

"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. 26.

New York, Friday, June 22, 1923.

Price 2 Cents

ALL NEW YORK DRESSMAKERS IN ONE LOCAL UNION

Local 62 Proceeds With Organization Campaign

To Affiliate With the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union — President Sigman's Committee to Carry Out Decisions of G. E. B.—Special Committee to Study Joint Question and Report at Next Quarterly Meeting — President Sigman's Statement on the Dress Problem

The fifth quarterly meeting of the General Executive Board ended last Tuesday evening after eight days of continuous sessions. Many of the decisions adopted at this meeting are of permanent worth and will result in a number of changes and improvements in our organization.

The principal subjects discussed at this meeting were the dress question and the jobber situation. The Board decided to reaffirm its former decision on the consolidation of the two dressmakers' locals, 22 and 23. These two locals will become one in the near future. The decision specifically calls for the uniting of Locals 22 and 23 for the placing of the new local under the control of the Cloak Joint Board, and also for the uniting of Locals 60

and 35 under the control of the same joint board. The committee to carry out this decision consists of Secretary Baroff, Vice-presidents Feinberg, Wander, Ninfo, Lefkowitz, and Dubinsky.

President Sigman issued to the press the following statement in connection with this decision:

"The decision of the General Executive Board of the I. L. G. W. U. that the dressmakers unite into one local and that the pressers in the cloak, skirt and dress industries form one local, and that the dress and cloak industries be placed under the control of one joint board,—is one of the most important decisions adopted by our International Union in recent years.

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Last week Local 62 appointed a special organizer, Sister Mary Goff, to continue organizing work among the non-union white goods shops. Miss Goff recently was graduated from the Brookwood Labor College and for a long time had been an active member of Local 62. She has, in the two years of her study at Brookwood, obtained a thorough theoretical preparation for the work she is now undertaking, which, added to her former experience as a practical worker, should produce excellent results for her local.

The members of the White Goods Workers' Union are requested to cooperate with Sister Goff and aid in the work which Local 62 has undertaken for a one-hundred-per cent union in the white goods trade of New York City.

master of ceremonies and chairlady was Sister Anna Kronhardt, one of the most active spirits of the Unity House Committee.

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President Sigman and Secretary Baroff Deliver Opening Addresses in Both Unity Houses at Forest Park and Orville, Pa.—Large Numbers of Visitors Present at Opening Concerts in Both Houses

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The Philadelphia dressmakers are in a totally different mood this year at the opening of their Unity House than what they were a year ago. At that time they had just emerged from a severe battle with the employers in which they were all but defeated. This year Local 15 is again firmly established as a fighting organization and the workers in the Philadelphia

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present the new agreement for signing to the cloak employers organized as an association, with whom a collective agreement is being maintained, and also to the independent individual employers.

While no immediate trouble is in sight and the expectations are that the agreement will be signed without great difficulty, the Boston Cloak Joint Board is taking no chances. The negotiations will start immediately upon the arrival of Secretary Baroff in Boston, where he will be aided by Vice-president Fred Monahan.

The Week In Local 10

By JOSEPH FISH

The meeting of the General Executive Board of the International is taking place in this city this week at the home of the general office. Manager Dubinsky, as vice-president of the International, will therefore be taken up with these sessions during the greater part of the days.

One of the important questions before the G. E. B. is the settlement of the amalgamation problem of the two dressmaking locals, 22 and 23. The members are no doubt familiar with the details; these were recounted here quite often. And in the last week's issue of this publication it was reported that the cloak and suit joint board before whom this question arose, referred for decision some important details to the board.

At these sessions of the G. E. B. committees representing the cloak and dress joint boards, and of some of the locals involved, appeared for the purpose of presenting the opinions of these bodies as regards their feelings in the matter of the solution of the amalgamation.

The sessions are still in progress at the time of writing. It is therefore doubtful as to whether a decision will be contained in the report of the meetings in this issue of "Justice."

Manager Dubinsky knowing that the meetings of the Board would necessitate his being occupied almost a full week, decided in advance to make the necessary preparations for the coming season in the various trades under the union's control.

One of the important things in connection with this is the issuing of new working cards. In July, dress and cloak cutters will be required to exchange their cards for the new ones to be issued in that month. A member who fails to renew his old card for the new one will be held as guilty of a violation as the man who does not secure a card at all. The manager is determined to make permanent the system of securing working cards immediately after a cutter secures a job.

One of Local 10's means of ascertaining which shops have cutters is through this working card system. Members who fail to secure them compel the office often to spend a great deal of time in following up the shops and filing complaints.

-CLOAK AND SUIT

The report which Manager Dubinsky submitted to the last cloak and suit meeting on the conditions in the trade during the past season shows a very rigid inspection of every shop listed under the union's control.

It is of special importance to note the growth in the number shops the owners of which are very eager to do their own cutting. But due to the control maintained by the office a large number of employers who otherwise would not have employed cutters, were compelled to hire them by Local 10's special controllers.

The report shows a total of 1339 shops which employ from one to five and more cutters. They are divided as follows: 844 shops keep 1 cutter each; in each of 183 shops are employed two men; in 242 shops are employed from three to five men. There are 70 shops in which more than five cutters are employed. The manager's report shows 342 shops which, in addition to the control by the regular business agents of the Joint Board, are also closely watched and followed up by the cutters' own controllers. Of this number the employers of 180 shops were compelled to hire cutters during the past season.

That cutters were employed in these houses, was mainly due to the efforts of the special investigators. These

men were given a list of shops and they visited them very often. As soon as a shop was found where no cutter was employed and the operators of which had work, the office, in addition to filing complaints seeking the placing of fines against such employers, forced the employment of cutters.

Of course, the cutters in these 180 shops are now laid off for lack of work, but these shops will be followed up again. The remaining 162 shops in which cutters are seldom found, were found to be very troublesome. This number is listed in a special class and more than the ordinary controlling will have to be done by the office during the coming season in order to place cutters in these shops.

An interesting aspect of this report is the wages received by the cutters. Taking the 1339 cutters employed in the legitimate shops, that is in the shops which cannot get along without cutters, and adding them to the number employed on part time by the smaller shops, something like 2500 members are employed in the cloak industry during a season.

Wages for these men range from the minimum scale of \$44 to \$70 and up per week. To give the members a correct idea of the number of cutters working for the minimum scale and above it, Manager Dubinsky has turned these numbers into percentages with the following result: 10 per cent. of the men received the minimum scale (this also includes those men who received 45 per week). Four per cent of the cutters employed got from \$40 to \$49 per week. There are 1673 men or 6 per cent, who received from \$50 to \$59 per week. \$56 to \$59 per week was paid to 1 per cent. of the cutters and 25 per cent. of the total number of men were paid from \$60 to \$70 and up per week during the past season.

For an industry which is highly seasonal and one in which men consider themselves fortunate if they work for a stretch of 16 weeks, Brother Dubinsky concluded there were still too many men who received only the minimum scale. That the manager, seeking to improve this condition, may be seen at once when the case of Kaplan Brothers' cutters is called to mind. This case was reported in these columns last week.

WAIST AND DRESS

The meeting of the waist and dress cutters which was held last Monday night in Arlington Hall, and was unusually well attended, turned into a very exciting affair.

The first part of the meeting was taken up with a report of the conditions of the trade and the union by Manager Dubinsky. In speaking of the trade as it at present affected the cutters, the manager said that the usual slump was now being experienced. There were not very many complaints filed as is the case when men are employed. However, complaints that bosses are doing their own cutting and complaints by men that they are not receiving an equal share of work are not lacking.

As regards conditions in the union, the manager gave a detailed report of impending amalgamation of the two dressmaking locals. What occupied the attention of the members for the greater part of the meeting was a communication which the Executive Board had sent to the dress and waist joint board requesting that the terms under which business agents hold office should be readjusted. If this request of Local 10 would have been adopted the joint board would merely revert to a condition, which had at one time existed. When this decision of the Executive Board was

read to the members a motion to adopt it brought forth considerable discussion. In his argument for rejecting the communication, Harry Berlin, delegate to the joint board, argued that the board committed an error in sending the communication without first submitting it to the members.

Manager Dubinsky, in speaking for the adoption of the recommendation, pointed out that it was the business of the chairman of the joint board to rule the communication out of order if he felt that the communication should have first been taken up by the members. He pointed out in effect that a precedent of that sort was never established and never existed; that the board had acted within its rights when it sent in the communication, and that no such contention was ever raised in a matter of this sort before.

President Philip Ansel, in submitting the question to vote, read to the members the clause of the constitution which related to the point in dispute. This clause gives the Executive Board, the president stated, the right to transact the union's business when the members are not assembled in regular meeting. The right is given to adopt measures in the interest of the organization and adopt "such action as may be necessary for the welfare of the local."

The recommendation of the Executive Board was finally adopted. Immediately upon the conclusion of this matter a motion was offered to adjourn on the ground that it was late and that the members were already exhausted. A point was raised that the meeting could proceed with further business. However, it was pointed out that more than half of the members had already left and it could not be reasonably expected for the session to continue with the small number of remaining members. The motion to adjourn was carried.

This by no means ends the controversy. There are further recommendations of the board which deal with the question disputed. This will be taken up at the next meeting of this branch at the meeting on the second Monday in July.

MISCELLANEOUS

The members of this branch of Local 10 will hold their meeting next Monday night, June 18th, in Arlington Hall. In spite of the slackness in these trades, the office is taken up a good deal with complaints and organization work.

In addition to the regular report which Manager Dubinsky will render, he will also report to the members on the matters with which the office is contending now as regards the agreement. The association interprets the agreement in a manner that considerably hinders the office from

proceeding with its control of the shops.

Two or three important points are in dispute which could only be settled with the association in the presence of Morris Hillegut, the Union's legal adviser. The reason why these matters were not taken up until now is that Comrade Hillegut was away to Europe. He has now returned and the manager is making arrangements to dispose of the questions in dispute.

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CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10

Notice of Regular Meetings

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GENERAL.....Monday, June 25th
CLOAK AND SUIT.....Monday, July 2nd
WAIST AND DRESS.....Monday, July 9th

Meetings Begin at 7:30 P. M.

AT ARLINGTON HALL, 23 St. Marks Place

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Topics of the Week

By MAX D. DANISH

'ENGLAND, FRANCE AND THE RUHR

DESPITE the optimistic tone of the press despatches immediately following the second German offer, the bloody Ruhr muddle still remains unsettled.

There is, however, one definitely encouraging feature that stands out boldly in the aftermath of recent developments. In place of the dilly-dally and half-hearted attitude of Bonar Law that neither sanctioned nor disapproved Poincaré's adventure, the New English Cabinet is taking a firm stand against any possible approval by England of the occupation of the Ruhr. In fact, there is every indication that England is coming candidly to grips with the French imperialists on the problem. After five months of "neutrality" costly to itself and to the whole of Europe, Britain has decided to call for a showdown.

As yet Poincaré has not forwarded his answer to the British Cabinet. Meanwhile, in Belgium there has occurred a change of cabinets precipitated obviously by this sharpening divergence of opinion on the Ruhr question between the erstwhile Allies. And at the French Chamber of Deputies, too, last week on a confidence vote, Poincaré, while still retaining a majority, was voted against by the entire liberal and near-Socialist deputies, while a great many abstained from voting at all.

The critical days of the unfortunate Ruhr tangle are approaching. If England should persist in an unequalled demand for solution, the end may be near. And behind it there looms as big as ever the huge shadow of militant English labor, urging on and forcing the British Cabinet to divorce itself from France if necessary to attain the political and economic recovery of Europe.

THE KANSAS COURT A FAILURE

THE Kansas Industrial Relations Court received a heavy blow last week when the United States Supreme Court in a unanimous decision declared that it was without power to fix wages in the plant of a certain packing company. Moreover, the opinion states that the act creating this Court conflicted with the fourteenth amendment of the Constitution. Thus comes practically to an end the creature of a coterie of Middle-Western industrialists who, headed by their intellectual mouthpiece, Governor Allen of Kansas, planted in 1921 this anti-labor union experiment on fertile Kansas soil.

The story surrounding the creation of the Kansas Court is too well known to require reiteration. Organized ostensibly as an impartial court, this agency of industrial justice has, nevertheless, in nine out of ten cases turned its club upon workers and has even sent labor leaders to jail to enforce its fiat. Unfortunately for its creators, however, the ramifications of the Kansas Court Law were laid so wide that it embraced every possible occupation under the sun. Yet as long as it hurt only the workers, nobody seemed to mind the fact that this court has actually destroyed the right of collective bargaining and freedom of contract in the State of Kansas. It was only after the payroll of a business firm was touched by this court—perhaps a lone instance during the two and a half years of its existence—that the United States Supreme Court turned its guns upon this agency of industrial justice and smashed it to bits.

The Industrial Court of Kansas will go without being mourned or wept over by workers. From its inception the workers realized that it was but an entering wedge by the owning classes of America into the field of compulsory arbitration and general repressive labor legislation of all kinds. The demise of the Kansas experiment may serve as a check of this anti-labor propaganda, but labor must remember that this decision was rendered by a court not at all friendly to labor's interests—a court that only recently destroyed the national child labor law and the limitation on the hours of women in industry.

MUSSOLINI FORGING AHEAD

THE Italian Fascist dictatorship, after having by sheer force all but destroyed the labor movement, is now making ready to entrench itself in power permanently.

In a few weeks Mussolini will introduce in the Italian Chamber a law which, if enacted—and there seems to be no power in Italy which might stop its enactment—will give him fast and firm hold upon political life in Italy.

Mussolini is "tired" of many-party control, and he intends to concentrate control of the affairs of Italy in the hands of one party—of course that of his own black-shirted aggregation. His plan provides for the allotment of two-thirds of the local number of seats in Parliament to the party obtaining the largest number of votes in the general elections. In other words, if the Fascists obtain in the next elections a majority of votes, they will be entitled to an overwhelming number of deputies in the Chamber. Under the circumstances and with the methods employed by Fascist "democracy" can be no doubt that such a majority of votes will be rounded up by Mussolini's followers by hook or crook and their hold upon Parliament will then be clinched for good.

Against this plan are arrayed the Socialists, the Communists, the Slavs, the Germans in Italy, and the Catholics. This opposition, however, today is more of a paper force, and, with the right of assembly and press abridged in Italy as it is today, Mussolini's power will doubtless ride roughshod over all antagonists.

Such is the black picture as it stands out in bold relief on the Italian panorama today. It is, of course, clear that the Mussolini plan is a downright abrogation of all parliamentary freedom and representative government, that it repudiates the principle of proportional representation which has made it possible for every shade of public opinion and party to be represented in the Italian Chamber heretofore. This, however, does not faze the Italian "black-shirts." They are all on the rampage and will blackjack or silence every voice that might be raised in opposition to them.

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(Continued from page 1)

are making both lines of garments in the same contracting shops.

"A situation gradually developed where it was impossible to obtain the proper control in either the dress or the cloak trades unless both were placed under one management and one joint board. The double management that has prevailed heretofore has enabled a number of dress manufacturers to dodge union control entirely and has created a number of grievous misunderstandings in time of strikes.

"To correct this unwholesome situation, the General Executive Board has decided upon the consolidation of both industries under one joint board. The Cloak Joint Board will, after the dress locals will have affiliated with it, form at once a dress department and will become the one body which will formulate policies and conditions both in the cloak and dress industry, maintaining unity of action in time of

peace as well as in time of strikes. This decision to make our organization a better fighting instrument for the interests of our members is the result of the logical development of our industry and of our organization in the last few years.

MORRIS SIGMAN,
President, I. L. G. W. U.

THE JOBBER QUESTION

After a debate that lasted for more than a day, which will be reprinted in the columns of this journal in next week's issue, the General Executive Board decided to appoint a committee to make a thorough investigation of the jobber question in all the cloak markets and to report on it at the next quarterly meeting of the Board. The committee consists of President Sigman, Secretary Baroff, Vice-presidents Feinberg, Wander, Breslaw, Ninfo and Heller.

THE PENNSYLVANIA REBUKED

THE United States Railway Labor Board has finally broken through the barrier of a court injunction and has issued against the Pennsylvania Railroad its long-expected public rebuke for the railroad's violation of an order directing it to recognize the shop craft union.

The facts in the case are simple. Under an act of Congress, the railway workers have a right, through majority action, to select their own representatives to negotiate with the carriers agreements covering wages and working conditions. On the Pennsylvania, as on many other railways, there is a coerced and subversive minority of workers who do not belong to the union. The Pennsylvania Railroad, instead of allowing the majority of its workers to carry on elections and to elect representatives, has deprived them of this undisputed right, and has set up a system which throttles the majority and gives this representation right to the "company union" minority.

Months ago, when the railway unions complained against this practice of the Pennsylvania to the Rail Board, the Board was about to issue an order to the Pennsylvania System to abstain from this practice. The railroad, however, obtained an injunction restraining the publication of this order and the case went from the lower court to the United States Supreme Court on a question of jurisdiction. The Board's jurisdiction was finally upheld, and now the Board has issued one of the most unqualified official indictments ever laid against a public utility by a governmental agency. It charges the railroad with defiance and "unfair, unjust and inconsistent" dealings with the shop craft union.

So far so good. As words go, the thunder of the Rail Board may sound stern and impressive enough. In reality, however, this rebuke will probably not go very far. Decision or no decision, the arrogant and powerful Pennsylvania System will continue to rule unchallenged over its workers, and will recognize the unions of the railway workers only inasmuch as it will be compelled to do so by the organizations of labor.

FROM OUR JOINT BOARDS AND LOCALS

Boston News

By A LOCAL OBSERVER

The number of complaints lodged with the Union against the employers in the last two weeks exceeded by far those in any other like period in Local 49. Most of the complaints, as was to be expected, were in connection with paying for Memorial Day. The complaints were various. Some of the manufacturers at first refused to pay at all for the day, and that happened even in some of the week-work shops. Others paid only for part of the holiday. Among the latter was the Washington Dress, 888 Washington Street, the owner of which is the president of the Contractors' Association. The Union summoned the firm to arbitration, according to agreement. The employer was not willing to go before an arbitrator and instead proposed to take it up with the lawyers for the Association. The matter having been unduly protracted by the firm, the Union on Monday, June 11 notified the employer that, if the complaint was not satisfactorily adjusted by the end of the day, a strike would be called. The following morning a strike was called and was settled the same day. The firm agreed to settle for the difference in pay. The amount involved was not great, but the issue is itself of very great importance. The workers in the above shop realized this and were ready with the aid of the Union to fight to a finish.

Another case occurred in the shop of the B. L. Dress, 131 Kingston St. In this instance the firm refused to pay for the holiday, claiming that they were only in business a few weeks, and therefore should not be expected

to pay for a holiday. After a strike of four days the firm changed its mind and agreed to pay the workers for the day.

The office has three or four more complaints of the same nature, but we do not expect to have much trouble in adjusting these.

The Executive Board of Local 49 at its meeting on Thursday, June 7, decided to make an experiment along cooperation lines and this is how it happened: A representative of the Wilcoma Farm or, as it is otherwise known, the Garland Farm, approached the local with the proposition that the Union should undertake to market among its members the surplus products of the farm. Wilcoma Farm is located at North Carver, Mass., a distance of about forty miles from Boston and is owned and worked co-operatively by a group of idealists, headed by Mr. Garland. At present about twenty acres are under cultivation and the co-operators are adverse to the idea of selling their products through the middleman. They would rather sell direct to the consumer through our Union. If the experiment is successful, there will be in time more and more land under cultivation. All products will be sold to our members below current market prices. As a beginning the farm shipped to us a few crates of strawberries, lettuce, beets, potatoes and onions will follow. Our members will be kept informed from time to time through the columns of JUSTICE on the success of the new venture.

The Year in Local 60

By N. SCHECHTER

After our delegates returned from the last convention, reporting that a permanent charter was granted to our local, our executive board set to work at once to make our organization a worthwhile fighting unit in the family of the International.

First, we began carrying out strictly the rule that pressers engaged on temporary jobs shall receive not less than \$1.50 per hour. This rule became so popular that it was enforced even in the shops where pressers were working on such jobs by the week.

We also strove hard to abolish the "markets" where our members would hang out for hours or days looking for a stray employer. If a firm wants to engage a presser permanently or temporarily, he must now get in touch with the office of the Union. For this purpose we are now registering unemployed pressers and placing them on the list.

The decision against overtime was not an easy task to put into practice. Pressers from time immemorial have been accustomed to come to the shop first and leave last. Our Grievance Board has made several attempts to wean the pressers away from this practice and now those efforts are meeting with success. Overtime is practically a matter of the past with us. We have a membership of 1100, a gain of 500 members in one year. During the same period, 300 com-

plaints of members against employers were attended to by the office, and each of them received careful and personal attention. The members are loyal and meet their obligations promptly, to which can testify the fact that in the course of one year our income was \$35,000, and this with conditions in the trade far from favorable.

We hold monthly meetings which are attended on the average by 200 members, and conduct our business without friction or bitterness. Our Board has recently begun considering seriously the unemployment problem and we came to the conclusion that we should raise an unemployment fund by increasing the dues from 35 cents to 50 cents a week, devoting this increase to such a fund. This recommendation, however, was defeated at the member meetings because of opposition from some members of the Board. It is to be hoped that the new Board will raise this question again and that means will be found for the creation of such a fund which would tend to bind the members closer to the organization and would also relieve the woes of the unemployed.

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Local 38 News

By B. DRASIN

Now that the election in our local is over and our members have been made familiar with its results, it is in place to say a few words about how our new organization is starting out to work for itself.

On May 15th, we installed our officers. After a brief talk by Chairman Chasanov, the chair was turned over to Vice-president Feinberg who, in a long speech, told the newly elected officers their duties in detail and the difficulties which they would have to overcome if they are to serve the local faithfully. He promised on behalf of the Cloak Joint Board generous, fraternal help for the new local. Talks were also given by Brother B. Shane, manager of Local 1, and L. Hyman, manager of Local 9.

Several active members of the local spoke from the floor, all of them dwelling on the point that only harmony and united action can put the

new local on a working basis and safeguard conditions in the shops. The point was also stressed that an organization campaign must be started by bringing under the influence of the Union the several unorganized shops that are still to be found in the ladies' tailoring trade in New York City. The meeting ended in a very friendly spirit.

Our Executive Board met for the first time and elected standing committees which set to work at once. The writer of these lines was elected Secretary-Organizer of the local, and the members of Local 38 are called upon to take note of this and to bring to our office at 877 Sixth Avenue all complaints, grievances and other matters that require the attention of the Union. They will be assured of a cordial and friendly reception and a sincere interest in their affairs.

Free Speech Fight on in Pittsburgh

Civil Liberties Union Out To Smash Flynn Anti-Sedition Act

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania will be the scene of a great free speech demonstration Sunday night, June 3rd, when Prof. Harry F. Ward of the Union Theological Seminary, New York, and chairman of the American Civil Liberties Union, and Alexander Howat, leader of the progressive bloc of the miners, will address a mass meeting to protest against the May Day raids and arrests of Fred Merrick and nine other radical organizers in the steel mills.

The meeting will be held under the joint auspices of the American Civil Liberties Union and the Labor Defense and Free Speech Committee. The speakers will not only protest against the unlawful action of the demand a stop to the ruthless application of the Flynn anti-sedition law

Pittsburgh police officials but will under which four men are now held in the Pennsylvania jails.

"The Pittsburgh arrests, which were to forestall the usual May Day revolution, were, some of them, made without warrants and in open violation of civil guarantees," Robert W. Dunn, associate director of the American Civil Liberties Union states. "They were directed by the steel trust officials against the work of radical labor organizers whose right to meet and speak we will uphold and fight for on all occasions. The Flynn Anti-Sedition Act of Pennsylvania is held as a club over the heads of the labor men who are organizing the steel workers to fight Gary's tyranny of the twelve-hour day. It should be wiped off the statute books."

A Resolution from Cleveland

WHEREAS, a rumor is being circulated that C. E. Ruthenberg, Executive Secretary of the Workers' Party, scabbed at the Prints-Biederman Company during the strike in the plant of that company in 1918 and this rumor was affirmed in the *Gerechtigkeit*,

WHEREAS, at the request of C. E. Ruthenberg, the Joint Board of the Cleveland Ladies' Garment Workers' Union has appointed a committee to find out facts, the following is our report:

C. E. Ruthenberg was discharged from the Prints-Biederman Company in June, 1917, and in July, 1918, when the general strike was on, C. E. Ruthenberg was serving a jail sentence at the Stark County

Jail for his opposition to the war and conscription, and

We also find that C. E. Ruthenberg addressed a mass meeting of the cloakmakers union in 1916 while he was employed in the executive offices of the Prints-Biederman Company.

We also declare that the charge that C. E. Ruthenberg scabbed in 1918 is a gross misstatement.

We also recommend that his statement of facts be published in the *Gerechtigkeit* in order that the personal injury which has been done to C. E. Ruthenberg should be rectified.

LOUIS FRIED,
MAURICE BAYER,
CHAS. KREINDLER.

JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

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

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Labor In and Out of Commons

By EVELYN SHARP

British Labor has never been more unanimous than it is now showing itself to be on the subject of Russia. The Premier has been obliged to tell both the Labor Party and the Independent Labor Party that we cannot possibly rely individually to the senders of resolutions that keep pouring in from these two organizations all over the country, as well as from trade unions branches of every description. The feeling is universal that, whatever opinion is held about Communism, or about the acts of the Soviet Government, or about the merits of the particular points now in dispute, there is nothing that it is not capable of being settled by negotiations, that a breach of the Russian trade agreement is unthinkable, and that a conference should be called, as has been demanded by Moscow, to settle the question of alleged Soviet propaganda in our Eastern dominions, which appears now to be the only serious matter of controversy between the two Governments.

The telegram to the Labor Party and General Council of the Trades Union Congress from the Russian General Council of Trades Unions is a remarkable document, commended with the average communication of the kind, and serves to mark afresh the change that is brought into diplomatic correspondence by the advent of this working-class republic in Eastern Europe. It is a human appeal from the workers—men, women and children—of one country to another; it tells the incident of a working-man who, at a Moscow meeting convened for the discussion of the British ultimatum, summed up simply the Russian policy in the words: "We don't want to fight; we are too busy to fight." And it ends by appealing to British Labor "to do all you can to escape responsibility and the curses of the toiling millions for the con-

tinued chaos and new sufferings of war and famine."

THE 8-HOUR DAY

The Hamburg Socialist Conference accepted unanimously the British resolution moved by J. H. Thomas, that the universal 8-hour day be accepted by the new-Socialist International formed at this conference, as a principle and ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the} demand. His warning that there was a strong tendency everywhere among the employers to go back on this principle owing to trade depression, has not only been proved in this country in recent building and mining disputes, but is seen now in Germany where the new reparations proposals of the Federation of German Industries are being strongly criticized by the German trade unions, who see in them not only the old story that the workers will be more heavily taxed than the employers, in proportion to their capacity to pay, but also an insidious attack upon the 8-hour day in the demand for employees for "free" agreements on the question of overtime. International support against this attack will be essential.

WORKERS' UNIFIED FRONT

The action of the recent conference of the International Federation of Transport Workers in Berlin, in forming a united front, including the Russians, and electing a joint council, has called from the Bureau of the International Federation of Trade Unions (Amsterdam) a disavowal of all responsibility for such an "all-in" policy, and a reiteration of its own policy of excluding dissident minorities from representation at its conferences. In this connection it is worth noting that at the meeting of the International Metal Workers' Federation in London on June 4, although Russia was not included in the 18 nationalities represented, a resolu-

tion was adopted stating that the "necessity of closer cooperation in the interests and for the benefit of workers in metals, in all the countries of the world, can best be advanced by the affiliation of all trade unions in all countries to the International Metal Workers' Federation." The time seems approaching when official acknowledgment of the Soviet Republic by including its representatives in the international organizations of workers, as well as in securing its de jure recognition by the bourgeois governments, would appear to be inevitable.

WOMEN AND THE INTERNATIONAL

The rejection, at the instance of the German delegation, by the Hamburg Conference of Dr. Marion Phillips' proposal (Great Britain) to create a special international women's committee, opens up the whole vexed question of the position of women in the Labor movement. The contention of the German women that women ought properly to be represented by the side of the men on the new Socialist International, and not by a special organization, exactly expresses the view of suffragists everywhere, but not of the extreme feminist who is not a suffragist and still thinks in terms of sex differentiation. The British Labor party, of course, recognizes the principle of sex equality, but in actual practice still encourages the formation of separate women's organizations on the very plausible ground that in this country people are not sufficiently enlightened to elect women unless they are separately dealt with in this way. Naturally the German delegation did not understand this, as in their own country (seen in the large number of women Reichstag members) the workers do not thus differentiate. The recent election to Parliament of Mrs. Phillips is a case in point. Largely with the help of workers' votes, she—like Lady Astor and Mrs. Wintringham, the two women M. P.'s already sitting in our House of Commons—has been returned, not on her own merits, but simply as the wife of her husband,

who in her case was unassisted on a technicality and was not eligible to stand again. The smears of a portion of the press, on account of Mrs. Phillips' former career as an actress, have little point in the eyes of the serious thinkers of the Labor party, who do not regret that a woman has been elected who earned her living honestly before she married a rich man, but have every reason to regret that working-class votes help to return women like the three M. P.'s already elected, who do not stand for working-class interests, while women like Dr. Marion Phillips and Margaret Bondfield remain outside Parliament—apparently because they cannot stand as the wife or widow of a former M. P.

STRIKES AND POLITICAL ACTION

The present tendency to rely on political rather than industrial action, seen in the workers' international policies, has been demonstrated by the miners' strike, and waiting for the debate on the Labor party bill to amend the Coal Miners Minimum Wage Act, which comes up during the next two weeks. Conscious of their strength, for they are the biggest and best organized union, probably, in the British trade union movement, they will not attempt industrial action until Parliamentary power has been tried to the utmost. The Bill in question, if passed, will greatly improve the position of the miners, who, at present bound by the terms of an agreement wrung from them in a moment of extreme depression, are really receiving lower real wages than before the war, when the miners' wages were admittedly a scandal. If Parliamentary action fails, then logically their course of action will be to appeal to the trade union organization to come to their help. There is a good deal of sympathy for the miners, on the part of all who study the position, for, while the Ruhr situation has caused a boom in export coal, the men have not benefited in the least and are still subsisting on insufficient wages.

My Friend, the Operator and Poet

By CHARLES ACKERMAN
(Dedicated to the Workers' Unity House)

My friend, the operator and poet detained me, seizing me firmly by the coat lapel. "I am tired," he murmured, "I am weary of the sordid grind, the crushing harnessed of the daily routine, the mean struggle in the stifling shop, its soul-corroding, iron-heated machinery. Behold me, I, an infinitesimal creak in the Monster Machine of production, do rebel; I am in full revolt, I withdraw myself from out a vicious system and will have none of it. I find my soul with me, and away from the frenetic machine there to commune with Nature and the Infinite."

"But how about the eat?" I interjected, practically.

"Glutton," he replied wistfully. "Far from the haunts of man, there, in the heart of the virgin mountains, tucked in the fold of a crescent of emerald-bued eternal hills, is a nest of marvelous cottages where the wayfarer may find rest for the spirit and food for the body. I will lose myself in the vastness of a great dining hall, I will be seated in the midst of laughing joyous youth, among my fellows, and I will be served by kindly maidens with a zeal and friendliness that the city knows not of. The grasping food profiteer shall exploit me no longer. The necessary worker, he of the itching palm, shall not hover about me fawningly, robbing me of my ease. I shall breathe freedom, I shall," he continued ecstatically, "steal out in the dead of night into the depths of the primeval

forest, and breathe the unpolluted, humid, the tender and caressing night air; I will bathe in moon-beams, and re-dream the dreams of youth. I will listen to the subtle murmurs, scent a myriad fragrances, identify myself, become one with pulsing Nature."

"But," I interrupted unfeelingly, "a fellow needs a little sleep"

"Animal," he answered scornfully, taking a firmer grip of my lapel. "I will wind my way to a magnificent cottage built at the border of a wild-wood, and lay me down, lulled by the gentle harmony of swaying treetops, and the melancholy insistent note of the cricket, I shall sink into refreshing slumber. Then with the break of dawn the great out-doors awaits me, the beautiful grounds of my estate awaits my pleasure; or perchance I ramble into the far country upon aimless bypaths, the rising sun benevolently warning me to the morning; or as like as not I shall stroll down to a lake on a broadly-sweeping, stately-winding pathway that would delight the heart of an aristocrat. There will I gather water lilies of ununsullied white and weave them into a flowery crown and give my treasure to a maid in exchange for a smile."

"Must be swampy down there," said I, to make conversation.

"Infidel, heretic, fool," he snapped intolerantly, "it is a marvel, that lake, a flawless gem, a miraculous work of Nature, who, in a moment of inspira-

tion, turned artist. It is a shimmering opal of a thousand tints and hues mounted in a circlet of lacey bronze and gold-green, a scintillating body of mother-of-pearl crowned with greenwood, the tree-tops dipping their heads in adoration into the limpid purity of its waters. Observe me, I spring lightly into a bark canoe and float softly as I sweep down wafted by the wind amidst the reeds. I wrap myself in profound reverie, I meditate, I loaf utterly and completely, and thank the stars for the gift of life. I paddle without purpose, I approach a canoe quite concealed under the arch of an overhanging branch; two lovers there telling each other the ancient, throbbing story I approve, and silently steal away I am a reformer, a prophet, a seer, I am in harmony with myself, with everything in the world about me, I am become an incurable, raging optimist I ground my boat, cut myself a stick to my liking, swing it merrily and am off to the bathing pavilion. I am one of the merry shouting throng I swim far out and meet a mermaid who darts me the swim wiff as she crosses the lake; we swim on, reckless wallowing in the yielding element like two porpoises."

"What do you do to kill time?" I asked prosaically.

"Ah, the mellow days, the romantic eves are replete with entertainment, there are races and boating and exercises for the athletic, howling and games and contests for the gamblers, a well-stocked library for the studious, recitation, music, song and a massive hall devoted to the dance; for the pleasure-loving, a hundred diversions and joys complete for the idle hour. My enchanted castle is

naught but a great pleasure factory where jaded worn-out bodies and spirits are renovated, rebuilt and recharged with energy and vitality. I will come and stretch myself luxuriously in front of the great log fire and blink at the flickering embers, while a chorus of voices sing the sweet half-forgotten songs of bygone days, or I will feel my pulse throb wildly to the savage melody, the moving chants of the songs of revolution."

"Say, where on earth is this dream-land of yours?" I inquired curiously.

"It is a dream-land," answered the operator, "for it is the ardent dream of a group of devoted workers, who dreamed it so hard and so persistently that at length it had to crystallize and become real; the workers alone called it into being, they alone own and manage it. There, in the Blue Ridge Mountains, even I myself, a humble worker of the industry, am a full-fledged proprietor. I possess real estate of a vastness. It is all mine; there I and my fellows have established a social ownership of the soil, of buildings and equipment; our profits are gigantic though we reckon them not in dollars and cents but in health and happiness. And besides all this, I own undisturbed, the green grass, the sunbeams, the lilies of the field, the gurgling brook, the"

"Never mind," I commanded, my patience quite exhausted. "Where is the place?"

"They call it THE WORKERS' UNITY HOUSE. It is at Forest Park, Pennsylvania, owned by the Joint Board of the Dress and Waist-makers' Union," sighed the poet-

The Real Meaning of The Last Supreme Court Decision

By B. MEIMAN

(Special Washington Correspondence to Justice.)

Immediately after the Supreme Court had rendered its decision against the Kansas Industrial Court, Samuel Gompers issued a statement in which he pointed out that the labor unions were the first to declare that the law which created this Industrial Court was in its inception unconstitutional.

Gompers never fails to demand credit for labor unions whenever such credit seems due and the unions do not resent it as a rule. Nevertheless, the fact remains that the opposition and even resistance to the Industrial Court of Kansas on the part of the labor movement have contributed but little to the Supreme Court's decision; it was when the rights of an employer had been invaded that the United States Supreme Court decided to extract the teeth of the most reactionary anti-labor law ever passed by an American legislature.

I am advancing this thought, not because I begrudge Gompers or the American labor unions the credit which they claim, but because I believe that this decision of the Supreme Court will have a far greater significance than its immediate object, the Kansas Court. It appears to me that it will exert an important bearing on the Eech-Cummins law and its creature the Railway Labor Board, which attempts from time to time to take a hand in conflicts between the owners and the workers in the railway industry. I may say even further that this decision against the Kansas Law may have a serious bearing on future attempts to enact laws for compulsory legislation—something which many for a long time have been acting to achieve.

Let us examine the facts in the case.

In 1920 there was passed in the State of Kansas a law creating an Industrial Court for the following industries: food, clothing, fuel and heating materials, transportation and all public utilities. It can be seen that the above-named industries include literally all important industrial vocations. Food includes farming, the preparation of foodstuffs, such as canning, bread-baking, and all other innumerable occupations connected directly with food preparation. The clothing industry also takes in an enormous number of workers in all its branches—from raw materials to garment-making and down to garment-selling. Fuel and heating materials include the mining industry, the lumber and woodswinging trades. Transportation covers every pursuit in the railway, steamship and every forwarding and carting business. And, under public utilities, are grouped such industries as are used for public purposes such as street-cars, telephones, telegraphs, gas, electricity and waterworks.

The Kansas Industrial Court Law enjoins all workers in the above-named industries from striking and from compelling their employers to enter into collective agreements with them. In other words, it forbids the workers in these industries to form unions. In the place of unions, which would enable the workers to fight for their interests through their own organizations, the Kansas Law created an industrial court where three judges should determine the merits of each dispute arising between workers and employers.

When the Industrial Court was first formed, the labor unions of Kansas protested against it, while the press of the owning class praised it sky-high. The workers declared this law

an attempt to enslave them, while the employers declared it the golden medium of introducing peace into industry. Alexander Howat, the leader of the Kansas miners, was jailed for opposing this law, and the capitalist press carried on a powerful propaganda for the establishing of such courts in all of the States. Kansas wanted to blaze the trail for the other States of the American union to follow.

What has since happened which

Harding insisted that the Government had appointed this body and that it consequently must have power to enforce its rulings. The President promised that he would use "the entire power of the Government" to force the unions to submit to the decisions of the Railway Labor Board.

Well, it happened now that the same Railway Labor Board has issued a decision against the Pennsylvania Railroad Company and we are now hearing entirely reversed argu-

ments on the part of the employers. The Pennsylvania Railroad Company is now saying what the unions claimed at the time of last year's strike. The Pennsylvania loudly insists that the Railway Board has no right whatever to issue decisions.

It is quite likely that the clamor of the Pennsylvania Company will be heard with more respect and attention than the cries of the workers. It is difficult to say whether the Railway Board will meet with the same fate as met the Kansas Industrial Court. It is certain, however, that the Government will never dare to come out as sternly and sharply against the railway owners as it has come out against the railway unions.

In labor circles they are quite confident that the decision against the Kansas Industrial Court, even though for the moment ostensibly a victory for the employers will in the long run turn out to be a victory for labor. The refusal of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company to obey the decisions of the Board will in a similar way benefit the workers in general even though it may affect adversely some workers for the time being.

The acts of the Wolf Packing Company and of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company are not the only acts of this kind. The employers are bound to begin to feel that compulsory arbitration is a weapon that might strike at both ends, and they are not entirely sure that this weapon which they are now trying to forge will not hit them over the head some day. We shall not therefore be surprised if the agitation for compulsory arbitration on the part of the employing interests will from now on considerably subside.

The labor unions may congratulate themselves upon this ostensibly adverse decision, and, while they can not claim the credit for having brought it about, they may at least utilize it for the benefit of the workers.



DOES THE MAN LIKE TO JUMP LIKE A DOG FOR HIS FOOD, SHELTER AND CLOTHING? NO. BUT THE BOSS PULLING THE STRING TELLS HIM IT DEVELOPS HIS CHARACTER—AND PROVES THAT HE HAS "BRAINS."

changed the situation so radically? A matter of seemingly little importance. In a careless moment the Kansas Court rendered a decision which was favorable to the workers. It was in the case of a comparatively small firm, the Wolf-Packing Company of Kansas City. The Industrial Court decided that the workers employed by this firm should get more wages than the company would give them. All told, the case was of small significance, but the Kansas employers of a sudden discovered that this Industrial Court is a two-edged sword and that they too are likely sometimes to get cut by it. They immediately appealed the case to the Supreme Court which decided that it is unconstitutional for any court to determine or fix wages.

Something similar has now occurred in connection with the Railway Labor Board.

During the last railway strike, it will be remembered, the Government interfered and practically took up the fight against the strikers because some unions would not submit to the decision of the Railway Labor Board. The unions argued that this Board had no right to issue decisions and that its role is merely that of an arbitration committee and not of a mandatory court. Nevertheless, President

JOINT BOARD DRESS AND WAISTMAKERS' UNION

To All Shop Chairmen

A regular shop-chairmen meeting will be held on Thursday, June 28th, at Beethoven Hall, 210 East Fifth Street, right after work. The discussion started at the last meeting will be continued and other questions of paramount importance will be considered.

We trust that you will realize that it is your duty as well as your privilege to attend this meeting.

M. K. MACKOFF,

Secretary.

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

THE MESSENGER

The Only Trade Union Publication for Negro workers in America

2305 Seventh Avenue
New York City

JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

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

MAX D. DANISH, Managing Editor

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EDITORIALS

EMPTY BOASTS FROM SAN FRANCISCO

The San Francisco strikebreaking agency which masquerades under the name of the "Industrial Association" spread a rumor last week that the San Francisco cloakmakers, who fought such a brave fight for over thirteen weeks, have lost their strike and are returning to the shops defeated.

This is a falsehood which will become such an aggregation as the Industrial Association. The facts are that the cloak and suit manufacturers of San Francisco had to sign an agreement with the union, with the executive board of Local No. 8. When one recalls that in the beginning the local cloak manufacturers would not hear of any negotiations with the union officials and would not recognize the existence of a union; when one bears in mind that our Secretary Baroff encountered incredible difficulties in meeting even privately this or that manufacturer; when one considers that the issues of the fight were not higher wages or shorter working hours, but recognition of the union by the organization, and collective negotiations between the union and the employers—the very fact that the executive committee of the cloak manufacturers' association had a conference with the executive committee of Local No. 8 at which peace was agreed upon is in itself a substantial victory. In the light of this fact, Mr. Ryder, the spokesman of the Industrial Association, is uttering a deliberate untruth when he states that the workers were beaten in the fight and that they were returning to non-union shops.

How utterly unfounded this assertion is, can be gleaned from the very significant statement issued and signed by the president of the cloak manufacturers' association of San Francisco, Mr. S. L. Hoffman. Here it is, forwarded to us by Vice-president Gorenstein, and which speaks for itself:

"At a conference, held between the executive committee of the Cloak and Suit Manufacturers' Protective Association of San Francisco and the Executive Committee of Local No. 8 of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, a friendly and mutual understanding was reached. The Association and the Union have ratified the settlement, and the members will return to work Monday morning. S. L. HOFFMAN."

Why did Mr. Hoffman deem it necessary to issue this statement to the union in addition to the so-called agreement? There is but one explanation for it. The cloak manufacturers' association of San Francisco, which is entirely in the grip of the Industrial Association, was compelled to allow its over lords to dictate the agreement between it and the union, and in this agreement reference is made to a shop in which the employers are not to make any distinction between union and non-union workers. Naturally our union could not consent to such a term in the agreement even though, as a matter of fact, these words might have no practical significance. The fact is that during this strike the local cloak employers succeeded in bringing into San Francisco, with the aid of a strikebreaking agency, some 20-odd strikebreakers. Today, however, there is not one of them left in San Francisco and the words regarding the "open shop" have therefore no practical meaning for the union. Nevertheless, the union would never permit this situation had it not known what a despondent situation the manufacturers found themselves in through the entangling alliance with the Industrial Association. That is why the few words regarding the open shop and the role of the Industrial Association in time of disputes were permitted in the agreement.

But apart from the Industrial Association, the union and the manufacturers have reached a different and a clear understanding, and the strikers have returned to work only as union workers and into union shops only.

This explains the statement the president of the cloak manufacturers' association had to sign at the demand of the union. Had Mr. Ryder of the Industrial Association not found it necessary to come out with the vain boast that the cloak shops in San Francisco were to remain open shop, we would not have mentioned this private understanding which the cloak manufacturers of San Francisco were compelled to agree to out of fear of the Industrial Association. The loose vapors of the leader of the "industrial" strikebreaking agency have forced us to come out with the truth. If the cloak manufacturers are to be "disciplined" by the Industrial Association on this account, we shall be really sorry. But we cannot allow the slightest suspicion to be raised that our cloakmakers' union of San Francisco has consented to work under the so-called "American plan."

We are certain that none of our members who may have overheard these silly rumors spread by the Industrial Association of San Francisco will believe in them for a moment. It does

not stand to reason, indeed, that, after thirteen weeks of heroic fighting, the union would consent to sign an agreement which means its practical destruction. In the worst case, our strikers would have given up the fight as a lost cause, but they would never have signed the death-verdict of their union. Our San Francisco workers did nothing of that sort. On the other hand, they have fought for, and won the principle of collective bargaining which is the very opposite of the "American plan." According to this plan, employers do not recognize a labor union, have no dealings with it and make no distinction between a union worker and a non-union worker. Under such a plan, the employer is supposed to deal with the worker individually. In the San Francisco case, however, the executive of the manufacturers' association conferred with the executives of the union and both bodies came to a friendly, mutual working understanding.

Nevertheless, though we understand the reason why the San Francisco local has consented to the smuggling in of a few words regarding an open shop and the role of the Industrial Association into the agreement, we deem it necessary to warn our unions against such action in the future. It was not the business of the union to pull their employers out of the swamp into which they had blundered. It must be remembered that a private understanding with manufacturers is not sufficient, as such a private arrangement can be repudiated at any time, while an agreement, an official document, cannot be refuted.

Such tactics might some time become quite dangerous, and surely it is not a pleasant matter for the International, which has always fought frankly and in the open without resorting to any backdoor arrangements. We are not entirely certain that the International will not decide to reject the agreement entirely, and would rather declare the strike lost than affirm it. But no matter what the International decides in this case, it is certain that the method adopted by the San Francisco cloakmakers to bring the strike to an end is a very slippery one and we cannot warn our workers too strongly against such action and such agreements in the future.

UNIONS AND UNIONS

Among the many committees which appeared with requests before the last meeting of the General Executive Board, there was one which made a particularly strong impression with its appeal for assistance. It was the committee of the Brooklyn District Shoe Workers' Union, which broke away from the old Boot and Shoe Workers' Union.

It is, perhaps, unnecessary for us to state here that we are opposed to splits and to union dismemberment. The strength of labor lies in its unity. Splits usually lead, and in their nature must lead, to the weakening of the power of the workers. As a rule, we look askance at "seceders," but every rule has its exception and the case of the breaking away of the Brooklyn shoe-workers from their union appealed to us very strongly.

The story which the committee told to the General Executive Board is not only a sad one, but highly scandalous, and it must not be smothered in silence. On the other hand, it is the duty of every union man who loves and prizes the labor movement to give this story the widest publicity, even though it discloses a painful and shameful page of trade unionism.

The Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, which is particularly strong in the State of Massachusetts, is a trade union in name only. In reality it is only the agent of the big and wealthy shoe manufacturers. To begin with, this union does not believe in strikes. Moreover, it believes that its reason for existence is not to allow any strike to take place. That is why the shoe manufacturers hold this union in high esteem. The Massachusetts shoe manufacturers do not believe in the open shop—oh no, they would not employ any one who is not a member of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union. They love this union so well that they compel their workers to join the union and would not employ any one who belongs to a different labor organization, out of a feeling of true reciprocity, of course.

The Boot and Shoe Workers' Union holds its members in actual slavery. It does not allow them to raise their heads against employers, and the employers take care that every man and woman working in their shop is a member of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union. For a shoe worker to leave the union in Massachusetts means leaving the trade and sometimes the city. Thus are the shoe workers chained to the union, and the union to the shoe manufacturers.

In case of a dispute, when the workers pick up enough courage to demand a raise, for instance, it is referred to the State Board of Arbitration and Conciliation which is appointed by the Governor. This board of arbitration consists of the following: Mr. Fisher, a lawyer, a former Senator, who is chairman of the board; a Mr. Woscott, a former shoe manufacturer; and, as representative of the workers, a certain Mr. Samuel Ross, a former organizer of the textile workers who, at 73, is too old a man to be alert to things and events around him. As a matter of fact, some time ago the workers of Massachusetts at a state conference decided to ask the Governor to appoint on the board of arbitration a younger and more active person. As a result of this demand, Mr. Samuel Ross was reappointed to represent the workers on the board for an additional three years.

Some time ago this board decided to reduce the wages of the shoe workers ten per cent but, as among these workers there were some who earned very little, the board of arbitration, considering that a reduction of ten per cent would be too much for

What the Fifth Quarterly Meeting Has Accomplished

By S. YANOVSKY

G. E. R. meetings are always interesting. The discussion of the agenda, the reports of the general officers, and the committees that appear before it, all throw a powerful light upon the work and activity of our International from period to period. The last meeting of the Board was particularly illuminating from every point of view. The exchange of opinions on the important subjects brought up before it; the thorough reviewing of the general situation in the report of President Sigman—a report which left but little for the vice-presidents to add—and the numerous committees which appeared before it, have made this quarterly meeting a truly epoch-making affair for our Union.

A detailed report of this meeting would occupy six installments in this journal, as in addition to the two regular sessions the Board was compelled to work "overtime" and hold night sessions. We shall therefore be forced to omit a number of things and cover only the main problems and decisions, and the decision which will mark the opening of new relations in our two chief trades—the cloak and dress industry.

These trades heretofore were quite apart from one another. The cloak and dress locals in New York were organized into separate joint boards each of which controlled its own industry. In recent years, however, the principal reasons for keeping these trades apart has begun to disappear. In shops where heretofore only cloaks were made, dresses are now being made too, and vice versa. Cloakmakers began to trespass upon the limits of the dress trade and dressmakers invaded the province of the cloakmakers. A jurisdiction problem arose, which caused a great deal of annoyance. Cloakmakers who wanted to work in dress shops could not get working cards unless they paid for them—and this after a lot of trouble. The same thing was true of dressmakers who wanted to work

in shops under the jurisdiction of the Cloak Joint Board. Not infrequently a member who had paid his dues and taxes in one local was compelled to pay other taxes in the local which controlled the shop where he was now employed.

The employers, of course, did not fall to take advantage of this state of affairs, and cloakmakers who, in the same shop would work on cloaks only under the conditions and regulations adopted in the cloak industry, would as dressmakers be compelled to accept entirely different terms—which only added to the entanglements in these trades.

Aide from this, there was the problem of Local No. 23, part a dress and part a skirt local, which is affiliated with the Cloak Joint Board. Workers in the dress trade proper would frequently work under different terms, as they belonged to two different locals in the same industry—in itself a condition strictly forbidden by the constitution of our International. The appearance of the jobber in both the cloak and dress industry has accentuated the change of conditions. If not all the cloak shops could make dresses and not all the dress shops could manufacture cloaks, the jobber surely was eminently impartial in this respect, as his only object was to take profits without regard to trade, and the jobber would very often have to deal with both joint boards and frequently under quite contradictory and sharply differing terms.

All these developments had to lead to the idea of a change in the form of the workers' organization in both industries. It became clear to all, first, that Locals No. 22 and No. 23 must consolidate, as there was not the slightest reason for their remaining separate and apart; also that the new local must affiliate with the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union. Such a decision was adopted at the fourth quarterly meeting of the

Board but it has not been carried into practice, as it appeared that there existed quite a strong minority in the Cloak Joint Board which could not accept the idea of uniting with the dressmakers under one joint board. When President Sigman, shortly after the last meeting of the G. E. R., appeared before the New York Cloak Joint Board on this matter, the Joint Board elected a committee to work out all the details for the carrying out of this plan, as there was not even the slightest inkling that the Joint Board would fall to carry out the decision of the G. E. R.

The committee, after a few sessions, came up into a majority and minority. Both were agreed that the decision of the G. E. R. must be carried out. But while the majority of the committee was for the unification of Locals 22 and 23 and their affiliation with the Joint Board without any strings or conditions, the minority insisted that Local 60, the dress pressers, at present an independent local, should be disbanded and the dress pressers affiliated with Local 35, so that there will be one pressers' local in New York City as there is one cutters' local. They argued that it would be very odd if the Cloakmakers' Joint Board were to have delegates from two different pressers' locals. Such a separate local of dress pressers, a minority argued, was justified as long as there were two separate joint boards. But now that the dressmakers and cloakmakers will belong to one Joint Board, there is no reason for the existence of two pressers' locals.

The reader will understand from this that the only new question before the G. E. R. at this time was the problem of uniting Locals 60 and 35, the two pressers' locals, as the decision to unite Locals 22 and 23 and to place them under the control of the Cloak Joint Board had already been adopted at the previous meeting. Nevertheless the entire debate

flared up anew, and the former decision of the G. E. R. was again subjected to a thorough debate and analysis. Of course, no one demanded that the G. E. R. withdraw its decision, but some insisted that the decision be delayed and not carried out at once. In justice to those who opposed the idea of consolidating the two trades, we deem it our duty to state briefly their arguments, which are by no means reactionary, but, as some have asserted, are entitled to some consideration.

It was pointed out that the cloak industry was overwhelmed with its own problems that must find immediate solution. To unload the problems of the dress industry upon the cloakmakers—problems which involve 25,000 workers—would be placing an unduly great burden upon the Cloak Joint Board. Second, it was argued that the union was not being outspoken on both sides, and those who are for consolidation of the locals advocate it not because it is an economic necessity, but because they are for amalgamation pure and simple, without regard to its usefulness in this particular instance. Third, it was pointed out that, while it is true that both industries are slowly approaching one another, the workers of the dress and cloak trades are psychologically different, and it is therefore difficult to believe that a real consolidation will ever take place. In connection with this, it was stated that the dressmakers work by the piece, while the cloakmakers work on the week basis. Again, while the dressmakers are in their great majority women, the cloakmakers are mostly men. Fourth, it was pointed out that the Joint Board will have under its control too many workers employed in too many different trades and having too many different points of view. Under such circumstances, it could not be expected that it would function as efficiently as it does now. Fifth, the opponents of unification state that the notion that the cloak and dress industries are practically one today is far from correct. There are only a few cloak manufacturers who make dresses, and vice versa. But generally the line of demarcation in the trade is very distinct and

(Continued on page 11)

them, promised an adjustment in the near future. As a result, the girls who earn from \$15 to \$17 a week have received recently an increase of 35 cents a week.

This was more than the Brockton shoe workers could stand. They forgot that they belonged to a union which prohibits strikes, and they walked out in a body against their manufacturers, against their union and against the board of conciliation and arbitration. The entire Brockton district, 20,000 strong, is in that strike, and right after they walked out of their factories, they formed their own union which they named the Brockton District Shoe Workers' Union. They have been in this fight for more than four weeks and have now come to the meeting of our General Executive Board asking for aid.

Twenty thousand men in a fight without a cent in their treasury! The Boot and Shoe Workers' Union used to take two-thirds of their dues from them, leaving only one-third for the necessary expense of the local. The result is that they are quite helpless financially, but they would not think of returning to the shops as members of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union. They say that they are through forever with the old union. Their demands are as follows: (1) recognition of their union, (2) the restoration of the former wages, (3) a speedy settlement of disputes through a local board of arbitration, and (4) the right to strike. The shoe manufacturers on their side declared that they will never open the shops to the strikers until all of them are reinstated as members of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union.

These are the facts in this truly touching story. One might be entirely opposed to the idea of workers breaking away from the union, but in this case one must admit that for the 20,000 shoe workers, there was no alternative. What, indeed, could they have done to improve their condition if their union has always been on the side of the manufacturers and the manufacturers on the side of their union, leaving them between the devil and the deep-sea? Our agitators and speakers are pouring fire and denunciation on such institutions as the Kansas Industrial Court which forbids strikes. They are calling it "involuntary servitude," and here we have a union which has made such servitude of its own members a principle. Is not this a scandal and a stain upon the labor movement? Can an honest person remain silent in the face of such an outrage and is it not the duty of the entire labor movement to come

out with a thundering protest against such a union and its leaders?

Bear in mind that this case involves not a few or a handful of professional trouble-makers—20,000 men and women are out on strike, an event which cannot be explained by "secessionism" or "Bolshevism." These are 20,000 persons whose patience has finally burst after years of slavery and who are rebelling for the right to strike, which is forbidden by their former union. That is why these men and women cannot be held responsible for their union-like action. They are the victims of an ugly system, a wound and a cancer on the labor movement, and it is the sacred duty of organized labor to take a hand in this dispute.

The Boot and Shoe Workers' Union is affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. According to the constitution of the Federation, it is affiliated with it if they are fully autonomous with regard to their own affairs. The A. F. of L. will therefore be compelled to condemn the "seceders" as such, but we ask, would that be right? Can the A. F. of L. actually adopt such an attitude? We are confronted in this case with a union which by its existence desecrates the very principle, the very soul of unionism. We have here a union which, together with Governor Allen of Kansas, has proclaimed the strike a crime and which stands with him for involuntary servitude. Is it logic or justice to shoot all our poisoned arrows in the direction of Governor Allen and not to raise a voice of protest against such a union?

With a heart fired with indignation, we appeal to the labor movement and to its representative, the American Federation of Labor, not to remain indifferent in this very grave situation. It is the duty of the Federation to thoroughly investigate this entire case. It would not do to pass up this tragic affair as a "secession" and then lightly to proceed to other matters. Let the American Federation of Labor send a committee to investigate the matter on the spot. We are certain that such a committee would quickly find the true culprits and would make it its duty to come out with the full truth.

To pass this grave affair over in silence or with shallow indifference is impossible. It should not be permitted for the sake of unity, the wholeness, and the moral purity of the American labor movement.

SLIVERS

(A Lithuanian Silhouette)
By ABRAHAM RAISIN

Recently the household of Khaim-Aaron was being beset with two woes. The first affliction was that their eldest daughter, a girl of eighteen, began of a sudden to grow disturbingly big—so much so that the neighbors began to mumble that she was fit to go to the altar. The second trouble was that their little hovel, much older than they themselves were, had begun to sink fast, so that its little windows were well nigh touching the ground.

The sudden growth of the daughter and the definite and certain sinking of the old homestead created a rift of opinion in the family. Khaim-Aaron, overweighed with the duty of maintaining his home, insisted that something must be done to lift up the little house at least three or four logs higher so that it would not crumple entirely. His wife, Hannele, on the other hand, argued that it would be the better course to marry off their daughter so that she might, heaven forbid, not remain an old maid.

"We must lift the house," Khaim-Aaron would declare. "The house cannot wait much longer if we tarry. The daughter—she can wait. How old is she anyway?"

To which Hannele would argue in return:

"Our little home is sinking, it is true. But our girl is growing. The women in the neighborhood, may their tongues shrivel, are already taking her for more than twenty. May God not punish me for these words, but she looks almost as old as that. I cannot see how she has taken it into her head to grow so fast. A girl of her years is still a child with some other folks and she—." We better hurry to get her a husband."

But Khaim-Aaron would not be defeated.

"Let the neighbors talk all they want," he said. "The little house must be raised up again. It is not so much the sinking of it that worries me, but the chance we are taking. Think of the awful weather we have been having these years. One strong storm and God knows what may become of it and of us."

"Chaike, a tall, big girl with fleshy arms and a round, healthy face, was on her father's side in this controversy."

"Do not worry about a bridegroom, mother. Let us first fix the house."

"Smart girl you are," the mother would laugh bitterly. "You know a lot of what is best."

"She has more brains than you," the father commented. "Doesn't she know what is best for her? Of course, the first thing is to fix the house."

Whereupon the daughter would again support him:

"Surely no decent young fellow would want to come into a house like that. Let us first lift it up and then we will talk about a bridegroom."

The old man was completely satisfied with his daughter's argument.

"What!" he turned suddenly upon his wife, "you expect to invite people into such a cave! Why, they might faint to enter this!"

This finally convinced the old woman. She would not openly concede it, but threw her hands up in despair. "Do what you please," she said, and then, in order to pique Khaim-Aaron, she mentioned nonchalantly, as if it was none of her business at all; "But how about money?"

The fact of the matter was that Khaim-Aaron had neither the money for fixing the house nor for marrying off his daughter. But he had credit. The little house, though old and half-sunk, was worth at least 150 rubles; at any rate any of the town usurers

would lend 100 rubles on it. It was adjoining the "business" street, just within a hundred feet or so of the market-place and, if only pushed a bit closer to the market, he might have been able to borrow a barrel of money on it.

But as the house stood, Khaim-Aaron felt if it only stopped sinking, it would be a real place to live in. Especially if the roof were covered with new shingles—what a little palace it would be!

Khaim-Aaron carried his point and borrowed a hundred rubles from the town usurer, Khonon Tripes. The terms were a ruble and a quarter per week for two years. Thereupon he began buying lumber.

In two weeks a dozen round heavy logs were already lying in the back-yard and pester-by would remark: "What do you say to this Khaim-Aaron? He must be pretty well feathered to be able to build in such hard times."

And when the work actually began, Hannele was contented too. She came to see that a man indeed knows a great deal more of things than a woman. It never had occurred to her that, while the house was being renovated, she would come into so many precious alivers—(for it must be remembered that alivers were a treasure in the little town and were so regarded by Hannele. She would carefully pick them up and save them in the dark room behind the kitchen that passed for a pantry.)

"Let them dry," she would say, and when, with the help of God, the house is all fixed, we will have enough to start the stove for a whole year."

But the trouble was that the women of the neighborhood all displayed a hunger for the alivers that could not be suppressed. In the morning they would come around and, would start pleading:

"Hannele dear, let me have a few alivers to start the fire."

Now Hannele was by nature not a stingy person, but the alivers were worth their weight in gold, it seemed to her, and she would tell them:

"So, is that what you want?... It costs so much money to build a house... We have to pay heavy interest... But of course how can I refuse you a few alivers!"

She would pick out the small ones and hand them to her neighbors and, after they had departed, would murmur in anger:

"What a heart they have, these women! To come and grab our alivers, just fresh from under the axe!"

In fact, Hannele had two or three apats with the women on account of the alivers.

"What do you think," she would argue with them, "they cost me nothing!" It is horrible how people can grab wood out of your hands.

But, of course, one couldn't keep one's eyes on things constantly. And before she would get through arguing with the women, the best alivers would be gone. Then she would turn on Khaim-Aaron and upbraid him for not helping her save the alivers for their own needs—but her husband was too excited over the repairs to notice her.

"Don't let them disturb you. Hannele," he'd say. "One must not be a pig. If God has helped us to build, we must not be hogish about the alivers."

And as they were arguing this matter out, Khonon Tripes, the usurer, hove in sight. Khonon was a small man with tiny narrow-slit eyes. Khaim-Aaron was the first to greet him. With a weak smile he inquired:

"Well, how do you like the little

house, Reb Khonon?"

"That is just what I came around to see," Khonon replied, squinting his small eyes and frowning his forehead. "I do say, Khaim, that you might well lift the house another inch or so."

The usurer's remark somewhat disturbed Khaim. He scented some evil behind these words and, in order to chase away the foreboding, he said: "Well, we shall see about it."

The usurer's eyes then fell on a big heap of alivers. He looked at it appreciatingly and remarked:

"Fine alivers, indeed. We shall have to send over the children with a barrel."

"When A Fellow Needs A Friend"

By THERESA WOLFSON

When the Union Health Center was organized some three years ago, it marked an epoch in the possibilities of trade unionism in the United States. Trade unions have become more than mere instruments of the class struggle, for they are undertaking to manage their own affairs and to tangibly improve the economic, mental, and physical conditions of their members. Therefore, it did not seem incredible or impossible for the workers to organize their own medical and dental clinics, and to assure themselves of the best that medical science has to offer.

The age of miracles is past—we no longer stand aghast at the sight of "the poor workers" carrying on their own educational activities or organizing their own bank—or running their own press—or organizing their own food commissariat in case of strike. Every thing is possible—the potentiality of the labor movement is limitless—and therein lies the hope of working in it and for it.

And speaking of hopes, brings us back again to the Union Health Center and its problems. Men and women suffering from all sorts of real and fancied illnesses come in day after day to the Medical Clinic; workers who have for years sat at their machines in the shop with the same hacking cough, or the same throbbing of the head with no hope of relief. A fellow worker suggests the Union Health Center. "Why don't you go over to the Union Health Center, it belongs to the Union; you pay dues for it and they have doctors for all kinds of ailments. I'll see if I can get the worker introduced to the Union Health Center. He is given a thorough examination and then he is referred to the individual specialists.

Suppose his diagnosis is tuberculosis, and this disease is extremely common among the workers of our industry, in fact within the last year we have had some 65 cases of active tuberculosis, then it behooves the Union Health Center to do some sort of social work for this worker. For, if the worker happens to belong to a local that has no tuberculosis fund, he is usually left to his own resources. What can we do? There are many possibilities, but there is always the question of, "Who is going to take care of the family?" if the worker is sent away. This phase of social work is not often appreciated by the officials of the Union or even the membership at large. In the past month several very heartrending cases have had to be taken care of by the Union Health Center.

There is the story of the presser, a member of the Union for some fifteen years, whose wife became insane upon seeing her only daughter killed by an automobile. He himself was a patient at the Union Health Center and after the series of shocks that befell him, he became a patient at our neurological clinic. It was evident that nothing could be done for him unless he could be relieved of

"With the greatest of pleasure," remarked Khaim-Aaron.

After the usurer departed, Khaim-Aaron called out his wife and told her in an unsteady halting voice:

"Hannele, Khonon's children will come here for alivers. Do not start anything. You must not."

Hannele heaved a deep sigh and hung her head in mourning.

"He might take the house away, too, that beast, not only the alivers..." she said.

Khaim-Aaron's frame trembled at Hannele's remark. He did not reply, but remained looking at her despondently.

some of the burden which fell upon his shoulders. Arrangements were made for his wife to be placed in a sanitarium; further arrangements were made for him to be sent away for convalescent care; all of which meant much time and the interest of an individual person. It is true, the case might be referred to the United Hebrew Charities, but the worker wanted no charity and did not want any outside organizations to know of his plight. His Union was after all his own, and he felt justified in calling upon it for help.

There is the other story of a young dressmaker, a member of Local 22, who came to the Health Center with a bad heart. She needed rest, good food and good care. There was no sick benefit that could help her out, so it was necessary for the Union Health Center to make arrangements and send her away to a farm in Westchester where she would get the necessary treatment.

There is again the story of the old Jewish laborer, a man who was suffering from hardening of the arteries and a very serious gradual paralysis of the feet. Immediate action had to be taken. Where could he turn? Naturally to the Union Health Center, and the Union Health Center must of necessity find a hospital with proper accommodations for his particular case.

These instances of social work could be multiplied a hundredfold if the entire number that come to the attention of the Union Health Center were to be related. As the work of the Union Health Center develops and grows, as more and more members of the Union take advantage of its services, it becomes more and more urgent for the Locals cooperating with the Health Center to recognize the need of Medical Social Service among its members, for it is undoubtedly true that in a Union with a membership of 80,000, in reality a small town, there are bound to be hundreds of workers with difficult medical problems that have to be solved before the worker can return to the industry again and participate actively in Union affairs.

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SHOEMAKING FOR LEAVENWORTH SUGGESTED.

Installation of a shoe manufacturing plant in Leavenworth Federal Penitentiary with a capacity of making 600,000 pairs of shoes annually for the army and navy is recommended to a joint committee of Congress by Superintendent of Federal Prisons, Votaw, to furnish employment to Federal prisoners, most of whom he claims are now idle; 700 prisoners in Atlanta Federal penitentiary are already making canvas for the use of government departments.

NEGRO LABOR INFUX DECREASES.

The influx of Negro workers from the South into Cleveland in lieu of foreign workers in semi-skilled and unskilled labor is slowing down from the maximum of 50 a day a month ago. Negro labor camps are maintained by the American Steel and Wire Co., the National Carbon Co. and the New York Central Railroad Co.

EIGHT-HOUR DAY A BENEFIT.

Stockholders and employees of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company have benefited since the eight-hour day was introduced by the company five years ago, according to a letter from its president made public yesterday by the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, which has taken exception to the Iron and Steel Institute's recent report unfavorable to elimination of the 12-hour day from the steel industry.

HARDING BACKS LASKER.

President Harding has approved the trial trip of the Leviathan, backing up Chairman Lasker of the Shipping Board. Mr. Lasker said the President did not at all feel worried at the threat of the Democratic National Committee to make the alleged "junkie" the subject of a Congressional investigation.

FARM LABOR SHORTAGE IN PENNSYLVANIA.

More than 300,000 acres of farm land remain idle in Pennsylvania this summer largely as the result of shortage of farm hands, according to a report of the Bureau of Employment to Commissioner Meeker of the State Department of Labor and Industry. There are over 9,000 vacant farms.

SUGAR TOLL 222 MILLIONS.

A recent gauge in sugar prices will have cost the American people at least \$222,000,000, before the end of this year, according to Truman G. Palmer, Washington representative of the beet sugar interests.

LABOR AGENTS TERRORIZE NEGROES.

Of the hordes of Negroes who have emigrated to cities of the North but a handful have drifted back. Labor agents, it is reported, are holding up an alluring picture of high wages, social equality and vastly superior living conditions to the Negro to get him to move North. In not a few cases campaigns of terrorism have been reported.

NEW ENGLAND OPERATORS VOTE AGAINST STRIKE.

The action of the Boston Local Unions of Telephone Operators in refusing to take part in a strike vote of operators' unions throughout New England, June 19th, was described in a resolution adopted at a special meeting of state labor leaders as "wilful and deliberate trade union treason." President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor endorsed the resolution.

EIGHT-HOUR LEGISLATION IN ILLINOIS.

An eight-hour bill for women and girls was reported out of the committee on industrial affairs and corporations in Illinois. On Tuesday next it will come before the Senate where proponents and opponents will be heard.

RENTS RISING FOR WAGE EARNERS.

Rents of wage earners' homes in the United States showed an average increase of two per cent between November, 1922, and March, 1923, and are still on the increase, according to a report of a survey issued recently by the National Industrial Conference Board of New York.

OKLAHOMA GOVERNOR PLANS NEW FARMER-LABOR PARTY.

Governor J. C. Walton of Oklahoma cast aside the farmer-labor reconstruction league of Oklahoma which put him into office and laid plans for the formation of a new all-embracing farmer-labor vehicle for the control of state politics.

12-HOUR DAY AND LABOR COSTS.

Profits in steel plants need not suffer if the change from the 12-hour to the 8-hour day is made with wisdom, said Dr. H. E. Howe of Washington, Chairman of the Committee on Work Periods of the Federated Engineering Societies. The committee under the direction of Bradley Stoughton, recently made public the results of its investigation of the 12-hour shift in the steel industry. Labor costs in many cases have been reduced by the transition from the 12-hour to the 8-hour day, said Dr. Howe.

NO MORE WAR.

A leaflet is being widely circulated in Germany against war, by the Young Workers' Socialist Movement. "You young people," it concludes, "cultivate within you the thought of humanity, of the good in human beings. You must not become murderers of your kind. If life be sacred, there must be no more war. War is Murder!"

FOREIGN ITEMS

ENGLAND

WORKLESS BOYS.

Educational work amongst unemployed boys, carried on at a relatively small cost by various public bodies and municipalities, is to be stopped on June 30, by order of the Ministry of Labour, according to Sir Arthur Yapp, national secretary of the Y. M. C. A.

There are about 200,000 young people of both sexes, under the age of 18, out of employment; nearly 125,000 are registered at the Employment Exchanges, 39,000 of them in the London area alone. The educational and recreation centers provide them with the only alternative to aimless wandering about the streets and idling at street corners.

So far from desiring to see these educational activities restricted, the Labor party has endeavored to increase them. It protested against the earlier failure of the Government to reestablish day-time educational centers which were opened after the Armistice, at which young people in receipt of unemployment benefit were required to attend.

A vigorous protest is being made against the edict of the Labor Ministry to close down this work. There is a strong demand for the reopening of day centers where all young people, including those not in receipt of unemployment benefit, will be able to attend for education, handicrafts, physical training, and recreation whilst they remain out of work.

SOCIALIST YOUTH MOVEMENT.

A newly formed fellowship of young Socialists in England is called the "Socialist Round Table," whose object seems to be to carry into effect the new idealism of the younger Socialists without interfering with the activities of the older bodies. They will publish a monthly paper called "Camelot."

DROP IN BIRTH RATE.

The birth rate in 1921 was the lowest on record in England and Wales, since civil registration was instituted in 1837, except for the war years 1915-19. The Registrar-General's report for 1921, just issued, also gives the number of men on the Parliamentary electoral registrar as 10,237,244, and of women as 7,558,440.

PREMIER'S FEMINISM.

In selecting his secretaries, the new Prime Minister, Mr. Baldwin, is carrying on the tradition established by Mr. Lloyd George during his Premiership by employing a woman, in Miss E. M. Watson. When Mr. Lloyd George first made this innovation it was declared that no woman in such a position could be trusted to keep official secrets. The prophecy does not seem to have been fulfilled.

DENMARK

PENAL REFORM IN DENMARK.

The Danish Punishment Law Commission has recommended the abolition of capital punishment. There have been no executions in Denmark for 30 years and only four in the previous 26 years; and the Commission would substitute imprisonment ranging from five years to life. A majority of the Commission are also in favor of the abolition of punishment for blasphemy, believing that where liberty of speech is abused the sentence of public opinion is more effective and more natural.

BELGIUM

BELGIAN NATIONAL STRIKE ENDS SUCCESSFULLY.

The Belgian railway, telegraph and postal workers are going back to work on terms which show a distinct success, when one recalls that the national strike was a retort to victimization by the government. . . . The government has promised consideration for the claims for increased wages, and has agreed that all workers who have been dismissed or suspended, during the course of the strike, shall be fully reinstated.

RUSSIA

RUSSIA AND TRADE UNIONS.

The Bureau of the International Federation of Trade Unions (Amsterdam) has issued a statement concerning the recent action of the International Federation of Transport Workers in including the Russian transport workers at its Berlin conference last month. The statement insists that the I. F. T. U. is always prepared to enter into relations with Russian trade union organizations excluding the dissident minorities, and repeats that it is within the framework of the regular organizations of each country that labor unity must be achieved, even in the case of special action.

In connection with the above, it is interesting to note that the Hornsey and Wood Green branch of the National Union of Railwaymen has passed a resolution expressing solidarity with the All-Russian Railwaymen's Union, in the present crisis, and adds that the Russian unions should in its opinion be admitted to the I. F. T. U., to form a united front.

GERMANY

THE RUHR AND COAL PRICES.

Mr. Brownlie, President of the Amalgamated Engineering Union, said at a conference in London on June 4 that the effect of the French occupation of the Ruhr had been to cause the price of coal and coke to rise, and that of steel to follow. The result of this had been a rise in the cost of ships and engineering products to prices that held off these buyers who had not already been frightened off by the uncertainty of the international situation.



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

LESSON 12—THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC EVOLUTION OF THE SOUTH.

I. The South at the Close of the War.

1. As we noted last time, the ruling class of the South had been disfranchised; in other words, the former leaders were placed under a ban.
2. The legislative, executive and judicial branches of the State governments passed into the control of the former slaves led by Northern adventurers called "Carpet-Baggers," and inexperienced Southerners known as "Scallawags." Thus the Southern States were plundered.
3. South, as a result of the war, was in a state of ruin; cities had been burned, plantations wrecked, railways destroyed and credit lost.

II. The Restoration of White Supremacy.

1. Intimidation of Negro by the whites.
 - (a) Ku Klux Klan and the White Camelia used to frighten Negro and to drive him from power.
2. Struggle for the ballot box. Negroes prevented from voting by threats and by the enactment of laws setting up qualifications for voting.
 - (a) Property qualifications.
 - (b) Educational qualifications.
 - (c) "Grandfather" clauses.

III. The Solid South.

1. The South from 1860 until 1920 voted almost solidly for the Democratic party because they blamed the Republican party for the Southern misrule and Negro domination following the Civil War.
2. In 1920, President Harding, the Republican candidate, succeeded in breaking the "Solid South" by carrying Tennessee and Kentucky as well as Oklahoma and Maryland.

IV. The Economic Advance of the South.

1. With the disappearance of chattel slavery came the inevitable break-up of the great plantations. Between 1870 and 1900, the number of farms doubled in every State south of the Potomac and Ohio rivers except in Arkansas and Louisiana. This process of breaking-up is still continuing.
2. In sharp contrast to the period before the Civil War, Southern crops are now diversified; formerly tobacco, rice, sugar and cotton, were the main crops; but today almost as many kinds of agricultural products are raised as in the North.
3. A third and, in many respects, most radical change of all has been the rapid advance of industry and commerce in the South. The South today instead of being merely an agricultural region has its mines, oil wells, steel mills, cotton factories and packing plants.

V. Social Effects of the Economic Changes.

1. The Old South with its plantation aristocracy has disappeared; in its place has come the small farmer.
2. Sons of white farmers now enter the profession and their daughters enter colleges in order that they may prepare to teach. Thus the younger generation instead of moving West in search of opportunity remain at home, thereby giving a new aspect to society.
3. The rise of small towns and villages has greatly diversified Southern life.
4. While the main emphasis and energy of the South prior to the Civil War were given to agriculture, they are now more and more being given to business. Today business men not planters rule the South.
5. Along with the introduction of industry there has arisen a number of insistent problems including women and child labor, working conditions, sanitation, etc.

VI. The Revolution in the Status of the Slave.

1. When the slave was emancipated he was empty handed; he owned no tools or property and he was master of no trade. He had no knowledge of wages, ownership, renting, contracts, leases, bills or accounts.
2. Four courses were open to him.
 - (a) He could run away to the nearest town or city or to the North and there seek a livelihood.
 - (b) Remain where he was in his cabin and work for daily wages instead of food, clothing and shelter as formerly.
 - (c) He could rent land from his former master, pay-

"Modern Civilization"

There is one dominant note in all discussion and thinking today. People are dissatisfied and restless. Practically all feel that something is wrong with the world and that things ought to be changed. Some advocate radical changes; others do not go very deeply. Some advocate immediate changes; others are content with gradual improvement. But one may seek far and wide to find persons so unthinking and dead to the world as to be satisfied with conditions as they are.

Modern civilization has perhaps reached its highest point and may be due for decay and perhaps death. But whatever changes do occur will not bring something entirely different from what exists today. The future will be better than the present, we hope, but it will retain a great deal of what we have today. To understand thoroughly the defects as well as the advantages of the present order of things, it is necessary to have a clear idea of the basic elements in its present structure.

Our Educational Department realized this problem and, in order to help our members solve it, has organized a new course or rather series of courses for the Workers' University. This new course will deal with the general subject of FOUNDATIONS OF MODERN CIVILIZATION. The object is to give a unified analysis of our present civilization, so that our members can understand its underlying principles and the dominant trends of our modern life.

This course will consist of several groups of discussions by some of the most eminent teachers in our city.

Dr. H. A. Overstreet, professor of philosophy in the College of the City of New York, will take up "Foundations of Modern Civilization." He will discuss the forces which are actually at work in developing our civilization, and will analyze the institutions which mould our ideas and ideals. Not only will he discuss the past and present but will also suggest the new outlooks in history, psychology, art and religion,—with the view of formulating a clear idea of the path

along which our civilization is marching.

Dr. H. J. Carman, professor of history in Columbia University, will take up "Present-Day Political and Social Institutions." He will show how the political institutions of today express the rise and growth of big business in America, the exploitation of the nation's resources, the agricultural and agrarian discontent, the economic imperialism in the United States, and the movement for industrial democracy and social control in the United States. An understanding of the way in which our political institutions attempt to work out these problems will enable our members to judge them with greater soundness.

David J. Saposnik will take up "The Position of Labor in Modern Civilization." He will discuss the part which organized labor plays in modern society and will take up the various aims and ideals of the labor movement, the methods in which these are realized and a number of the problems which American Labor will have to solve before it can accomplish its aims.

Dr. Lindsay Rogers, professor of politics in Columbia University, will take up "The Economic Basis of Government." In this course he will show how our Government responds to the demands of our great economic organizations and how it accomplishes one of its main functions,—that is, the protection of the rights of property.

Dr. Louis Levine, who has recently returned from Europe where he acted as correspondent for American publications, will take up "The Present Economic and Social Development in Europe." He will show how Europe is undergoing an economic and social revolution in the widest meaning of the term. A study will be made of the trends and tendencies of the new European civilization and the most significant recent developments, such as the rise of new agrarian relations, the internationalization of financial and economic control and

(Continued on page 11)

Our Educational Policy

(Report Submitted to the Conference of the Workers' Education Bureau)

It may be said that it would have been sufficient for the I. L. G. W. U. to conduct only such educational activities as deal with the life of the organization and as tend only to strengthen the organization, and to develop the loyalty of the members to its aims and ideals.

But the I. L. G. W. U. felt that as a pioneer it had a wider task before it,—that of making an educational experiment for the entire American labor movement. This was attempted with gratifying results. The curriculum was broadened, methods of teaching were developed, a technique of organization was evolved, and many eminent economists and educators were attracted to the movement for labor education.

It is not time yet to judge of the final success of this experiment. But if one can judge by the recent growth of the movement for labor schools among American trade unions, one must express considerable satisfaction with the outcome of the educational activities of the I. L. G. W. U.

ing him usually with a share of the produce of the land.

- (d) He could aspire to own the land.
3. Some have followed one course, some another.
4. The South though relatively poor has expended large sums for education of colored population, but the results have not always been satisfactory.
5. The Negro problem is one of the most insistent facing the United States today.

READING: *Board History of the United States*, Chapter XVI.

With the Waist and Dress Joint Board

By M. K. MACKOFF, Secretary
(Record of Meeting, June 13, 1923)

OUTSIDE COMMITTEES.

Comrade A. Philip Randolph, one of its editors, appeared before the Board on behalf of The Messenger magazine. Brother Randolph stated that for the last six years our organization, which has a considerable number of colored workers, contributed in all only about \$300 towards a publication which is trying to bring about a spirit of trade unionism among the colored workers. As the colored workers themselves do not realize the importance of supporting that magazine, it is up to our Joint Board and similar organizations to see to it that The Messenger is published periodically. He therefore urged the Joint Board to contribute \$250. Brother Randolph stated that the two men who are editing this magazine are not paid for their work but are obliged to provide for themselves through their educational work which they are doing.

The Joint Board was greatly impressed by the appeal of Comrade Randolph and upon motion it was decided to refer his request to the Board of Directors.

A committee consisting of Brothers Romano and Mannisell representing the Anti-Fascist Alliance of North

America appeared before the Board stating that the capitalist class all the world over are behind the Fascist movement. The president of the United States Steel Trust who recently returned from Italy gave out statements to the press glorifying the country praising the present Italian government which is being conducted by the Fascist. As the Fascist have the support of the capitalists, the Anti-Fascist Alliance which was organized for the purpose of combating Fascism must depend upon the co-operation of organized workers.

In view of the fact that our Joint Board recently adopted a resolution pledging itself to give its moral as well as its financial aid to its Alliance, the committee requested the privilege of sending out subscription lists and letters to the shop chairmen asking them to collect money for the Anti-Fascist Alliance. In addition, they asked the Joint Board to make a donation out of its own treasury.

The committee stated that they believe the Joint Board will realize their need for cooperation, and they announced that a mass meeting was arranged for June 22nd at the Webster Hall. They asked the delegates and

officers of the Joint Board to help make this meeting a success.

Upon motion it was decided to refer this request to the Board of Directors.

A committee of two representing the Jewish Workers' Relief Committee appeared before the Board appealing on behalf of the Jewish workers that are living in the thousands devastated by war. Tens of thousands of orphans had been left with no one to take care of them, and it is of great importance in order that they may be trained to provide for themselves later on and become useful members of their communities, that technical schools be opened up for them. However, in order that these schools may be able to function, it is necessary for them to be provided with tools and other apparatus. The country in which this need is greatest is Russia which is short of machinery of all kinds. The committee stated that it was up to the organized workers of America to provide machinery for these schools.

The committee also presented a booklet containing the names of states where such schools are being conducted and also sketches of machinery ranging in price from \$2.00 up, which is needed for these schools. The committee appealed to the Joint Board for credentials permitting them to solicit funds from our members in the shops, and expressed full confidence in the response of our members once they are informed of the urgent need for this machinery.

The Joint Board was moved by the

appeal made and upon motion it was decided to refer this request to the Board of Directors.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Brother Berlin was unanimously elected president for the ensuing term, and Sister Rose Wolkowitz was elected first vice-president, which includes the chairmanship of the Board of Directors. Brother John Zigitto was unanimously elected second vice-president of the Joint Board, this office including the chairmanship of the Finance Committee, and Brother J. Hochman was elected general manager of the Joint Board.

Brothers C. Jacobson, M. K. Mackoff, and L. Schoenholz were nominated for general secretary-treasurer, but, in view of the fact that some of the candidates nominated were not present, it was decided to postpone the election until the next meeting of the Joint Board. The secretary was instructed to send letters to the nominees informing them about their nomination.

APPOINTMENTS ON STANDING COMMITTEES

Brother Berlin made an announcement that, according to the Constitution of the Joint Board, every local affiliated must have a member representing it on the Grievance, Appeal, and Organization Committees, and on the Board of Directors. He therefore requested the delegations to name members to represent them on the abovesaid committees, and recommendations were submitted.

What the G. E. B. Accomplished

(Continued from page 7)

the consolidation is not at all necessary.

These were the main arguments of the opponents of consolidation. Those who defended the decision of the Board argued as follows:

1. While it is true that the situation in the cloak industry at this moment is replete with difficulties, the keeping apart from it of the dress trade, which is as a matter of fact, a section of the cloak industry at the present time will only multiply its problems. The jobber, for instance, who is becoming the principal factor in both industries, can only be properly controlled from one body. Under two joint boards, the supervision of the jobbing element in the trade can never be accomplished. According to the plan prepared by President Sigman covering the jobber problem, these jobbers will only be allowed to employ a certain number of contractors. They will not be able to give out work to whomever they please and as much as they please. This plan can only be carried out if all the jobbers are responsible to one body. If this responsibility, however, is divided, chaos and disorder will surely ensue and the jobber will find a way to divorce himself from responsibility to either body.

The affiliation of the dressmakers with the Cloak Joint Board will not multiply the problems in both industries, but simplify and lighten them. The present is the proper moment to make this revolution if it can be called a revolution. The fact remains that our last convention voted as a body for this course, branding the division of the dressmakers into two locals as ridiculous and impossible. The changed economic situation demands that the dressmakers join the Cloak Joint Board. It is not a question of political views or personal preference. As long as, by force of circumstances, cloakmakers shall be compelled to make dresses, and dressmakers must make cloaks, they have to belong to one joint board, and, much as the Dress Joint Board might not like the

idea of disbanding at present, it will have to comply with the pressing demands of the day. An institution will exist only insofar as it is called upon to fulfill a certain mission or task. After the general approval of the must make way for another institution to fulfill in a more effective and expedient way the duty previously vested in it.

2. The argument that there are some in the union who are opposed to such a consolidation was deemed by the General Executive Board as of little importance. In a union of tens of thousands of persons, there will always be a minority against any proposal or change whatever. Was week-work introduced into the cloak trade with the general approval of the members? No. A number of workers, strange as it may seem today, were strongly opposed to the week-work system, some for petty personal interests, others because they had been led to believe that under piece-work they would have more freedom than under the week-work system. The union, nevertheless, was not guided by the opinion of the minority, earnest and sincere as it might have been. The great majority wanted week-work and so week-work became the system that prevailed in the cloak shops. There may be a minority in the union who figure that the consolidation of Locals 22 and 23 is not advisable or timely. But the fact is that both locals desire this unification,—the Joint Board of Cloakmakers is ready to take in the united dressmakers, and the Dress Joint Board is equally ready to merge into the Joint Board of Cloakmakers. The fact remains that the Dress Joint Board did not come to the General Executive Board and ask to be left to exist. In view of all these facts, the argument that this or that member is opposed to consolidation cannot carry weight.

3. The argument that the workers in both industries are psychologically different is immense exaggeration. Once people have to work in the same industry and under conditions more or less similar, their working psy-

chology cannot be as strikingly different as we are asked to believe. Every one wants to earn a little more and to work under better conditions. Is not this a sufficiently compelling reason to bring the dressmakers and the cloakmakers under one control? Are not the members of the same union psychologically different from one another in many respects? Have we not in our unions Socialists, anarchists, communists and plain folks? Nevertheless, they perform the daily work in the union together without regard to these differences.

4. To the argument that the enlarged Joint Board will have to control too great a number of persons, the reply is that, together with this new army of workers, there will come into the Joint Board also a large number of people who have hitherto controlled the dress industry. It was also pointed out that this consolidation will, in its very nature make for greater economy, a very desirable thing under the present circumstances.

5. Concerning the argument that the dress industry and the cloak industry are still two distinct and separate trades, this assertion can only be determined one way or the other after a thorough investigation. Those who are familiar with the situation are convinced that they are practically one industry. But even if it is not quite so, the important fact is

the tendency in that direction. Everything points to the gradual and steady conversion of both industries into one. Every year more and more cloakmakers are being employed as dressmakers, and the decision of the General Executive Board to unite both locals under the control of the Joint Board is therefore not a hasty one by any means, but a very thoughtful and farsighted one. As a rule the General Executive Board never adopts decisions in a hurry, and had the General Executive Board come to the decision that it is proper for the dressmakers and dressmakers to remain apart, it would not have been influenced by the possibility of being labeled "reactionary" by some people. As a matter of fact in a certain case the General Executive Board had decided to divide this or that union into branches and its only motivation for that decision was economic necessity.

The debates on this question continued for hours, but while the committees from the various interested bodies were present and after they left. After a roll-call, the decision to unite both locals under the control of the Joint Board was adopted unanimously and the President of the International was instructed, together with the committee, to take steps to carry out the decision as soon as possible.

"Modern Civilization"

(Continued from Page 10)

the new position of labor, will be analyzed.

Finally, Alexander Fichandler will take up "The Economic Basis of Modern Civilization." This course will study the great natural resources of the important countries of the world and will show how these resources, together with the prevailing methods of production, determine not only the economic but also the political, social and spiritual life of the people.

It is evident that these courses will present to our members a splendidly coordinated unit. Any one taking them will undoubtedly gain a new

and clear point of view. He will be able to analyze the various elements which enter into our civilization, will be able to determine with clearer judgment to what extent these elements have outlived their usefulness, which new elements are growing up in their place, and whether our entire civilization is drifting.

We urge those of our members who are interested in this subject to read up on it, so that when our next educational season opens they will be ready to join the classes in the Workers' University and will profit by the instruction they will receive there.

The Week In Local 10

By JOSEPH FISCH

GENERAL

For very obvious reasons the cutters will be satisfied to learn of the decision of the General Executive Board reaffirming the stand taken by the Cleveland Convention of the International for the merging of the two dressmaking locals, 22 and 23.

The question of the merger occupied a great deal of the Board's time. While as a rule these meetings close within one week's time, the present session, because of this question, did not close until Tuesday. Sessions were even held in the evenings.

The decision did not end with a vote to combine the two locals; the members of the Board decided that the combination should be effected in as short a time as one or two weeks.

The reasons why the merger is urged and why President Sigman wanted it accomplished are very many. Local 23, which appeared before the General Executive Board to present its opinion in favor of the question, urged the amalgamation on the ground that conditions warranted control of the dressmakers' unions by the Cloak Joint Board. The General Executive Board felt that the character of the cloak and dress trade has undergone so radical a change within the past year or two that there seems to be little distinction between cloak and dress shops as regards the manufacturing of these garments.

There is hardly a cloak shop of any importance in size and number of workers which does not turn out dresses; likewise cloak jobs are turned to selling dresses. Nowadays cloak and dress operators, to make a living, must know both trades.

What is of greatest importance, as pointed out by those urging the combine of the two locals, is the matter of proper control of the ladies' garment industry. Because of the present character of the trade, and because the dress trade is gradually being controlled by cloak manufacturers, the unification of the local embracing members of the dress industry was imperative.

The original decision of the Cleveland Convention would have been accomplished long ago if it were not for the fact that the question gave rise to certain jurisdictional disputes. These affected the Italian cloak and dressmaking Locals 48 and 59, and cloak and dress pressers' Locals 35 and 60. These matters presented a graver problem.

The condition of Locals 22 and 23 was a weighty problem, because both of these locals controlled dressmakers and were affiliated with two separate joint boards. On the other hand the two Italian and pressers' locals made the problem still weightier in that these locals were of separate trades. Local 48 consists of Italian cloakmakers while Local 59 is composed of dressmakers of the same nationality. The same is true of the pressers' locals; 35 controls cloak pressers and 60 controls dress pressers.

However, the Board saw at once that what it faced was a job of considerable importance. The decision means that Locals 22 and 23 be merged into one local, that the pressers be transferred to Local 35, the cloakmakers' organization, and that these combined locals affiliate with the Cloak Joint Board.

The matter of the Italian locals was not touched. As to whether this question will be taken up for disposition is a matter of conjecture. It is possible that the next convention of the International may be faced with this problem.

Although the right of a cloak cutter to work on dresses and the dress

cutter to work on cloaks was never a question brought before a convention or before the General Executive Board, still for Local 10 it was a daily problem. It is stated here that this "was" a problem, but this problem too will now be a matter of the past. Local 10 must of necessity undergo a change in conformity with the order of the International.

The cutters' union was originally composed solely of cloak cutters. Later when the dress cutters joined it, the local proper was branched off. And each branch—dress, cloak and miscellaneous—issued its separate working cards and held independent membership meetings. Cutters were instructed to confine themselves to their particular trades. One exception, however, was made, which was that such cloak cutters as joined Local 10 prior to the joining of the dress cutters were permitted to work on dresses. This ruling applied to cloak men who joined the cutters' union on and before the year 1913. All other cloak, dress and miscellaneous cutters who desired to work on dresses or cloaks were compelled to seek permission of the executive board and were subjected to an examination before working privileges were granted them.

As soon as the International carries into effect the decision made by the General Executive Board and official notification will have been received by the various locals, Local 10 will have to readjust itself to meet the change.

This change will do away with separate working cards in the cloak and dress trades. Meetings will be held jointly by these two trades. There will no longer be any difference between the dress and cloak cutters' books. Cutters of either trades may work in any one of them, if they feel competent to do so.

Of course the miscellaneous branch will continue as a branch. The three trades comprising this division differ very greatly from the cloak and dress trades. It is very seldom when a cutter of underwear is a competent dress or cloak cutter.

CLOAK AND SUIT

Manager Dubinsky is at the present time confronted with a very serious difficulty. A number of violations came to his attention recently. These were of cutters who were found working Saturday afternoons, who worked below the scale, and who worked illegal hours of over-time.

Another problem, one that the office is usually faced with in the slack season, is the hiring of men at the minimum scale of wages. While employers have that right technically, nevertheless this is an advantage that employers permit themselves in the slack season and hope in that way to reduce the wages of the men who succeeded in securing a few dollars above the minimum.

The season, as the cutters unfortunately experience it, is a very short one, and unless a man holds out in the plentiful time of the year for an extra dollar or two, he will find his plight a very sad one in the slack season.

For all these reasons, as Dubinsky reported at the last meeting of the Executive Board, orders have been issued that no cutter shall receive a working-card for the shops in question unless the cutter is sent from the office. This order of the manager was concurred in.

Through the sending of cutters by the office, the manager will send proper members to the shops in which such violations as mentioned here oc-

cur. Thus measures are taken for the upkeep of union standards.

As regards the minimum scale, Dubinsky pointed out to the Executive Board that some employers purposely were trying to rid themselves of cutters in the slack season and hire new men paying them the scale. This is purely an attempt to reduce wages.

Difficulty is experienced in sending men to work directly from the office. Cutters who pick up jobs on the "corners" feel aggrieved when a working-card is denied them because the firm did not hire them through the office. While their grievance may be just, still the office is confronted with a far more serious grievance, the protection of the members against unfair employers. And eventually the very men who feel they are being discriminated against will find this policy beneficial.

All reforms and changes inconvenience someone in the beginning. But once these are effected and persons get used to them, they benefit every one without exception. The members, by being sent to jobs directly by the office, need not fear that employers will force them to reduce their standards of work. When the manager speaks of members being forced to work below union conditions he has in mind a number of bosses who have resorted to force.

WAIST AND DRESS

The same policy mentioned above is being instituted in this branch too by Manager Dubinsky. Additional precautions are taken in the branch against employers who seek to lower standards. In addition to the regular business agents which follow up shops and adjust complaints, Dubinsky has the controllers visit shops very often.

During the past week a number of strikes and stoppages were caused as a direct result of the investigations by the special investigators of Local 10. Where employers were found cutting, controllers saw to it that the regular business agents levy fines.

In this way a double check is maintained on the shops. There is hardly a complaint of the cutters, particularly in the independent shops, that is not first investigated by the controller. And when the necessary facts and proofs are gathered there is no other alternative for the employer but to pay the penalty or find his shop tied up.

The dress and waist trade continues very slow. For a time it seemed as though the rush would begin. Calls for cutters came in, but these have stopped. And now it is a matter of another week or two, or until after the 4th of July, when the season will start.

MISCELLANEOUS

The meeting of this branch, which was held last Monday night, was very well attended, in spite of the heat.

Due to his absence at the meeting of the General Executive Board, Manager Dubinsky requested Brother Shenker to render the monthly report.

The report was brief and dealt with the difficulties which the office is experiencing with the association in the underwear trade as regards the enforcement of certain clauses. These dealt, as was reported here previously, with the union's right to have its representatives investigate the factories of the employers and the ratio of learners to mechanics in the shops of members of the association.

This matter will not be gone into now, as the matter is to be taken up first before either a joint grievance board or an impartial chairman. The manager is making the necessary preparations.



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CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10

Notice of Regular Meetings

GENERAL	Monday, June 25th
CLOAK AND SUIT	Monday, July 2nd
WAIST AND DRESS	Monday, July 9th
MISCELLANEOUS	Monday, July 16th

Meetings Begin at 7:30 P. M.

AT ARLINGTON HALL, 23 St. Marks Place