakers' Union of Cleveland recently won a very important case in the Ohio Supreme Court. It is the well-known Painsville case with which the readers of this journal have been made familiar long ago.

The Cleveland cloak firm, the Landesman, Hirschheimer Co., was a member of the manufacturers' association of that city, which had a collective agreement with the union. The firm was therefore compelled to maintain union conditions in its factory, but in order to defeat the purpose of the agreement it proceeded to carry out the following subterfuge—rather a familiar practice among many cloak employers:

It sent a lot of work to a non-union contractor in Painsville, a small suburban town near Cleveland. When the Cleveland union learned of this, it made a strong protest to the asso-

ciation, which was compelled to fine the firm for its action and to bring pressure upon it to stop sending work to the Painsville contractor.

This contractor, with the aid of the Landesman firm, brought suit against the union, charging restraint of trade. The Painsville judge ruled for the contractor and decided that the union should pay \$2,500 damages to the contractor. The union appealed from this decision and now, after two years, the Supreme Court of Ohio reversed the judgment of the Painsville court and invalidated the fine of \$2,500 imposed upon the union.

This decision is rightly interpreted as a substantial victory for the Cleveland union—in addition to being a very favorable decision for organized labor throughout Ohio. It places stricter responsibility upon all employers who have agreements with labor unions.

## Negro Dress Workers will Meet Next Thursday, May 10th

At New Douglas Hall, 142d St. and Lenox Ave.

The Joint Board of the Dress and Waistmakers' Union of New York is carrying on systematic educational work among the Negro workers in the dress trade of New York. It has arranged for a series of meetings for these workers, the number of which is increasing in the dress trade and already forms a substantial element in the factories.

On Thursday next, May 10th, at 8 p. m., the Negro dress workers of

West Harlem will meet at New Douglas Hall at 142d Street and Lenox Avenue. The meeting will be addressed by prominent Negro trade-unionists and lecturers, among them A. Philip Randolph, editor of "The Messenger"; Rev. Charles Miller, a Negro preacher; and Miss Grace Campbell. Mr. Harry Berlin, chairman of the Dress Joint Board, will preside.

## Topics of the Week

By MAX D. DANISH

### SUGAR BUCCANEERS

**SUGAR IS RISING.** From six cents a pound only a few months ago, it has now risen to twelve and, within a few days, it might rise to twenty cents or even higher—unless something somehow intervenes. But who is to intervene?

Three weeks ago, President Harding pledged himself to reduce the duty on sugar, as the tariff law explicitly provided in case the duty is even in the slightest degree responsible for a jump in prices. The commission appointed to investigate the effect of the tariff is "insuperable from this sudden inflation of prices." So far, however, the Federal government has done nothing to cut the duty, except perhaps for that political gesture of Daugherty in the injunction proceedings against the New York Coffee and Sugar Exchange which impresses nobody and frightens even less.

Every increase of a cent a pound in price costs the consuming public about two million a week. Fabulous profits are being reaped by the sugar gougers and the public is practically helpless. The United States is about the only country in the world without great cooperative enterprises, which alone could in an emergency of this kind successfully fight the speculators. In this light the efforts of some women's clubs and politicians of the "popular" type to institute boycotts against sugar appear feeble, if not pathetic. The public cannot expect anything from the sham maneuvers of the Harding administration, and a systematic effort to abstain from consuming sugar, a commodity of foremost necessity in every family, cannot be expected to dampen the profligate ardor of the members of the Sugar Exchange.

Our best bet is that, after they have satisfied their appetites to the tune of a billion dollars or so at the expense of those least able to pay, the gougers will retire for a while. Daugherty will then announce the resiliant slump in the price of sugar as a signal victory for his injunction proceedings. And then, the public will forget this huge blood-letting, as it has blissfully forgotten similar marauding sorties in the past.

### MOVE TO RECOGNIZE MEXICO

**THE** news from Washington last week that Mr. Hughes, heretofore a persistent opponent of Mexican recognition, has announced a mixed commission which is to meet soon in Mexico City to "hasten to reach a mutual understanding" between the United States and Mexico, is reasonable inference that a basis for such an understanding has already been reached in advance and that Mexican recognition is a matter of the near future.

Of course, it is the terms of this planned recognition that are most interesting, particularly to labor. So far as is known in the last year or so, business between the United States and Mexico has been developing at a brisk pace and resolutions have been pouring into Washington from trade and commercial bodies favoring the recognition of the Obregon Government.

At what cost Mexico will obtain this recognition is a matter of speculation. By undertaking to pay the interest on the debts contracted by former Mexican rulers and misrulers from groups of international bankers headed by Wall Street, Obregon has already removed one powerful obstacle to Mexican recognition. It is now to be seen how much the Mexicans are ready to sacrifice of that part of their constitution which asserts that the "sovereign wealth of the country belongs to the nation," which clause the owners of the huge American oil interests in Mexico acquired before the adoption of the constitution, have feared would affect their holdings. If the Mexicans should find some "way" to get to the hearts of the American oil concessionaires at rest, recognition will soon follow.

### THE DEATH OF THE LUSK LAWS

**THE LUSK LAWS** are dead at last. Private educational enterprises can now breathe easier; they are no longer at the mercy, caprice or prejudice of this or that state educational bureaucrat. The teachers of New York, who, under the Lusk allegiance law, had been compelled to take a special oath of loyalty, will no longer be humiliated by such an inquisition, and the school principals will be relieved of the jolly task of spying and reporting on their staffs.

The repeal fight was won, thanks largely to the campaign conducted for it by organized labor, the liberal sections of public opinion and the public press in the State, which supported and elected Governor Miller last fall on the strength of his pledge to remove this obnoxious legislation from the law books of New York. The Teachers' Union has also fought valiantly for the repeal of the Lusk laws, to them more humiliating and oppressive than to any other group of workers in the community.

The wiping out of the whole sorry Lusk business could not have come at a more appropriate moment. In the face of the renewed ravings of the super-patriots of the National Civic Federation, the American Defense Society, and their kin for the suppression and extermination of all and everything which in their eyes constitutes "revolutionary" and "unpatriotic" activity, this action by the New York legislature stands out not only as a popular repudiation of the Lusk committee and all it has done or tried to do, but also as a sound rebuke to these reactionary gentry and professional flag-wavers.

### JUDGE GARY AND IMMIGRATION

**JUDGE GARY**, the head of the United States Steel Trust, got himself entangled in an immigration mesh last week from which he was with difficulty extricated by the joint efforts of his publicity agents and the New York Times.

The facts are rather interesting. Since the Steel Trust was compelled a few weeks ago to grant a general increase to its hundreds of thousands of

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workers, for the plain reason that the labor market in the steel districts is not at present overhanging with idle labor, the conscience of these steel barons could not rest. They of a sudden became sponsors of "free immigration"—which ended up in a speech by Judge Gary in which he stated that the present immigration law was "one of the worst things this country has ever done for itself economically."

Immediately the poor Judge was jumped upon by the "Americanizers" of the undiluted, one-hundred-per-cent variety. The attack, of course, was lodged on the ground that "unrestricted" immigration, as advocated by Judge Gary, would bring into the country hordes of "wild radicals" and workmen from those dreaded sections of Eastern and Southern Europe which our boiling children cannot, for some reason or other, dissolve and reshape after the most desirable and popularly approved patterns and molds.

Imagine the consternation of Judge Gary! To be accused of such near-seditious ideas after so many years of irrefragable service to the Steel Trust and to his country, is galling enough indeed. Immediately the entire apparatus of Steel Trust publicity was brought into play and the press of the land from coast to coast was informed that the Steel Trust was really not interested in unlimited immigration, that it was for "harmony in industry as applied to every branch," that restriction should apply to "quality" rather than to quantity, and that "the number allowed to come here should be equal to the necessities of our industry."

In other words, stripped of all unnecessary verbiage, Judge Gary whether the percentage restrictions are allowed to stand or not, would from now on "select" our immigrants. But he would do the selecting with one primary idea in mind—that we keep out all the undesirable, but see to it that the steel districts are supplied with sufficient inarticulate man-power as that no such disaster as the recent general wage increase should ever occur in the future.

### THE WORLD COURT FLURRY

**THE** newspapers have been full, during the last few weeks, of the debate whether or not America should join the World Court, an adjunct of the League of Nations.

President Harding brought up this issue during the closing days of the last Congress, after which it lay at rest for a few weeks while the President was sunning himself in the South. When he came back, the controversy flared up again with increased vigor, with Root, Lodge and other arch-conservative leaders defending it, and LaFollette and Borah denouncing the proposal as sinister and subversive.

In brief, the plan proposes to bring the United States into the Geneva World Court without at the same time joining the League of Nations. It is to be a sort of a moral participation of America in an international agency which, it is claimed, would not bind it nor pledge its physical or material forces to uphold any side in an European controversy. Against this Senators Borah and LaFollette maintain that the Harding proposal is just a subterfuge for bringing the United States into the League of Nations, against whom the country voted so overwhelmingly but two years ago; that the move is based entirely on political motives, and that powerful financial interests of the country have been aching for years to enmesh America, by hook or crook, in the European debacle.

Without pretending to expert opinion in this matter, it is safe to assume that, as between Root and Lodge on the one hand and LaFollette and Borah on the other, we should rather believe that the "irreconcilables" represent the truer interests and the saner judgment of the American masses in their determination not to be dragged into that tangle of bureaucracy and imperialism called the League of Nations.

## Boston News

By A LOCAL OBSERVER

### CLOAKS AND SUITS

The Joint Board of the Cloak and Suit Makers' Union is buying itself with arrangements for the coming season. As was mentioned in these columns some time ago, our agreements with the manufacturers expire on July 1st. The Joint Board believes in preparedness, and the manager and business agent of the Union, Brothers A. Treadler and Meyer Frank respectively, are busy nightly with shop meetings at which different trade questions are taken up with our members.

We are still encountering a great deal of trouble with our contractors who daily persist in violating our agreements with them. These contractors, who are members of the Cloak Contractors' Association, are not paying double for overtime. Some try to "get away" with underpayment of some kind. One of our contractors recently failed to pay his workers on time, and when a complaint was lodged with the jobber, who in accordance with the agreement is responsible for the wages of the workers of his contractors, he at once handed a check to the Union, the full amount of which was close to four hundred dollars.

As far as the jobbers are concerned, our relations with them are of the very best. They are living up to the agreement in every detail. In many instances where there is trouble with a contractor, the jobber who supplies him with work is always ready, when his attention is called to it, to cooperate with us in settling the difficulty. One of our contractors recently failed to pay his workers on time, and when a complaint was lodged with the jobber, who in accordance with the agreement is responsible for the wages of the workers of his contractors, he at once handed a check to the Union, the full amount of which was close to four hundred dollars.

In contrast to the practice in former years, the Joint Board decided to hold election for officers on May 31, although those who will be elected will not assume charge of the office until July 1. In the judgment of the Board, a month will be needed for the new officials, if such shall be elected, to acquaint themselves with the work of the union as carried on by its different departments. This innovation ought to be copied by all locals of the International.

### WAIST AND DRESS

A special meeting of the members of Local 9 was held on Monday, April 23. The subject for discussion was whether or not our local should affiliate with the District Council of Boston and vicinity. The question was of so much interest to the members that the hall was filled to its capacity and some even had difficulty in finding standing-room. A lengthy intelligent discussion took place and various opinions were expressed. The why and wherefore of the District Council, its aims and objects, were expounded by different speakers from the floor. The result of this discussion was very gratifying—by a vote of all against one solitary opponent, it was decided to affiliate with the District Council. The following were elected as delegates from the different branches of our local:

For the dressmakers, Mary Teitelbaum, Anna Thomas, and Tillie Glasco; for the petticoat workers, Sophie Zellowitz, Gertrude Fieisher, and Frieda Baquet; for the cutters, P. Kramer, M. Braverman, and L. Kisman. Local 49 intends to give

the heartiest support to this movement for closer cooperation between the Boston locals.

In a previous edition of JUSTICE, we informed our members of a decision rendered in our favor by Professor Felix Frankfurter, who who acted as arbitrator in a dispute between our union and the Contractors' Association. In accordance with that decision, the members of the Association were obliged to employ all the cutters who were idle at that time. This was not carried out and our union, therefore, considered that the agreement between us and the Association abrogated. We then proceeded to force the employment of cutters through our old and always new method of strikes. The result was very satisfactory. We settled many other complaints of our members against members of the Association without the assistance of the latter. On April 24, the office discovered a case of underpayment on the part of Charm & Levine, 1041 Washington Street, a member of the Association. The firm refused to pay the difference and the Union was compelled to call a strike in the above shop. The Association got busy immediately, calling upon the office to let the people return to work. This the office refused to do until an adjustment of the complaint was reached. The lawyer for the Association then entered upon the scene and, after a conference held on April 26, the matter was satisfactorily adjusted and the workers returned to the shop. At this same conference the question of reestablishing the agreement between the union and the Association was taken up. After a thorough discussion by the representatives of both organizations, the differences were settled. It is hoped that complaints against members of the Association will in the future be better and more speedily adjusted. The representatives of the Union at the conference were Miss Sarah Harwitz, business agent Local 49, Brother Meyer Frank, business agent Local 12 and Brother I. Lewin, manager of Local 49.

### RAINCOAT MAKERS' UNION, LOCAL 7

At a special meeting of the Raincoat Makers held on Wednesday, April 25th, the recommendation of the Executive Board to celebrate May First was passed unanimously. It was further decided that the formal opening of our new headquarters should take place on May 1, a concert to be arranged for the occasion where good talent will appear. Letters were sent out to all members inviting them to participate in this celebration. Our members are expected to come in large numbers for a real good time is in store for them.

Our members are all employed at present and expect to continue so for some time to come. We hardly experience any trouble with our employers. Whenever a complaint arises, the matter is peacefully adjusted without any difficulty. We have at present only one complaint of a major nature against one of the concerns, a member of the Boston Raincoat Manufacturers Association. Our agreements with the latter organization as well as with individual manufacturers contain a provision that no garments shall be purchased from any outside source, no work to be sent outside, unless all of the inside workers are employed on full time. We have learned that the Standard Coat Company, 147 Kingston Street, purchased a few hundred garments while some of the inside workers were not engaged the

## Doings in Locals 41 and 50

By H. GREENBERG, Manager

The experiment of having Locals 41 and 50 under one management for the past year and a half has succeeded in bringing the members of these local close together. Not only has this move resulted in a great saving of money, but the office is able to take better care of the shops under the control of these locals.

The recent general strike in our trades brought to the surface a question of great importance to us: namely, shall Locals 41 and 50 continue as separate locals or shall they amalgamate into one local? This matter was discussed at great length by the executive boards of both locals, and finally they have agreed to recommend to the members that Locals 41 and 50 be united. This matter was taken up at the general member meeting, at which it was decided to request the General Executive Board of our International to amalgamate the two locals and to grant them one charter.

This decision came about as a result of the experience which we have had in the last year and a half. It proved to our members that while functioning as separate locals, neither Local 41 nor Local 50 was ever in a position to enforce the observance of conditions in the shops as they have been able to do since the locals

full 44 hours a week. We at once filed a complaint with the Association; not being able to reach an adjustment of this grievance with the Association, our office summoned the latter to arbitration. This arbitration will take place soon and our members will be notified of the result through the columns of JUSTICE.

Worcester, Massachusetts, is coming to life—that is, not the city of Worcester, for it was always lively, but we mean the cloak and dressmakers. Three organization meetings were held this week. All of these meetings were attended by Vice-president Monosson, under whose supervision the work is rapidly progressing. As has been stated in these columns, the members of the International in this city imposed upon themselves a tax of 15 per cent of a week's wages for organization purposes, which tax has already been collected. At the meeting held on Thursday, April 26, four committees of 16 members each were appointed. These committees will have charge of the entire organization work and are headed by Brother J. Spiegel, chairman of Local 75. Outside of these committees there are other active members who had much experience in organization work and who will lend a helping hand. We hope soon to be able to place Worcester among the one hundred per cent organized towns.

were working together under one management. To continue this state of affairs with the same success, it is necessary to get rid definitely of the prevailing local "patriotism" or "separatism"; now that the members have decided to amalgamate, we shall start our organizing work with renewed spirit and courage.

The members of the two locals celebrated the First of May by a general stoppage from work. The New York and Brooklyn members assembled at Casino Hall, 45 West 44th St. at 1 o'clock in the afternoon—while the Brownsville members got together at Columbia Hall, Stone and Pitkin Aves., at the same hour. At both these places meetings and concerts, followed by dancing, took place.

Locals 41 and 50 also celebrated the victory of our workers in the last strike by a banquet at Casino Mansion, which was attended by a large number of our members and several invited guests representing the International locals in New York city and other labor unions.

We expect to have items in JUSTICE, from time to time, on our plans and activities in the future, and would ask our members to watch the columns of our Journal for it.

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# FOLKS

## 1. Meet Comrade Mudgly

By SYLVIA KOPALD

I  
Martin Mudgly is a Socialist who talks big and thinks small. Every evening, as the supper dishes have been cleared from the table, Comrade Mudgly makes his rounds of the neighborhood stores. You can see his big lumbering figure slouching down the street encased in an armor of dignity that comes from the knowledge of recognized superiority. For in the inner fastnesses of respectable Brooklyn where he lives Comrade Mudgly is both oracle and seer.

There is Silverstone, the butcher, (né Silverstein); and Messing, the grocer; and Klein, the carpenter; and, eh, yes, Grossman, the ladies' tailor; all good Socialists, let me assure you, all of whom at any time will tell you what manner of Comrade Mudgly is. And they ought to know. For evening after evening they have sat at Mudgly's feet and listened to his accumulated wisdom as did the Grecian youths to Socrates.

"Mudgly's been in the movement for such a long time," explained Klein to the assembled group one evening.

"It beats all how he knew all the big boys and can tell everything worth knowin' about them," added Messing.

"Here he comes," announced Silverstone as Mudgly opened the door and took his place among them with serene composure. He peered hard at his proteges through his thick convex glasses and settled back in satisfaction after he had made sure that they were all present.

"Well, the top of the evening to you all," he greeted them. He loved to achieve such an exotic geniality by the expert use of racial idioms which he gathered from the local vaudeville stages.

"And how are you, Comrade?" beamed Silverstone. "Here! Have a little something and tell us the news."

Mudgly tossed off the "little something" solemnly and placed the glass on the table. He always chose this method of informing his host that the transaction under question was by no means ended with the first glass.

"Of course, you are going to the meeting tomorrow night," he began.

"Of course, of course," agreed Klein hurriedly. (Truth to tell, he had not even known that a meeting had been scheduled.)

"Harry Nollers is going to speak," continued Mudgly.

"And he's good!"

"Is he good? Why, Klein, you don't mean to tell me you never heard of Nollers!" The other Comrades looked reproachfully at the abashed Klein.

"Why Nollers has been in the movement since '99. His father had a high place in the S. & L. P. and his heart was almost broken when Harry broke and went with the Party. Funny thing, too, how his son broke and went with the Communists in '19. His wife was Annie Park before she married. Her father was in the old District 49 of the K. of L., you remember. Her brother Benny Parks married a Catholic and his folks didn't have nothing to do with him after that. But Harry, you know, ran for Assembly in 1909 and let me tell you he put up some fight. His grandfather's cousin fought in Europe in 1848."

Martin could thus on a moment's notice trace the family tree of any man, woman, boy or girl who had ever voted the Socialist ticket. Young Annie Silverstone, who had been very badly brought up and had no respect

whatever for her elders, used to say that Comrade Mudgly was a genealogical Socialist.

"Say, I hope that the meeting tomorrow will be as interesting as last time when that engineer spoke," ventured Comrade Grossman.

"So you call that good?" sneered Mudgly. "Well, let me tell you I don't. So much talk about industry always makes me sick. What we need first is a big vote; then we need to get the government; and when Morris Hillquit or Gene Debs is in the White House it'll be time to think of industry. Anyway what was he gettin' all excited about that key industry stuff for. D'ye ever hear? Key industries! Keys are important now, but in a society where no man will have reason to steal we will be able to get on very well without them."

And so the evening passed as so many others before it had. But I don't want you to get any mistaken notions about Comrade Mudgly. Don't think for a moment that he devoted his whole time to dispensing Socialism to middle-class shopkeepers. No, indeed. Many other things claimed Comrade Mudgly's attention. He spent many anxious moments over his servant children. He was convinced that Marjorie, who hated books, would make a good teacher; and was quite sure that Ruth, who worked evenings in order to be able to go on with her high school course, would make a splendid business woman. If any one could talk convincingly on the ingratitude of children, Martin Mudgly could. Neither Marjorie nor Ruth would listen to reason. And after all, he was an older man with far more knowledge of the world than either of them—or for that matter both of them put together—could boast.

But the vexation which this obstinacy on the part of his young daughter brought Martin after all was merely vexation. Through his eldest son he had come to know true sorrow. For Jerry had married a

Catholic! It wasn't as if Jerry had not known what Martin thought of Catholics. He had never made a secret of his feelings. But what did a father's feelings matter? Of course in his clearer moments Martin realized that Mary had trapped his son. Jerry had always been a simple lad. And those Catholics were a scheming lot.

But Jerry's marriage had at least given Martin another mission in life. He sought to put all the unsuspecting on guard against the Catholics. When Wrangel threatened Soviet Russia from the south, Martin could prove by unimpeachable evidence that his plot was being engineered from Rome. When the Communists split, the American Socialist Party they fooled everybody but Martin. He could see the Pope's finger in that pie. He even saw behind the seeming innocence of the parochial schools and succeeded in convincing all his Jewish friends that the seeds of anti-Semitism were sown within their walls.

Thus Martin passed his days. On the whole they were happy days. Martin was too certain of his own high-mindedness and rectitude ever to experience really major distress. For only those who sometimes doubt themselves can ever plumb the depths of wretchedness. To the others unfortunate twists in the course of events come from the cussedness of chance or the malevolence of other people. Martin, like the Kaiser, had a contract with God. He could see no reason why the Deity should seek to dissolve it.

But the ways of the gods are often strange and unfathomable. One day, with electric suddenness, Martin's world threatened to collapse. It all began when Comrade Klein sold his store to another brother named Comrade Bendorfield. Martin was all plumed when they met at Silverstone's to welcome Bendorfield into the fold. Impressively he began to hold forth.

But then came—not another ad-

(Continued on Page 11)

## Two Million Out of Work in England

By EVELYN SHARP

(London Daily Herald Service)

### INDUSTRIAL TROUBLES

In a letter addressed generally to the press, Sir John North-Grieffs, M. P., makes the callous statement that "We have now got, and always apparently will have—a million or no trade boom—a million or more unemployed men who cannot be absorbed in industry." This Tory captain of industry and Member of Parliament mentions this by the way, in the course of an emigration proposal, but it serves as an example of the mind of big business, which can thus contemplate the bitter failure of the present system without making any better suggestion to help the innocent victims of it than shipping them off to other countries, where the same industrial shortage of work obtains and only agricultural employment is open to these town workers from the old country.

What is the actual industrial position at the moment in Great Britain? Two million unemployed is a more accurate figure than that given by Sir John. Besides these, ten thousand farm workers are on strike in Norfolk against the proposal to increase their hours to 52 and decrease their miserable wage to 25 shillings a week. Forty-five thousand miners are on strike in South Wales against the employment of non-union men in the mines. Thirty thousand jute workers are locked out in Dundee because worse conditions are offered them.

Sixty thousand pottery workers are resisting further wage cuts; half a million building operatives are on the verge of a lock out next week, unless they agree to accept less wages and to work longer hours, while the railway shogmen are in the throes of a dispute with the railway companies which may easily end in a general railway strike. So it is difficult to preach to the workers that this is the best of all possible worlds, and that the present system of privately owned capital has proved itself a brilliant success. They will be more inclined to believe Mr. Maynard Keynes, who said the other day that it was doubtful if we could ever employ all our employable population unless our methods of industry and trade greatly improved. At the moment, farmers, master builders, mine owners, and railway companies showing large dividends, declare their inability to pay wages on which a man can live decently with his family. Such a system, with all its implications, cannot be expected to survive the awakened consciousness of the worker.

### THE SITUATION ABROAD

Another great captain of industry, the vice-president of the London Association for the Protection of Trade, let slip also a remark a day or two ago that is in itself a condemnation of the foreign policy that has been followed in Europe, by Great Britain

in conjunction with others, since the Great War. "We cannot get over the fact," he said, commenting on the present trade depression, "that Germany was our best customer before the war." This may even be called a common-place, but it appears to be a fact over which large numbers of people still seem able to get without much difficulty. It is this refusal on the part of our rulers to face the facts of the European situation that causes so much disquiet in the minds of intelligent observers respecting the recent "conversations" of M. Loucheur. Secret diplomacy of some sort is going on, and those who are conducting it cannot be trusted by those who foresee the result of the Versailles Treaty long force is lodged us in the present crisis. Whether we look at home—even in so small a matter as the price of domestic coal, it was shown in the answer to a question in the House this week, that the demand for coal abroad owing to the Ruhr occupation had sent up the price in this country—or whether we look at Europe where trouble may arise out of any mismanagement on the Polish border of Germany, or in Germany itself owing to the activities of the Bavarian monarchists, the prospect is black

and will remain so until a firm policy is adopted by the Allies of France which, while granting her the security she rightly demands, will also insist on the preservation of the German nation in return for due payment of reparations. More important things than the preservation of British trade are at stake, but so far only the Socialists in the different countries seem really aware of this.

Today, Mr. William Adamson and Mr. C. Roden Buxton will present their report on their visit to the Ruhr to the Parliamentary Labor Party here; while that of the Belgian Socialist deputation has already been issued and is a heart-breaking document, showing the utter desolation of this formerly prosperous region, the sufferings of the workers and their families, and the failure of the French to gain anything by their invasion, which has, indeed, only succeeded in stopping the regular deliveries of reparations coal that were being made before the invasion. Herr Cuno's speech at Essen contains in it the germs of an offer to negotiate, if the French really want to negotiate, just as former German offers have contained the germs of satisfactory reparations settlements. But do the French want either?

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## In Darkest Hungary

Twenty-Six Years of Trade-Union Activity

From March 25 to 27 there was a meeting of the seventh ordinary Congress of the Hungarian Trade Unions, at which was celebrated the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Hungarian Trade Union Council. In addition to the 217 delegates representing 326,000 organized workers, the Congress was attended by nine fraternal delegates from other countries and from the International Federation of Trade Unions. Most of the trade-union federations of the European countries sent letters of congratulation.

A report giving an account of the development of the Hungarian trade union movement was submitted, from which we take the following extracts:

The last ordinary Congress was held in 1917. After the entry of the Roumanians into Buda-Pest the successive counter-revolutionary governments endeavored to dissolve or suppress the trade unions and to lure to force their members away into the ranks of the clerical trade unions. The trade unions suffered severely from this policy of violence, their membership declining in 1920 to 150,000. Thanks to the heroism and energy both of the leaders and of the rank and file, the trade unions managed to rebuild their shattered edifice, with such success that by the end of 1922 they had a membership of 202,956.

The splendid progress made in the organization of young workers is also attributable to the unremitting propaganda work of the unions, which now number among their ranks some thousands of young people.

The following demands were formulated in respect of the protection of workers:

Legislation enforcing the 48-hour

week for industry, trade, traffic and transport; the adoption of the recommendations and conventions of the Third International Labor Conference at Geneva in respect of the working hours of land-workers and the regulation of agricultural work; the prohibition, in all occupations, of work for children under 14; the prohibition of women's and children's work in unhealthy trades; measures providing for occupational training for the war disabled and other partially disabled persons; the protection of maternity; the prohibition of night work; 36 hours' uninterrupted rest at the end of the week; the building of workers' dwellings and the cheapening of rents for small houses and cottages; the creation of Chambers of Labor (for manual and non-manual workers) and the improvements of industrial inspection.

The Congress demanded:

(1) Complete legal recognition of the right to combine, and freedom of speech. Those regulations must be annulled which provide that the permission of the police must be obtained by the trade unions before they arrange for conferences, executive committee meetings, scientific lectures and other gatherings.

(2) The right to combine must be restored to those organizations which have been dissolved and the confiscated premises must be returned.

The ban on trade-union newspapers, which has been suppressed, must be removed, and freedom for their continuous publication assured. Agricultural workers, miners, railwaymen, tramwaymen and other traffic workers must be granted the same right to combine as is granted other industrial workers.

(3) The black lists, by means of

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which the employers are able to reduce workers to starvation or compel them to emigrate must be prohibited.

(4) The system of placing the spokesmen of the workers under police supervision or internment must be abolished.

An examination of these demands makes it clear that the Hungarian government refuses to recognize the fundamental right of the labor movement. The admission of Hungary into the League of Nations, the members of which participate in the International Labor Organization and are morally bound to accept the guid-

ing principles laid down in Chapter 13 of the Peace Treaty of Versailles, has done nothing to change the arbitrary attitude of the Hungarian government. This increases our admiration for the courage and determination with which the Hungarian Federation of Trade Unions has fought against the reactionaries for the rights of Labor.

The Congress declared its solidarity with the German workers, who are struggling against French militarism and capitalism in the Ruhr District, and instructed the Executive Committee to organize a collection for the benefit of the Ruhr workers.

## Union Health Center Celebration

On Saturday evening, April 28th, sounds of laughter and good cheer, in the auditorium of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, arose high above the sound of the steady downpour of rain, for the educational department of the Union Health Center was celebrating its third year of activity.

Miss Theresa Wolfson, educational supervisor of the Union Health School, welcomed the members of the Union Health School and told of the rise and development of the health education work of the I. L. G. W. U. from the small nucleus of five or six workers interested in health—to the large class of today where from fifty to eighty-five workers register for health courses. She stated that the plans for health education work for next year would be even bigger and more inclusive than in previous years.

Mr. Harry Wander, chairman of the Union Health Center, was then introduced and in the absence of Dr. George M. Price, director, welcomed those present in the name of the Union Health Center. He told the life-story of the Union Health Center and of the many trials that that institution had to undergo and was still going through in its efforts to become the effective health organ of the I. L. G. W. U. He stated further that health education was one of the most important functions of the Union Health Center, for it was only by educating the workers in the matter of health and health preservation that anything could be accomplished in the prevention of illness.

Dr. Iago Goldston was then called upon to tell the difference between health education carried on by and for the workers, health education carried on by private organizations for the good of the general community, and by business enterprises for the good of the employer.

Dr. Max Price, chief of the dental department of the Union Health Center, expressed his interest in health education and his good wishes to the health class.

Miss Anna Gydakovskaya, chairman of the Executive Committee then spoke in behalf of the students that attended the classes. She expressed in detail the appreciation of the workers who had diligently followed the health lectures and health courses given. At the close of her speech she presented to Miss Wolfson a beautiful bouquet of flowers in token of the esteem and interest of the workers attending the lectures at the Union Health Center, after which a beautiful brief case, a gift to Miss Wolfson from the class, was presented by Miss Fannie Brandwein.

Then the orchestra struck up a lively tune and dancing followed. Ice cream and cakes were served later in the evening and tea to those who wanted it. Among those who entertained later in the evening were: Miss Esther Fleigelman and Miss Honig, who sang several beautiful songs. Miss Betty Marcus played the piano and Ben Kolinsky danced a solo dance.

Among the doctors present were: Dr. and Mrs. Lichtenstein, Dr. Ward Crampton, Dr. J. Smith, Dr. A. Sayer, Dr. M. Goldstein, Dr. William Robinson, Dr. Brody, Miss Fannie Cohn and Mr. Harry Wander, vice-presidents of the I. L. G. W. U. were also present.

The telegram from Mr. Morris Sigman, president of the I. L. G. W. U., read as follows:

"I am sorry not to be able to join you in person to celebrate the third year of your health education program. Let me assure you, however, that I am with you in spirit. You are performing a monumental work in behalf of not only our own workers but the entire labor movement and have good cause to celebrate."

The party did not break up until midnight. Then it was that the clock was moved ahead and everybody took an hour's sleep. Those who were present had a very happy and jolly time and felt that such a party might be given more frequently.

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## EDITORIALS

### CONGRATULATIONS TO GARMENT WORKERS OF CLEVELAND

We feel certain that the cloak and dressmakers of Cleveland are fully satisfied with the decision of the Board of Referees to the effect that their wages be substantially increased beginning May 1st.

True, our Cleveland workers deserved this raise a long time ago. Unfortunately, however, we live in a world where one does not often get his dues at the right time. If this were not the case, we would perhaps have been spared the necessity of having labor unions, strikes, boards of referees and all other ways and means whereby workers obtain even a part of what rightfully belongs to them.

Our sisters, the women workers in the Cleveland ladies' garment trades, certainly ought to feel contented with the approaching recognition of the principle that women be paid equal rates for equal work in the shop. Until now, the difference between the wages of a male and female worker in these trades in Cleveland was 37½ per cent; in other words, if a male operator received \$40.00 a week, a female operator got only \$25.00 for the same work. The decision of the Board of Referees brings this difference down to about 32 per cent, so that women operators will from May 1st receive \$30.00 a week—an increase of \$5.00.

It is necessary to state here that the referees themselves in their decision admit that they are not certain that this wage increase for the women workers carries out adequately the principle of equal pay for equal work, but they declare that they have not sufficient facts at hand to determine the relative worth of the work of men and of women in the garment trades. They are convinced, however, that the difference in wages prevailing heretofore was too great and they are ready to reduce it 5½ per cent. We can expect therefore that in time, if the facts warrant it, and if it can be proved that the difference in work, qualitatively and quantitatively, between the men and women is insignificant, the women's wages will be raised accordingly.

The same can be said concerning our male workers in Cleveland. According to the referees' decision, they receive a wage increase ranging from 15 to 20 per cent. Their wages have again come to the level of 1919, the highest ever received in the cloak and dress trades in Cleveland. Certainly our cloakmakers know that this took place, not because the Board of Referees is so liberal and so humane—though we are not saying anything to the contrary—but because the cloak and dressmakers of Cleveland have had the good sense and the strong will to remain faithful to their union under all circumstances and to utilize this solidarity and strength of their union to present the winning argument.

Another thing which our sisters and brothers in Cleveland will surely not forget is that they were represented at this hearing by their true and tried leaders—President Sigman and Vice-president Perlstein. We are certain that they know that persons less able and less tactful, less convincing in their arguments and in the presentation of facts, could not have produced the effect they did. A "bad job" in presenting the workers' side might have left no other alternative for the workers to obtain this increase but the means of last resort—the strike. The Cleveland workers surely are happy and proud today not only of their union but also of its loyal and able leadership, something with which only few unions are blessed.

Concerning the work methods in the cloak and dress industry of Cleveland, the methods that are known under standards of production and "time studies," the Board of Referees has a recommendation to make to the joint bureau in approximately the following terms:

First, there must be more publicity about the details of the methods by which the achievements of the worker are measured. Proper methods have no reason to fear very thorough consideration. Both workers and employers are entitled to know in their minutest details the methods under which time studies and other production criteria are being made.

Second, all are fortunately of one mind that each worker is to receive a wage commensurate with his effort and ability. There are, however, reasons for believing that many standards were reached not on the basis of ability and achievement. Perhaps this should have been expected but an aggressive and immediate combatting of such irregularities is of the highest importance.

This recommendation is an admission that the standards of production have not as yet worked very satisfactorily in the Cleveland shops. We know quite definitely, at any rate, that as far as the workers are concerned, standards of production

have not brought about the result that they get paid in full in accordance with their ability and their productivity. The Board of Referees admits that, but it believes that the fault lies not in the method but in its "irregularities," and they recommend that these irregularities be removed as soon as possible.

But the question arises—can they be removed and is the fault not inherent in the method itself? It is because of this divergence of opinion that we believe this method must still be regarded as an experiment. It is yet too early to say anything definite about it. We certainly do not agree with the opinion of the Board of Referees that the time has come to apply the principles of the Cleveland agreement to other producing centers—first of all, because it is not as yet clear that this agreement has been a success even in Cleveland; and secondly, even if this agreement works well in Cleveland, it must not be forgotten that the cloak industry of Cleveland with its big shops and its extensive division of work cannot serve as a model for other cloak centers producing under entirely different circumstances. What may be good for Cleveland may be entirely inapplicable and unacceptable to such a cloak center as New York.

At any rate, it is a subject worth while considering by the International. Heretofore our union has maintained a decidedly negative attitude towards the standards of production plan, with regard to all other cloak centers outside of Cleveland. If the future shows that this method can be favorable to the workers in the entire industry and that the International must therefore change its attitude, it will surely not be afraid to modify its policy. But this is a matter for the future. The important fact today is that the cloakmakers' union of Cleveland is strong enough to keep on improving the living conditions of its members, and we congratulate our Cleveland union sincerely upon this important victory—which is even greater and more significant because it was achieved in a peaceful and "bloodless" manner.

### AMALGAMATION OF LOCALS 41 AND 50

The Children's Dressmakers' Union, Local No. 50, and the Housedress and Bathrobe Makers' Union, known as Local No. 41, have united. As two comparatively weak locals, they have now formed one strong organization.

The idea that these locals should be united is not a new one. The fact is that the differences between these two trades are quite small. Bathrobe makers often work in children's dress shops and children's dressmakers are frequently found working in housedress shops. In the shops in which children's dresses are manufactured, one often finds that bathrobes and housedresses are also being made. For a long time, it appeared obvious that two locals in practically the same trade were entirely superfluous. Nevertheless, somehow, they could not unite, and as a result of this, it may have been because for a long time the were both helpless and weak, and a union of two emaciated little bodies, such as they were, would perhaps not contribute much to the strength of either.

About a half-year ago, these two locals began an active organization campaign, aided by the International, which ended in a widespread strike and a substantial victory for the workers. Both locals now have about 3,000 members and a considerable treasury, and what seemed to be useless and inadvisable a few months ago when both locals were weak and helpless has become advisable and necessary now that locals 41 and 50 are coming into their own.

Of course, this amalgamation is to be carried out with the full consent of the International office. It is perhaps worth while calling attention to the fact that the International is always and forever for amalgamation wherever it is possible and advisable. Our detractors are always ready to "convince" some of their gullible adherents that the International is seeking only to split up local unions and they bring forth the instances of the recent reorganization of Local No. 3 or the division of Local No. 25 some time ago. The fact is that wherever amalgamation is impossible or wherever it has to be forced upon members, the International is opposed to it. It believes that such a forced union will only hurt the interests of the workers. But wherever amalgamation would help the workers in their fight for a better living, the International is heart and soul for it. There can be no doubt that the International is highly gratified by this amalgamation of Locals 41 and 50. Within the next few days, these workers will get from the International a new charter and will begin functioning as a legitimate and independent unit.

This double event—the victorious fight and the amalgamation of the two locals—was celebrated last Monday, April 30th, at a banquet at Casino Mansion, which was attended by the most active workers in the locals and by representatives of other locals and the International.

It was a very interesting evening. Brother Harry Greenberg, manager of Local 50, Vice-presidents Fannia M. Cohn and Jacob Halprin, and Brothers Sirota, Chancer and Chatkoff delivered warm speeches which conveyed the idea that an important task has been achieved for the workers in the children's dress and bathrobe trades. The union was salvaged and brought back to life after it had been deemed by many as helpless and dead. The executive board of these locals upon this occasion distributed a number of gifts to the most active leaders in the last strike.

There was one fact among others mentioned by Brother Sirota in his talk which appears to us worth while emphasizing. Some time ago Local 50 waged a strike against a certain Mr. Kaufman, an employer in the children's dress trade. This Mr. Kaufman took too much to have anything to do with the union and not to keep a union shop. He was aided in this

# The New European Tragedy

By LEON CHASANOWICH

(Special European Correspondence to JUSTICE)

## III RECONSTRUCTION OF FRANCE AND THE SHYLOCK DEMANDS OF FRENCH IMPERIALISM

After the occupation of the Ruhr, the German Government earnestly undertook to save German currency and the German national economy from further demoralization. The success of this effort can best be judged by the fact that in the course of about two weeks the mark rose from 50,000 to about 20,000 to the dollar. This operation was performed after almost all economists in Germany had all but given up hope for the mark.

This treatment of the mark is to a large degree a sort of war policy. Before the occupation the mark was allowed to sink to the lowest depths without having a finger lifted to stabilize it—all protests of the Social Democrats notwithstanding. The spirit which in those days prevailed in industrial and leading circles was a spirit of "defeatism." It was calculated that the lower the mark sank the further disappeared French hopes and prospects to get any reparations from Germany. In a preceding article, in speaking of the aims of the German bourgeoisie, we pointed out what scandalous profits this "defeatist" policy had brought to the German industrial and financial barons. This policy, however, could not have been prolonged indefinitely had it not contained in itself a grain of national self-defense. Lloyd George, in his articles on the reparations problem, after he had ceased to be Premier, correctly analyzed the psychology of the German bourgeoisie. He illustrated his idea by the following example: If a debtor is being contented with the demand that he pay his debt upon penalty of property attachment and he is able to make payment, he will in all likelihood pay. If, however, he is asked to pay a sum which he cannot possibly meet, he will quite likely sell out in a clandestine manner all on one and still abscond.

The trouble with the Versailles Treaty is that it did not fix Germany's liabilities. It was only decided that Germany should pay as much as she can and that her payment increase as her paying ability increases. The result was that Germany lost every interest in "coming to herself," in becoming solvent, knowing that it would rebound not to her own interest but to the interest of her creditors, the Allies. Lloyd George, however, does not mention the fact that he himself had consented to this agreement to demand the payment of impossible sums by Germany, not because he believed that such payment was possible but for sundry diabolic reasons and for the purpose of intoxicating the English masses with illusions of victory.

It is a fact that the economic ad-

visers at the Paris peace conference entertained the most naive conceptions regarding the ability of Germany to pay cash contributions, concealed under the name of "reparations" in order to satisfy outwardly Wilson's promises. Even the American delegation in Paris believed that Germany could pay 325 billion in gold marks (80 billion dollars) a sum equivalent to the entire wealth of Germany. Only one conscientious economist, John Maynard Keynes, a member of the English delegation, understood the folly of these demands. He estimated Germany's ability to pay at 50 billion gold marks, and, having found himself in a hopeless minority, resigned his position.

Rivers of ink have been used and mountains of books and memoranda have been written about the reparation question. In this enormous reparation literature, Keynes' book occupies the most important place. The world has learned a great deal from it and it has contributed a great deal towards forming English and European opinion on this subject. Keynes declares today that he too was optimistic when he declared in the summer of 1919 that Germany could pay 50 billion gold marks in cash. He estimates the maximum of German annual savings at two billion gold marks, from which the Germans could pay annually one billion or half a billion. All told, he figures, Germany would be able to pay up in time—without interest or compound interest—about 40 billion gold marks. It is interesting to learn that, during the peace negotiations, Brockdorf-Rantzau, then German foreign minister, had offered the sum of 100 billion gold marks (25 billion dollars) but the Allies would not hear of it. Little by little, however, they were compelled to lower their demands and in 1921 an agreement was reached of 132 billion francs, of which France was to get 86 billion, a sum which approximates the figure originally proposed by Germany. But this sum too far exceeds the resources of the German national economy.

The whole trouble, however, consists in the fact that the ruling classes of France are not in earnest in demanding German reparation for the damages inflicted by the German armies upon the civil populations during their stay in France and Belgium. It is worse so, Germany and France could have reached an understanding long ago. The working class of Germany realizes its moral obligation to reconstruct the devastated sections of France, the upbuilding of destroyed industry, and the French and German unions have already united upon a plan for such reconstruction. This plan was, however, totally ignored by the French Government. The reconstruction of these provinces is not

noble resolve by a person who had been for a long time a business agent of our union and who had held several other positions of trust. He wound up his career, however, by becoming a traitor to the workers' interest, a deplorable phenomenon, indeed, which nevertheless occurs in our movement, it must be admitted.

The union conducted the fight against this employer for over twenty weeks and was in the end compelled to give it up as lost. Of course, this strike weakened and impoverished the local and it seemed for a time as if this shop would remain forever a non-union nest. Then the general strike came about and this shop was also drawn into the fighting vortex, with the result that the Kaufman factory is now fully unionized, as are the many other new shops in the industry. The workers in this particular shop deemed it their duty to express their appreciation to the union by presenting Manager Greenberg with a beautiful gold watch.

The moral of this story is that it is never wise to become despondent and to consider any case lost, no matter what its temporary outcome. If the workers only decide to remain loyal to their union, they will come out victors in the end, no matter how hopeless the issue may look for a time.

## THE GOSPEL OF WORK

By CHARLES PAYNE SMITH

I  
I am the Spirit of Labor  
Born in travail from the womb of time, earth is blest in my coming.  
Mine is the task eternal. Ageless and endless I minister to human needs.  
Fancies turn to facts, thoughts translate into deeds under my revivifying touch.

Mine is the genesis of progress. In my hands lies the destiny of the race.

II  
I am the Spirit of Labor  
Telling I willan deserts to life, make the wilderness blossom into beauty  
Through my endeavor man rides upon the seas and floats among clouds.  
Mine is the gift of sacrifice, my reward is in work well done. Wealth is my creation. I am the apostle of a higher civilization.

III  
I am the Spirit of Labor,  
Master am I, who only seek to serve, I am earth's sole regenerator,  
Hills do I level and the valleys fill, I sow, reap and garner for the feast whither I am unbidden.

Temples to learning I rear, yet I and mine languish in ignorance.

Mansions I build for the mighty of earth, yet lowly are my dwelling places.

IV  
I am the Spirit of Labor.  
Rare fabrics I weave and spin, yet rude garments cover my nakedness.

Fires warm the favored ones while I sit outside the glowing circle, I hunger in the fulness of harvests.

Barefoot I tread life's thorny ways, but with eyes uplifted to brighter days.

Through patient strivings shall I gather the fruits of my endeavor, in God's good time my recompense shall come.

I am sole arbiter of my destiny. For mine is the Spirit of Labor.

wrought with impossibilities, as I have already pointed out, and the forces made free in Germany through the abolition of the army would suffice to carry out this work in the course of a few years.

But France wouldn't have what Germany can give: materials and human labor. France wants only cash, and in such sums as are obviously impossible for any country to raise. In order to be able to pay any other country huge sums, Germany's export would have to be immeasurably greater than her import. But, as a matter of fact, Germany's imports have exceeded her exports quite a good deal in the last few years and this is one of the causes which have contributed to the breakdown of German paper currency. Even before the war the most important capitalist governments had substantial trade deficits, i. e. greater imports than exports. They could, however, balance the difference with profits derived from old investments in foreign countries. Germany balanced her trade sheet principally from the huge profits derived from her highly developed mer-

chant marine and from foreign investments. Both these items disappeared with the signing of the Versailles pact. Germany will continue for a long time to have greater imports than exports, and German national economy will continue to have no other important resources for French reconstruction save German labor and German raw materials.

If the bourgeoisie of Germany has sinned greatly because it is trying to dodge reparation responsibility and to coin profits out of the German disaster, the French bourgeoisie, by its imperialist policy, is proving conclusively that its reparations complaints are sheer hypocrisy and cant. That's why they are extorting huge sums from Germany not for reparations but for the maintenance of occupation armies; that's why half of the coal delivered by Germany to France has been given away free to French capitalist enterprises; and that's why the small percentage of undelivered coal, which has nothing to do with reparations, was made the pretext and the argument for the occupation of the Ruhr.

These few words are directed to the newly amalgamated local as a message of congratulation. We hope that it will not take long before the workers in the trade under the control of the new local will all be members of their union. We hope that very soon the local will become strong enough not to have to appeal to its sister unions for help when they determine upon their next step to improve working conditions in their shops.

## LOCAL 66 CELEBRATES TENTH ANNIVERSARY

The Bonnaz Embroidery Union, Local 66, had a double celebration last Tuesday. First, of course, was the general festival of the workers—the First of May. Their second cause for rejoicing was the completion of the first decade of this union's existence.

During these ten years the local has accomplished a great deal for its members, materially and spiritually. Today Local 66 is one of the best locals in our international. It is one of the organizations which give the parent body very little trouble or concern. They do their work of steady improvement of working conditions in the industry in a quiet and efficient way. In the name of our international we send them hearty greetings upon these ten years of successful life and achievement.

## European Eyes Are On America's Jackpot

By J. CHARLES LAUE

"Diplomatic conversations" are being carried on between Washington, London, Paris and Berlin with a view to resuming the international poker game interrupted by the recent war. The defeated countries cannot take part for they cannot "ante up." America sitting with the proceeds of a huge jackpot in front of her is eager to play but hesitates about permitting the bankrupt nations to enter.

Financiers admit that the stricken European nations must be financed, but hatred resulting from the war blocks the way. Feelers are being extended by the State Department and American bankers to ascertain what can be done. Funding of the debts of the Allies to America, another way of postponing payment of the interest and the principal is under way. The repudiation of debts, more smoothly termed as cancellation, is common talk merely proving that bankers can be radical when it suits them. They realize now what the critics of the Versailles treaty said two years ago that European recovery is impossible with the central powers prostrate.

France is insistent on her pound of flesh as reparations from Germany even to the extent of invading and seizing Germany's sources of wealth in the Ruhr and other districts. France also wants a large loan from the United States and wants it before any help is given to her late enemy, for she is doubly in straits—not only is the Fatherland unable to pay but Russia that owes millions of francs to the small investors of France will be unable to pay for generations, if at all.

The financial instability of the great powers is reflected in the depreciation of their currency, now at the lowest ebb in modern history. The value of the German mark, the pre-Russian ruble, and the Hungarian crown has constantly gone down, although a slight respite has been shown in the rise in the value of the mark since the talk began of aiding Germany with an American loan.

The nations of the world are divided into three groups, according to the decline in the value of their currency—the first group that got the lion's share out of the war either as victors or as profiteers; the second, composed of partly impoverished nations and dependencies or debtor neutrals that always were below par and third, the hopelessly involved central powers.

Among the solvent nations as reflected in the present rates of exchange are:

United States; the American dollar just now being the soundest currency in the world, with the Canadian dollar in a similarly strong position.

Great Britain, the pound sterling showing a gradual recovery until it is quoted now within 20 cents of its par value of \$4.87.

The Dutch florin, the Swiss franc, the Spanish peseta, the Swedish krona, the Danish krone, the Japanese yen and the Chinese tael are nearly normal in value.

The second division would include the South American countries, large producers of raw materials and food stuffs, always dependent for finance from European sources that are somewhat affected by the involved condi-

tion of the consuming nations but whose resources are so rich that temporary difficulties are unimportant.

This group includes the less fortunate Allies who require help. First, France whose standard franc has declined in value from 19.3 cents at par to 7 1/4 cents at present, the Belgian franc which is worth a cent less, the Italian lira of the same value as the franc normally now worth 5 cents, or one quarter of its pre-war rate, the Czechoslovakian crown which is down to 3 cents each or one-third its par value, and the Finnish mark which is down to half normal.

But the prize group consists of the slack countries of Europe whose financial condition is even worse than that of the chronically embarrassed Turkey.

German marks are the freaks of the money market, the last quotations showing 25,000 equal to an American dollar in contrast to pre-war days when 4.2 marks equalled our standard of currency.

Poland and Austria are worse off than Germany; Hungary is better off as is Rumania, while Greek and Serbian currency is worth one-twentieth of its pre-war rate.

This in bald terms of currency states what is wrong with the international financial situation. Although the decline in values has continued, the basic situation if aid is agreed upon by the financially sound nations is such that it is evident that the case is not hopeless. The people of the impoverished countries are working diligently and industriously to pay the debts incurred by the war, but it is necessary for the financial wards to lighten their burden by carrying some of the load over for future generations to pay.

In thirty years it is estimated that Germany could pay about \$20,000,000,000, including interest. The original estimate of the Reparations

Commission assessed Germany with having to pay four hundred billion gold marks but even Clemenceau finally admitted that this huge sum could not be paid. At the Bologna conference this was reduced to one-half but Germany's final answer which brought about France's threat to invade her territory was an offer to pay but one-half the sum requested. The first payment of war damage to the Allies of 132,000,000,000 gold marks must be made next month.

The Allies have a purely selfish interest in helping the impoverished nations to recover, for with the exception of the United States they have been subjected to chronic industrial depression, particularly in Great Britain where the dislocation of commerce has produced unemployment and is the cause for great industrial unrest. The wage position of the miners and the agricultural workers, according to reports received here, is desperate.

Already German emigrants have approached Uncle Sam for a substantial loan, and the Morgan bankers are ready to give her one to tide over the difficult period, but France wants a larger loan first. Italy has its hand out for American capital to reclaim, and irrigate lands and improve harbors; while Russia, still stricken, will need charitable aid, the last of the \$100,000,000 for famine relief having been expended, and a similar amount for next year is asked for.

Thus the United States sits at the table with a large share of the world's gold resources and the certainty of future domination of world markets, while the European countries have an eye on the winnings and are clamoring for help.

For this reason the next six months are likely to be filled with momentous decisions on how the European dilemma can be solved as it must be solved, for the security of the world.

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# LABOR THE WORLD OVER

## DOMESTIC ITEMS

### CLAIMS NEW HAVEN ROAD MAKES BOLSHIEVSKI OUT OF SHOPMEN.

A labor union officer was a disputant in the annual meeting of the stockholders in the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad when Robert Henderson, Secretary of the Federation of the Shop-crafts, appeared as a proxy. "I am not a paid labor agitator," said Mr. Henderson, "but when the New Haven road locked out its shopmen, for it has been a lockout since September, they drove 5,000 men onto the bricks. You have created bolshevism among men who do not want bolshevism."

### CALIFORNIA FIGHTS TO MAINTAIN WAGE LAW.

California is rallying to defend the women's minimum wage law said to be imperiled by the recent decision of the United States Supreme Court. Governor Richardson of the State, the State Industrial Welfare Commission, women's organizations and even business firms are a unit for preserving the present state minimum wage law.

### PENNSYLVANIA SEEKS 48-HOUR WEEK FOR WOMEN.

The Mathay Bill providing a 48-hour week for women in industry in Pennsylvania passed a second meeting in the House. For a time it was feared the measure would be pickled because of strong pressure exerted on committee members by powerful business interests, opposed to the 48-hour week.

### FARM POPULATION DECLINING.

A decrease during 1922 of approximately 460,000 persons in the agricultural population of the United States was recorded by the United States Department of Agriculture, which said its figures were based on a survey of 10,000 representative farms and groups of farms.

### RAILROADS RESIST COMMISSION'S ORDER.

The latest order of the Interstate Commerce Commission directing 51 of the largest railroads in the country to answer under oath by May 25, a group of searching questions regarding labor conditions and the state of the roads' rolling stock, will meet with the stubborn resistance of most of the eastern carriers, according to informal statements made in many railroad offices. The plan has caused much discussion in railroad circles.

### MASSACHUSETTS DENIES TARIFF AFFECTS SUGAR PRICE.

The Massachusetts State Commission on the Necessaries of Life reported to the Legislature on a special investigation of the sugar situation that there was no shortage of sugar and that recent advances in prices were due largely to speculation, most of it in the New York sugar exchange. The Commission held that neither production costs nor the tariff had anything to do with the increasing prices.

### LABOR WINS IN MARION, ILLINOIS.

The labor ticket won its first election in Marion, Illinois, the scene of the Herrin miners' trials when the complete ticket won. The Miners' Union got a complete ticket in the field when the Marion merchants refused to sign the bonds of the men indicted in connection with the Herrin riots.

### GOVERNOR SMITH URGES MINIMUM WAGE BOARD.

Governor Smith of New York commented recently upon the recent decision of the United States Supreme Court which held the minimum wage law of the District of Columbia unconstitutional and urged the creation of a minimum wage board which would meet the objections of the court.

### MAINTENANCE WORKERS ASK RETURN TO 1921 WAGE STATUS.

Request for a return to wages in effect prior to July 1st, 1921, was made of the Railroad Labor Board by the United Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees and Shop Laborers. The petition affects 28 railroads and 175,000 employees.

### RHODE ISLAND SENATE KILLS 48-HOUR WEEK BILL.

The Rhode Island Senate yesterday killed the 48-hour week bill for women and children fearing that the enactment of the measure might be disastrous for Rhode Island industries.

### RAILWAY EMPLOYEES WILL DEMAND WAGE RAISE.

Wage increases ranging from 10 to 20 per cent will be demanded by 1,600,000 railway employees in the early summer. The railway workers are to take advantage of the alleged "labor shortage."

### MARINE FIREMEN MUST GET WAGE RAISE.

Oscar Carlson, Secretary of the Marine Firemen's Union stated that if the wages of the seamen of New York are not increased by May 1st the men would simply walk off the ships and seek more profitable jobs ashore where they can earn enough money to support themselves and their families.

### CLOSED SUNDAY THEATRES URGED BY NEW YORK LABOR.

Resolutions favoring the closing of theatres and barber shops in New York city were adopted at a conference of the New York state federation of labor. Representatives of the organized labor movement from every city in the state were present.

In an address to the conference President Gompers declared the one day rest in seven should be recognized. Members of the Barbers' Union said the Sunday closing movement in New York city is resisted by the hotel men's association.

## FOREIGN ITEMS

### ENGLAND.

#### EMIGRATION NO SOLUTION.

"It is an old trick to urge emigration in periods of unemployment," says the Daily Herald in opposing the suggestion that the unemployed be shipped to the various Dominions.

"When famine devastated Ireland, emigration was the panacea," says the Herald. "When Scottish agriculture ceased to offer prospects of reasonable prosperity, of a decent living even, to the countryman, the emigrant ships were full. Every industrial slump has seen its thousands of families leave our shores. But the lands across the Atlantic have ceased to cry out for indiscriminate populations. Emigration on a huge scale is no longer possible. To continue to speak of it as possible merely betrays a desire to avoid thinking straight."

#### BRITISH UNEMPLOYMENT AND THE RUHR.

John Hill, secretary of the Boilermakers' Society, states in his monthly message to members that, owing to the French occupation of the Ruhr which has prevented large orders from British employers for steel being fulfilled by Germany, work is held up in England that would have given employment to most if not all of the idle boilermakers in some districts.

#### ARMY AND DEATH PENALTY.

In connection with the attempt of the Labor party to get the death penalty in the Army abolished, it was stated in the House of Commons on April 13 that the number of cases in which the death penalty was carried out for desertion from active service during the late war, in the British Army, was 264. The number of cases in which the death sentence was awarded for desertion was approximately 2,450.

#### Socialists and the Ruhr

At the Congress of the Belgian Socialist Party on April 2, a resolution was carried by acclamation, denouncing the occupation of the Ruhr as a policy of adventure, and asking for the abolition of the League of Nations in a final settlement of the problem.

Speaking at a meeting held in connection with the Congress, Herr Hilferding, the German Social-Democratic leader, said he recognized reparation should be made and the devastated regions rebuilt. "We wish to guarantee the security of France and Belgium," he declared, "but the integrity of German territory must be respected."

#### Franco-Italian Alliance Rumored

The international movement of capital may be profitably studied in a recent deal between France and Italy. During the past three months certain negotiations have taken place between representatives of the iron and steel industry in Italy and France, with a view to the formation of a Franco-Italian steel trust. There are rumors here that French capitalists have also been offered large interests in the telegraph, telephone and other public services in Italy, which Mussolini is now denationalizing.

#### Socialists Gain in Italy

The keenest interest has been taken in the recent polling for the election of the shops committee at the Fiat Factory in Turin. The result was regarded as a test of the strength of the Socialists and the Fascisti in the Italian Labor Movement. A splendid victory for the Socialists has been gained. They have got a majority of members, with 2,499 votes against 1,145 votes for the Fascisti. The Popular Party got 374 votes, and there are 1,063 votes which are attributed to Communists and Left-Wing Socialists.

#### International Labor Conference

The programme for the next Inter-

national Labor Conference, to be held in Geneva next October, includes the following subjects: (1) Utilization of the spare time of workers; (2) Fixing of the general principles of labor inspection; (3) Equality of treatment of foreign workers with national workers in the matter of accidents; (4) Weekly rest of 24 hours to certain glass-workers.

#### Large Classes in Schools

During an education debate in the House of Commons on March 29, Sir John Simon protested against State economics that resulted in large classes in the elementary schools. Out of 150,000 classes, those containing over 40 scholars were 19,039; those with more than 50 scholars, 31,224; and those over 60, were 6,970.

#### Special Constables Bill

The Labor Member who will move the rejection of the Government's Bill to maintain permanently the special constables created for war emergency, is Mr. Jack Hayes, himself an ex-policeman.

#### Japan and White Army

In answer to a letter from Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, leader of the Parliamentary Labor Party, Baron Hayashi, the Japanese Ambassador in England, states that there is not a shadow of truth in the allegation, contained in a note from the Soviet Government, that the Japanese Government has any intention of arming the remnants of a White Army in Siberia.

#### In Ireland

The Fathers Murphy and Roche Club of Greenwich, which is composed mainly of Irish workers, had addressed a letter to Ramsay MacDonald, M. P., congratulating him and the other workers' representatives in Parliament on the stand they are making on behalf of the Irish deportees. A moving appeal for the cessation of violence has been made to the women of Ireland by Miss Edith M. Ellis, the well-known Quakeress, and daughter of the Rt. Hon. J. E. Ellis, a former Under-Secretary for India.



# EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES

## A COURSE ON SOCIAL AND POLITICAL HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES

By Dr. H. J. CARMAN

Given at the

WORKERS' UNIVERSITY

of the

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

Season 1922-1923

(Continued from issue of April 20, 1923)

### LESSON 5—THE WESTERN FARMER: HIS AMBITIONS AND INFLUENCE.

- I. We have observed the manner in which political parties came into existence in the United States. We have also noted that one party, the Federalist, was composed chiefly of those peoples who lived in the great cities along the Atlantic coast, and who were interested in manufacturing, banking and trade. The other party, the Anti-Federalist, we noted, was made up of agricultural peoples, namely: the southern planters and the farmers.
- II. We further noted that a bitter struggle for supremacy was waged between these two parties. Before discussing this struggle it will be necessary for us to examine more in detail the nature, character and ambitions of the peoples who composed these two parties.
- III. Let us begin with the farmers. Of these none were more powerful and influential than those who lived on the frontier or the "West," as it was spoken of by those who lived along the coast. In considering these pioneer farmers we shall not only observe that they opposed the capitalistic East, but that they also contributed certain ideals to American life.
- IV. Few people today fully realize the influence of the West in shaping the social and economic ideals and institutions of the United States.
  - (a) The West afforded an abundance of free land and, as long as this land lasted, it was possible for every person who went West to be the economic equal of his neighbor.
  - (b) The Westerner developed certain ideals:
    1. He believed in conquering nature by killing off or subjugating beast and Indian.
    2. He had a passion for democracy; he believed himself to be as good as anybody else.
    3. He believed in personal development and extreme individualism.
- V. Why men went West:
  - (a) They went to better their social and economic status.
    1. Population rapidly increased in the East and opportunity to make a decent living declined.
    2. They migrated in large numbers, especially when times were non-prosperous in the East, just as people migrate from Europe in times of economic distress.
  - (b) A few went West because they loved adventure.
  - (c) The magnet which attracted them westward was cheap land.
- VI. Who went West?
  - (a) Small farmer classes of New England who had difficulty in making a living in the East. Soil of New England thin and not very fertile.
  - (b) Small merchants who suffered from hard times.
  - (c) The immigrants.
    1. Prior to 1860 the Scotch-Irish and Germans.
    2. After 1860 Germans, Poles and Scandinavians.
    3. Large numbers of immigrants from southern Europe have settled in western manufacturing cities in recent years.
- VII. Methods and routes of migration.
  - (a) Before the days of the railroad people went West in different ways:
    1. Some walker, carrying only a few personal belongings on their back.
    2. Others went in wagons or stage coaches.
    3. After canals were built the canal-boat was a convenient conveyance.
    4. After 1840 the railroad was used to some extent.
    5. It was not uncommon to find an emigrant making use of all methods.
  - (b) There were four principal routes of migration before 1840:
    1. People from New England and New York went to Albany and through the Mohawk Valley to the Great Lakes.
    2. Others went across Southern New York to the Alleghany River and thence to Ohio.
    3. Most of the people of the South went through the mountain passes to the Southwest.
    - Note: The routes will be traced on map during lecture.
    4. Travel over any of these routes was difficult. The people who went over them were bold, self-reliant, individualistic.

## Our Next Season



Now that the activities of our educational season are practically completed, the Educational Department is busy with plans for next season. Needless to say, the Educational Department wants to make the next year even more successful than the one just ended. We want better courses, more effective study, a larger number of students, finer effort and greater success in every possible way.

But to achieve all this, it is not sufficient for a few people in the Educational Department to plan and organize all the work. To insure complete success we must have the co-operation of everybody — teachers and students. It is the business of our members, of the men and women in our organization who appreciate the importance of labor education, to help now. We want every thinking member of our union to give consideration to what should be taught in our classes next year, and what changes should be made. Should

there be any additions to our educational work? Should anything be omitted?

We must have new ideas, good ideas, vigorous ideas. These should come mainly from the thousands of men and women who have built up our great union and who want to make it stronger and bigger than ever.

All of our members are urged to communicate with the Educational Department, 2 West 16th Street, just as soon as possible. Give your suggestions, advice and criticism. If you have anything good to say about our work in the past, please do so. It will inspire us to better effort in the future. If you find fault with something, tell us about it also. It will help us to correct our mistakes.

Write to us immediately and help us to make the educational work of next season the best in the history of our International.

## A Lecture on Art Saturday, May 5th

The student's council of the Workers' University and Unity Centers at a meeting last Thursday made plans for spring and summer activities. These will include hikes, excursions, outings, etc.

The activities will start with a visit to the Metropolitan Museum of Art on Saturday, May 5th, at 1:45 p. m. Our members will assemble in Class Room A of the Museum, where Michael Carr, artist and lecturer, will give them an introductory talk.

"Get What You Want from Art!—Egypt had it 5000 years ago; America has it today," will be the topic of the lecture. Mr. Carr will then take the group to the galleries and illustrate and elaborate on the subject.

The speaker will use simple English so as to be understood by all of our members. The lecture starts promptly at 1:45. Admission free to members of the International.

A hike and outing to Silver Lake, Staten Island, has been arranged for Sunday, May 20th. The Arrangements Committee will meet the hikers in front of the St. George Ferry House, South Ferry. Members of the party are asked to bring food for the day, including a potato. A special committee will take care of the baking of the potatoes.

Members of the International and their friends are invited to participate.

### VIII. How did the Western frontiersman earn a living?

- (a) There were three types of frontiersmen:
  1. The genuine pioneer who cleared a small patch of land, whose tools were primitive, who lived in a rude log-cabin or hut and made his living principally by hunting, fishing and by growing a few vegetables.
  2. The temporary farmer who followed the trail of the first pioneer; he generally made improvements.
  3. The third class were those who went West and purchased the improved lands. They became permanent settlers.
- (b) Earned living mostly by farming. Cost of farm of 160 acres in 1850 averaged \$1,000. Today same farm would cost 10 to 20 times as much.
- (c) Bought his land either on credit or for cash.
- (d) Many persons earned their living by speculating in land, just as they do in stocks, bonds and real estate today.

### IX. Problems of the Western Pioneer.

- (a) His principal problem was to obtain a market for his goods and a means of transporting his goods to market.
- (b) A second problem was his lack of money and proper credit facilities.

### X. Western Society.

- (a) The West made for equality—social, economic and political. The Westerner hated privilege and aristocracy. He believed in democracy, but his democracy was individual and not communistic.

### XI. Western Education.

- Not much opportunity for education until third group of pioneers came.
  - (a) Believed in equality of opportunity for education. Everybody entitled to an education.
  - (b) Believed it was duty of state to provide education, hence great state universities of West today.

- XII. Western religion tended to orthodoxy and complete toleration.
- XIII. Western democratic ideals responsible in large measure for spirit of American individualism which pervades society today, quite in contrast with Old World.

READING: Beard—History of the United States, Chapter X.

# With the Waist and Dress Joint Board

By M. K. MACKOFF, Secretary  
(Record of Meetings of April 18 and 25, 1923)

Brother Berlin in the Chair.

## OUTSIDE COMMITTEES

Brother J. Charles Bell, representing the Kanowah camp of West Virginia, Local No. 1425, appeared before the Board appealing for financial aid for the striking miners who have been out since September, 1921. It was decided to donate \$100.

## COMMUNICATIONS

A letter was received from the Debs Meeting Committee informing the Joint Board that Eugene V. Debs will address a meeting at the Madison Square Garden on Tuesday, May 22nd, and urging us to reserve seats for the occasion. The request was referred to the Finance Committee.

A communication was received from the Women's Trade Union League requesting permission to visit shop meetings in order to solicit membership for their organization. They want our members to take advantage of their club house and think this may best be accomplished by interesting them in membership in the League. This request was granted.

A letter was received from the Italian Chamber of Labor urging the Joint Board to send a delegate to the Central Labor Trade Council Meeting which will take place on Thursday, April 19th, and also urging that we adopt proper measures to carry on an anti-Fascist movement. The Joint Board expressed its sympathy with the movement and decided to place the communication on file.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Unity House Committee Report**  
The Unity House Committee submitted a report dated April 11th. The report reads as follows:  
The Unity House Committee begs to report to you on their activities from the time of their appointment up to the present date.

During the general strike while every member of the committee was taken up with strike duty we could not hold regular meetings. However, the house has not been neglected inasmuch as all preliminary arrangements concerning immediate repairs have been properly taken care of.

On Saturday, April 7th, the committee held its first formal meeting, and after hearing reports from its sub-committee agreed upon the following:

1. To appoint Brother Rothenberg as manager of the House.

2. To engage an expert dietician who will specialize in preparing menus and particularly vegetarian meals.

3. To appoint Brother Jacobson as the publicity agent, and also to supervise the registration, and to keep records of all proceedings.

4. To reengage Mildred Fox as the recreation director.

5. To engage a bookkeeper to take care of all accounts and also act as room-clerk (all accounts and financial transactions will be made by the house at Forest Park).

6. We have engaged an engineer, a fireman, an assistant, and we are considering engaging a doctor who applied for the position of doctor and nurse and who will deliver a series of lectures on hygiene.

7. After consulting with Brother Mackoff, it was agreed to establish the registration bureau in Brother Mackoff's private office with the understanding that same must first be approved by the Board of Directors.

8. It was decided to have the formal opening of the house on June 16th, and to start registration on May 28th.

9. The rate shall be the same as last year; that is, \$16 for adults who are members of the Joint Board; \$18 for adults who are members of other unions; \$21 for adults who are outsiders. The rate for children shall be \$10 per week for those who are over 5 years of age, and not above 10 years. Those below 5 years old shall pay \$7 per week, and no registration fee shall be charged for them.

The report of the Unity House Committee was approved. The opinion of the Joint Board was that the Unity House Committee should make any arrangements they deem advisable for the financial transactions of the Unity House.

## Get-together Committee

Sister Goodman reported for the Get-together Committee, stating that this committee had two meetings at which sub-committees were appointed to make all the necessary arrangements for transportation, for the securing of all the names and addresses of all our members who actively participated in conducting our recent general strike and to secure estimates as to the expenses involved for the affair. It was decided that this affair should take place on Saturday, May 12th, at the Villa Anita Garibaldi which is the Italian Union House.

In conclusion Sister Goodman assured the Joint Board that the committee is trying to make the best possible arrangements in order to have this get-together a success. The report was approved.

## COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was received from the International Union of elevator constructors which reads as follows:

May I ask you to assist us in building up our organization! Many of your members are employed in buildings where they are obliged to ride in elevators which are operated by non-union operators. Surely you can help us to get these operators into our union by asking your members to ask these operators to join our union and if you insist on riding with union operators we will be able to get them to join.

Upon motion the request was granted, it being understood that this union will be informed as to when our next shop chairman meeting will be held in order that one of their speakers may be sent to address the meeting.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Brother Simon Farber reported for the committee which was appointed to find a suitable person to take charge of the employment bureau. Brother Farber recommended the appointment of Sister Rose Ferr.

After a brief discussion it was decided to accept the recommendation.

Brother Hochman reported that, due to the conditions in the industry, the services of Brothers Samuels, Soren, Decks, Egitto, Milazzo and Bonetti are going to be dispensed with.

## OUTSIDE COMMITTEES

Comrades Gushansky and Dr. Kisman appeared on behalf of the labor organizations in Russia. Notwithstanding the constant oppression of the Rumanian government the Jewish labor organizations in these annexed states have done and are still doing all they possibly can in support of the labor movement. Moreover, they have taken upon themselves the sole responsibility of caring for and educating the orphaned children of the massacre and war refugees. In order



that the work of educating these children may continue and in order that the Jewish proletariat may be acquainted with the aims of organized labor, a daily Jewish newspaper had to be started, as Jewish is the only language which is understood by the Jews in the annexed territories, and by the former Jews in Rumania.

The committee appealed to the Joint Board in the name of organized labor and in the name of the homeless children to help to make this newspaper possible by means of a liberal donation. They also impressed upon the Board the necessity for keeping the education of the children

in the hands of the labor organizations so that they may be brought up in understanding and sympathy with proletarian principles. The Board of Directors, after considering the facts presented to them, decided to donate \$200.

## COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was received from the New York Call requesting that we take a booth at their bazaar. Upon motion the Board decided to grant this request and recommended that the Joint Board should appoint a committee of five to be in charge of the booth.

## Meet Comrade Mudgry

(Continued from Page 4)

mirer but the deluge. Comrade Bendorfield had opinions upon everything and in every instance they happened to be quite different from those of Comrade Mudgry. Bendorfield could talk, too. He challenged Martin's faith in "a big vote"; he ridiculed Martin's attempt for industrial agitation; he boob-poohed Martin's detailed knowledge of Socialist generalship; he dismissed Martin's high-sounding and classical Socialist phraseology; he laughed at Martin's belief in a great Catholic conspiracy. It was terrible. Martin saw the growing perplexity of his erstwhile followers. Unusually he foresaw the loss of his undisputed supremacy.

He accepted the challenge. The war that followed should be the theme of a mighty epic than this. Martin was unrelenting. But strangely enough Bendorfield seemed all unconscious of the struggle. Of course Martin took care that Bendorfield should remain so. Bendorfield had money and was always ready to help a Comrade out. Martin's had to be an underground battle.

Bendorfield had his Achilles' heel, but some weeks passed before Martin could discover it. A revelation showed him that Bendorfield's most vulnerable spot, like that of so many comfortable middle-class Jews, was his love for his wife and daughter. He could refuse them nothing. And they in turn prided themselves upon liking the least.

Martin shot his dart. He went from Comrade to Comrade. They all heard the new note in his discourse. He waxed almost eloquent on the crimes of men who, calling themselves Comrades, cried over the sufferings of the workers and then dressed their wives and daughters in silks and satins.

"Bendorfield's one of them," he finished. "And at least we all may as well get something out of it. Those women of his don't appreciate anything unless they pay lots for it. Let's remember that."

The comrades agreed heartily. Martin was encouraged. Bendorfield might steal some of the respect which they had always given him, but he could never win such complete trust as was his.

And so Martin acquired a new mission in life. He felt very righteous and class-conscious. When Mrs. Bendorfield ordered a skirt from Grossman, Martin persuaded him to charge her double the current rate.

"She never appreciates anything she don't pay good for," he cautioned.

And when Miss Bendorfield decided to call upon Dr. Weinberg, the neighborhood dentist, Martin hurried up to his office to warn this altogether unsuspecting comrade.

Thus he went the rounds. Everywhere success smiled upon him. Once more Martin feels secure in his contract with God.

# The Week in Local 10

By JOSEPH FISH

## GENERAL

One of the quietest general meetings took place last Monday night. The meeting was opened at about 8 P. M. by Vice-president Morris Jacobs in the absence of Brother Philip Ansel, who was not well.

The minutes of the Executive Board, which were adopted at this meeting, were accepted with very little discussion, with the exception of the recommendation of the Executive Board with reference to the Tom Mooney Defense Fund, which aroused a little discussion. However, even this did not last long, as the two principal speakers, Brothers Dubinsky and Chas. Stein, No. 1, did not consume much time in voicing their opinions.

The recommendation of the Executive Board in this case was the result of a communication received from the Tom Mooney Defense Fund, requesting financial assistance in liberating Tom Mooney and Warren K. Billings. The Board's decision was to refer the above to the Joint Board.

Brother Stein's contention was that the above two, irrespective of their political beliefs, have been discriminated against by the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, for their activities in the labor movement, and were actually "framed-up." Brother Stein went on to say that he considers it the duty of every labor organization in the country to help liberate these two men, who were originally under the shadow of the gallows.

Brother Dubinsky, on the other hand, contended that this organization has done more than most of the other labor organizations in this country for the freeing of Mooney and Billings, as an assessment of 10 cents was levied upon our membership, and the full amount sent to the Tom Mooney Defense Committee. This defense committee has the stencil for our organization on its files and for this reason he believes that our organization is included in the various requests.

A motion was made for this case to be referred back to the Executive Board for recommendation. This was accepted.

After the adjournment of the meeting, which occurred about 8:45, there remained a number of members in the hall who seemed to be dissatisfied with the fact that they were going home so early. Some suggestions were made to the effect that in order to prolong our meetings suitable speakers should be engaged. We believe that this would hardly be necessary, as it has occurred only on rare occasions that a meeting, general in particular, should adjourn so early, and it is expected that all our meetings, general included, will last rather late in the future.

However, the Executive Board will make it their business to see that the meetings of our general body are addressed by capable speakers, should they otherwise end too early.

Another thing which was noticeable after the adjournment of the meeting was that quite a number of our members were still coming in and requesting the Inner Guard to stamp their books as present at the meeting, although not having attended the meeting in its full session, their reason being that they did not expect it to end so early. It was originally understood, when the \$1.00 non-attendance fine amendment was incorporated in the Constitution, that a man would be required to attend the full meeting, not merely the former part of it or the latter.

We are therefore calling the attention of our membership to the fact that they are to be present at the

meetings promptly. The meetings start not later than 8 o'clock, and those who come in late, especially those who happen to come after the adjournment of the meeting, will not be able to have their books stamped, and will be counted absent. Our members are therefore urged to be present at the meetings on time, as the greater part of the organization's business is taken up during the first part of the meeting, as a rule.

## CLOAK AND SUIT—JOINT BOARD OF CLOAKMAKERS, CONGRATULATIONS!

About a year ago our International completed its new building at 3 West 16th Street, which seems to have set a good example. The Joint Board of Cloakmakers has also purchased a building to quarter all its departments.

The building is a modern, six-story structure, and was recently renovated by the Joint Board to suit its purposes. As yet, the entire building is not fully at its disposition, the first and second floors still being occupied by some private concerns, who will not move until the expiration of their lease. At present, therefore, the Joint Board is occupying the sixth floor, quartering the general offices of the Joint Board, those of the manager, secretary, treasurer and the Jobbing Department.

The fifth floor is occupied by Brother Slutsky's Department and the Waist and Dress Department, which is under the management of Brother Prismant. The fourth floor is occupied by the Protective Division under the management of Brother Rabin, and also Brother Schuster's office.

The Finance Department will be located on the main floor, and plans are being worked out whereby a large meeting room will be made for holding meetings of the membership.

This building was purchased by the Joint Board and was afterwards remodelled under the supervision of the treasurer, Brother Kaplowitz.

We wish to congratulate the Joint Board of Cloakmakers upon its newly acquired headquarters, and wish to commend Brother Kaplowitz for the splendid work he has done in connection with the new building.

## MISCELLANEOUS

The office, with respect to the problem with which it is confronted in the underwear industry, is re-experiencing the same condition with regard to interpretations of the agreement which the dress industry experienced in the first stages of its relations with the Dress and Waist Association.

The agreement that the Union has with the Cotton Garment Manufacturers' Association, among other things, provides a scale by means of which learners are gradually raised to the level of mechanics.

A learner begins with a salary of \$16.00, which after four months, is raised to \$20.00, and it is gradually raised, during the course of twenty-five months' time, to \$30.00. After the learner has been in the employ of a firm for four months he is classified as an assistant cutter. The assistant cutter becomes a mechanic after he has had at least three years' experience and is capable of operating his own table, marking and cutting.

The office was at one time confronted with a violation of this clause. A certain firm had in its employ three mechanics and three assistant cutters. The office claimed that since the agreement provides that an employer is entitled to a learner only when he has three mechanics in his employ, and since this

firm employed three assistants to three mechanics, a violation was being committed.

The Association, on the other hand, argued that the agreement distinctly states that the proportion is one learner to three mechanics. When this was called to the attention of Manager Dubinsky, he decided, before entering into a controversy, to consult Counsellor Morris Hillquit, who represented the Union at the conferences.

The point in dispute was submitted to Comrade Hillquit in a form agreed upon by the representatives of the Association and the Union, which follows:

"In a factory there are employed:

"One (1) full fledged cutter, receiving a salary of \$37.00 per week.

"One (1) assistant cutter, receiving a salary of \$50.00 per week.

"One (1) assistant cutter, who has been in the industry one (1) year, receiving a salary of \$25.00 per week, and

"One (1) learner receiving a salary of \$16.00 per week.

"Is there a violation of the contract?"

Comrade Hillquit, in his opinion to the Manager on the question submitted, replied in the affirmative. He stated that two distinct provisions were made with respect to cutters:

(1) a learner was defined as described above, and

(2) a mechanic is defined as one who must receive the minimum scale provided for in the agreement and also must be one who has had at least three years' experience and is capable of operating his own table.

Comrade Hillquit goes on to say: "In the case submitted for my opinion, by way of illustration, there are one 'full fledged' cutter, two 'assistant' cutters and one 'learner'."

Assistant cutters and learners are cutters' apprentices in different stages of apprenticeship, and the situation presented by our hypothetical case would be one in which three apprentice cutters are employed to one full fledged journeyman cutter. It seems to me perfectly obvious that the concluding paragraph of the seventeenth clause (relating to the definition of learners and assistants) was designed to prevent just such a condition, and that the intention of the same was to limit the number of apprentices, whether called "learners" or "assistants," to one for every three full fledged journeymen.

If the construction contended for by the Association were adopted, an employer could hire a new learner every four months, after which period each of them would successfully graduate into the class of "assistants" and as it takes three years to reach the status of a full-fledged cutter, an employer would be allowed to

have eight "assistants" and one learner" to a single full fledged cutter, which is absurd on the face of it.

Should the Association insist upon its interpretation; that is, that its members have a right to employ a learner to a single full-fledged cutter, if they employ no more than three mechanics, Manager Dubinsky will, if necessary, take the matter before an impartial chairman for a final and binding interpretation of this clause.

It is perfectly obvious that were the office to permit this matter to slide, a situation would be created similar to that which Comrade Hillquit clarifies so ably here: employers would hire learners every four months, and within a very short time mechanics, who had spent years in mastering the trade, would be thrown out of employment and the learners could never reach the level of a mechanic.



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## CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10

### Notice of Regular Meetings

CLOAK AND SUIT ..... Monday, May 7th  
WAIST AND DRESS ..... Monday, May 14th  
GENERAL ..... Monday, May 28th

Meetings Begin at 7:30 P. M.

AT ARLINGTON HALL, 23 St. Marks Place