

"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. 27.

New York, Friday, June 29, 1923.

Cents

## CLOAK STRIKE IN BALTIMORE

Strike Led by Vice-President Halperin and Staff—Feinberg and Giovannitti Address Workers on Eve of Strike—Firm Obtains Temporary Injunction

The Baltimore women's wear market is included in the territory which is under the supervision of the International Eastern Organization Department managed by Vice-president Jacob Halperin. For the last six months this department has conducted a lively organization campaign in Baltimore to put the cloak and skirt trade of that city on a full union basis, and, if possible, to establish collective relations between the union and the manufacturers' association. In the course of this campaign a number of mass meetings have been held in Baltimore which were addressed by our speakers from New York and Philadelphia, and a favorable public sentiment was aroused. President Sigman visited Baltimore two weeks ago and reported his findings to the General Executive Board.

Efforts to get in touch with the local employers' association, and to reach a peaceful arrangement, have failed, and an open fight became inevitable. The strikers went out on Thursday morning at 10 o'clock and every cloak shop in Baltimore prac-

tically without exception came to a standstill. On Tuesday evening, June 26th, a big mass meeting of local cloakmakers was held at the Labor Lyceum, Lexington and Aquilth Streets, which was addressed by Vice-presidents Feinberg, Halperin and General Organizer Arturo Giovannitti, who arrived from New York especially for the meeting.

The headquarters of the strike com-

mittee are at the Hotel Emerson. As we go to press, we received a telegram from Brother Halperin to the effect that one cloak shop, the N. H. W. Company, has already secured a temporary injunction against the union. The message adds that the strike committee has retained counsel to fight the case in court and that the Baltimore Federation of Labor will aid the union in this fight.

## Fourth of July a Legal Holiday in Ladies' Garment Industry

Next Wednesday, Fourth of July, Independence Day, is a legal holiday for all the workers in the women's wear industry in Greater New York. No cloakmakers, waistmakers, and dressmakers in any line or trade are permitted to work on that day.

Brother Louis Lange, secretary of the Joint Board of Cloakmakers' Union, has announced that the union will keep a vigilant watch over the

entire cloak district and any cloakmakers, men or women, found at work will be brought before the Grievance Board and severely fined. A similar announcement was made by Brother M. K. Mackoff, the secretary of the Dress and Waist Joint Board.

Let the workers in our industry take care that the legal holidays which they have wrested by united effort from their employers shall not be violated.

## Boston Joint Board Ready for New Agreement

Secretary Baroff in Boston to Attend Conference—Also Visits Worcester and Addresses Strikers

On July 1, the agreement between the cloakmakers' union of Boston and the cloak manufacturers' association and with individual cloak employers expires. The union has already taken steps to renew the agreement and Secretary Baroff left last Tuesday for Boston to aid in the negotiations.

While in Boston, Secretary Baroff will meet with the Joint Board and with the executive boards of all the locals. He will also attend a membership meeting where every phase of the work in the cloak trade will be

discussed and a definite program adopted for the coming conference with the employers. Secretary Baroff will be aided in this work by Vice-president Monosson.

Wednesday and Thursday of this week Secretary Baroff spent in Worcester with the dress strikers of that city.

He addressed the strikers on Wednesday evening and his speech infused a new spirit among the men and wo-

men workers in our industry in Worcester. The fight in Worcester is likely to prove a prolonged contest as the officers of the local employers' association in our trade are of the hard-boiled variety, and will probably do everything in their power to protract the strike.

There seems to be little doubt, however, that the workers, with the aid of the International, will be able to hold out as long as the employers can afford, and will eventually win the strike.

## International Demands Freedom for Mooney and Billings

The General Executive Board, at its last meeting, decided to forward a telegram to Governor Richardson of California urging upon him to grant executive clemency to Mooney and Billings, the two martyred labor leaders who have been languishing in St. Quentin for seven years. The telegram reads as follows:

To the Honorable F. W. Richardson, Governor of California, Sacramento, Cal.  
The General Executive Board of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, representing the 150,000 men and women employed in the ladies' garment industry in the United States, in meeting assembled, herewith beg leave to respectfully convey to you the following request:

WHEREAS, Thomas Mooney and Warren Billings have been incarcerated for the past seven years in the State prison of California on charges of murder, and

WHEREAS, the charges upon which they were sent to prison

have since been proved to be based on perjured evidence, class malice and bitter personal persecution, and WHEREAS, it is our sincere conviction that these men were never given a fair trial and were judged in an atmosphere of prejudice and bias, stirred up by an inimical press and bolstered up by inveterate enemies of labor on the Pacific Coast, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that we request the Governor of California to exercise his prerogative in this case to liberate Mooney and Billings and to return freedom to these men, and stain of miscarriage of justice from thus aid in blotting out this horrible fair name of California.

## Sigman for Executive Council of Clothing Workers Federation

The International Clothing Workers Federation, with which our International is affiliated, will hold its annual meeting this year on or about August 15th at Stuttgart, Germany.

Due to a number of reasons, our organization will this year be unable to participate by direct representation at this congress. The International, nevertheless, retains its affiliation with the Federation, and the General Executive Board, at its last meeting, decided to forward a cable message to T. Van Der Herg, secretary of the Clothing Workers Federation at Amsterdam, Holland, containing a message of congratulation to the dele-

gates assembled and also a recommendation that President Sigman represent our International Union on the Executive Council of the Clothing Workers Federation.

The holding of the Congress in Stuttgart, Germany, was decided upon after it was found that most of the European delegates would not be able to attend such a convention at Switzerland, where it was originally slated to be held, as the Swiss rate of exchange is too high for the other impoverished European countries.

We shall give in these pages the full report of this congress as soon as we are in possession of the facts and data concerning it.

both locals, which have for more than two years been working jointly under one management, will now be officially considered as one body.

Brother H. Greenberg remains as manager of the combined local, and Beatrice Gulker continues as its secretary.

## Locals 41 and 50 United

Local 41, heretofore known as the Housecleaners, Bath Robe, and Kimono Makers' Union, and Local 50, the Children's Dressmakers' Union, have recently been united into one local

heretofore to be known as Local 91, the combined numbers of both former locals.

The general office granted this new local a charter some days ago and

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Committee appointed at the General Executive Board has already begun to work.

The committee which was appointed to investigate the charges made by several members of Local 22 against some of the members of the executive board of that local, already had a session last Monday in the Council Room of our International Building. This committee consists of Vice-presidents Feinberg, Heller and Reiberg, with Feinberg acting as chairman.

The second important committee which is beginning on the job is the one appointed to carry out the amalgamation of the two dressmakers' locals in New York and of the two pressers' locals—Locals 22 and 29, and Locals 35 and 60. This committee consists of Vice-presidents Lefkowitz, chairman; H. Wander, secretary; S. Nifno, I. Feinberg and D. Dubinsky.

The consolidation of these locals is expected to benefit greatly the union as a whole and these locals in particular. Nevertheless, the committee is mindful of the fact that there still exists a great deal of "parochialism" in each of these organizations and that here and there dissatisfaction with the consolidation plan might be discovered. The decision of the G. E. H. will, nevertheless, be carried out in full.

The third committee was elected by the G. E. B. to supervise the election of business agents in the Philadelphia cloak trade. This committee was appointed at the request of Local 71, the cloak pressers of Philadelphia, the reason given being that only the prestige of the members of the Board will ensure impartiality and a fair deal all around in the election. The members of the committee are Vice-presidents Dubinsky, Heller, with Nifno, chairman.

# Topics of the Week

By MAX D. DANISH

## AMNESTY WITH A STRING

**A**FTER years of intense agitation and pleading, the countrywide movement for amnesty for political prisoners has finally wrung from the die-hard Republican Administration another handful of tortured human souls. Before his departure for frigid Alaska, President Harding commuted conditionally the sentences of 27 of the 51 political prisoners serving terms in Federal penitentiaries for alleged conspiracies to interfere with the conduct of the past world carriage.

This half-hearted, begrudging commutation of sentences releases the prisoners upon the condition that they be "law-abiding, loyal to the Government, and do not encourage lawlessness in any form," thus leaving a back-handed imputation that these victims of political hysteria of the war period were lawless criminals and were justly sentenced to long terms of imprisonment.

When considered that the appeal for freeing these prisoners was urged right along upon the Administration, by the best and most enlightened minds in the country insisting on the strength of the fact that these men were unjustly and wrongly committed and that they violated no law, the cant and hypocrisy oozing out of every word of this act of executive "clemency" becomes the more evident. The redeeming feature about it is that these political prisoners did not at any stage of the amnesty drive ask for clemency in a penitent, suppliant spirit. Whatever was wrested from Harding and his associates was achieved by the sheer force of an outraged public opinion.

The conditional release of the 27 political prisoners will not halt the campaign of the amnesty crusaders to obtain freedom for all the political prisoners. It will not halt the movement to wipe off the statute books of the many States the brutal, so-called anti-syndicalist and freedom-curling laws which have made a mockery of constitutional rights in most of the States and particularly in the Far West.

## THE BATTLE OF AMHERST

**W**E doubt whether many of our readers have until recently heard of the little town of Amherst and its college. Probably not.

The story of the battle of Amherst is worthwhile telling, however, as it brings out in striking relief the never-ceasing conflict between the force in America that looks towards the sun and that which would halt the onward surge of the waves, slow enough as it is.

About ten years ago a young educator by the name of Alexander Meiklejohn was selected as president for the small college in the town of Amherst. Professor Meiklejohn immediately set about to the task of liberalizing education at Amherst, particularly in the branches of social science and philosophy. In the course of a decade, he converted Amherst College into the foremost liberal secondary school in the country. The trustees and the older alumni, among whom there are a number of financial and industrial pillars, were raging quietly and gathering fury to unhorse Meiklejohn. The storm finally broke and the trustees of the college succeeded in forcing him out last week.

Together with Meiklejohn, there went as a protest six members of the faculty. Moreover, thirteen graduates of the college refused to accept their diplomas as a protest against the high-handed action of the hidebound trustees. Many more would have joined in this protest had they not been discouraged from so doing by President Meiklejohn himself.

On the whole, it seems to us that the honors in this dramatic fight were about even. Of course, liberalism has received a blow at Amherst. Yet, the very fact that the firing of Meiklejohn was accompanied by the resignation of a large group of the faculty and by the unanimous protest of the graduating classes is evidence of a spirit that is truly precious. The money-bags as yet rule our colleges, true enough, but the solid phalanx of young men who have lined up behind President Meiklejohn and have given him their hearty support indicates that the seeds of educational and spiritual freedom sown by President Meiklejohn and his associates have not fallen on sterile ground.

## THE SEIZURE OF BRITISH LIQUOR

**B**OOZE continues to rule supreme on the front pages of the American press.

Last week supplied the most dramatic incident thus far in the conflict between the Wet and Dry forces in America, an incident strongly tinged with international complications. The New York customs officials, acting upon instructions from Washington, have broken the customs seals of the British liquor stores aboard their ships lying in New York harbors and confiscated these supplies.

The British press is angry, though it is trying its best to keep its temper. The British Cabinet, so run the cable reports, is trying to smoothen out the controversy through diplomatic channels. The fact remains, nevertheless, annoyingly bald, that British ships have been invaded by American officials and British goods have been confiscated. We can just imagine what a hysterical storm an act like that upon American ships in British ports would have created in this country.

The event, nevertheless, is not without its humor. That indefatigable juggler, Lloyd George, at present in enforced retirement, has crawled out in the sunlight to say a few soothing, saccharine things about this seizure of the liquor stores: "Give it a fair trial. Do not let us interfere with them. They are a people of more than 160,000,000 highly educated and progressive souls. It is in the interest of civilization that they be allowed full time to test this law which was passed by a greater majority than any other great law in any country."

Which is exactly what it is not. If the "little Welshman" did not have his eyes screwed westward for political, personal and what-not reasons, he should have known that America was made dry not by a "greater majority," but during a period that laws were rushed through wholesale to destroy every liberty, political, personal and social, that we have enjoyed for generations.

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ostensibly in order to facilitate the waging of a "war for democracy." Drink may be a great curse and an abomination, but the suppression of drink in America has not been achieved as the result of majority consent, was never tested by public referendum, and is a child purely of the ugly, repressive hysteria of the war years.

## A DOLLAR-BASIS WAGE

**W**HILE the German financiers and industrialists are playing the pro-ster game in continuing to depreciate the mark and thus destroy French hopes of reparations by destroying the German currency, the working classes of the Fatherland are groaning under the rapidly diminishing power of the mark. The German labor world today is occupied almost solely with the feverish effort to adjust wages to this catastrophic drop of currency. German workers are faced with the maddening reality of having to demand a change of wages almost daily as each closing day wipes out the real value of wages and leaves their bread and butter hanging in this air, depending upon the market quotations of the next day.

This struggle for "real wages" took a grotesque turn last week. At a special meeting of the shop councils of Greater Berlin, a resolution was taken to establish the wage on the dollar basis. They demanded a minimum wage of \$5.00 weekly and an additional \$5.00 per week to be paid by the employers to the state as taxes. The leaders of the regular labor unions opposed this dollar wage basis. They have come out in favor of a so-called "index wage"—a sliding wage scale on the basis of the changing value of the mark and of living costs.

The crisis in the Ruhr meanwhile continues unabated. To other woes last week the agony of increased food shortage was added. The reserves of the food supplies held by the various industrial cooperative organizations in the Ruhr Valley are rapidly being exhausted. The district is receiving less than half of its normal food supplies as the rail tie-up spreads and the transportation system is taxed heavily by French troop movements.

Germany is in a bad way, and is passing through its worst days since the armistice. There is hunger in the occupied territory along the Rhine, and famine is raising its head in every industrial city north, south and east, while the labor organizations of the country are groping in the labyrinth of almost completely wiped-out wage values.

## MORE AIRPLANES FOR RUSSIA

**T**HIS week is "Aviation Week" in Russia. It was ushered in a few days ago by Commissar-for-War Trotsky at the All-Russian Congress of Metal Workers, in which the need of "more metal, more iron in Russia's blood" was sounded. Trotsky's speech demanded that Russia respond to each ultimatum and provocation on the part of England with a new squad of airplanes and expressed the hope that the day will come "when we shall see a great fleet overhead built as the result of the attacks of our enemies."

"Aviation Week" in Communist Russia may sound odd enough to an American reader. It is truly real, nevertheless. Soviet Russia today is, next to France, the strongest military country in the world. Russia needs a great fleet of airplanes to defend her huge frontiers, and her realistic rulers are campaigning today for airplanes with real, fire and all the limitless resources of publicity at their command.

Yet, "Aviation Week" in Soviet Russia is not without its touch of galling irony. After five years of "working-class" rule, Russia pacified internally, is devoting her best efforts towards the further strengthening of her military machine, leaving all constructive work far behind. With Communism all but abandoned, the Soviet government is utilizing its present "breathing spell" for the preparation of defensive and offensive machinery of warfare. It may be ugly, disheartening and bitter, but it is stark reality which must be reckoned with.

## FROM OUR JOINT BOARDS AND LOCALS

## Boston News

By A LOCAL OBSERVER

## WAIST AND DRESS

The joint meeting of all the branches of Local 89, which was held Tuesday evening, June 19th, was a tremendous success, in this spite of the sweltering heat which holds Boston in its grip. The meeting was called for the special occasion at Paine Memorial Hall instead of at the headquarters of the Union. At this meeting the manager rendered a report on the activities and accomplishments of the Union since the general strike. It was a brief review for the four months. He pointed out the fact that, contrary to previous experiences, the dressmakers' union in Boston has gained in strength daily, so that the organization finds itself today in a better position than last February. The Union has gained the confidence of the members and everyone is only too glad to help in the work of the organization. It was pointed out at this meeting that Boston is at present the most thoroughly unionized dress center in the United States, there hardly being any non-union dress shops here. A report was also given on the dress strike situation in Worcester and the wonderful fight conducted there by the girls and men. The members present were appealed to be on their watch in their respective shops for Worcester orders, which some of the manufacturers, against whom strikes are being waged, are trying to place in some of the Boston shops. The members were requested to report to the office any suspicious work that may be given to them. The next meeting of the union will be held on Monday evening, July 2nd, after work, at the office of the union, 919 Washington Street.

## CLOAKS AND SUITS

It is rather busy among the cloakmakers here in Boston, not that the trade is busy, for there is hardly any work in the cloak and suit shops. It is busy, however, in the world of

politics, this being the time of the year when the elections for the Joint Board and Executive Board for the different locals takes place. The interest displayed by the members was very great. All the energy that would have been used up ordinarily in the election campaign for paid officials, was spent in the election of the various unpaid officers, for, in the case of the former, there were no opponents. The result of these elections was very satisfactory to the bulk of the members, as was evidenced by the number of votes cast for the victorious candidates. The following are the newly elected officers:

## Pressers' Local No. 12

Max Feinberg, Chairman; H. Feigelman, Vice-chairman; A. Abramowitz, Secretary-Treasurer; Sam Spitzer, Recording Secretary.

## Executive Board Members:

Joe Weiner, Chairman; S. Spitzer, S. Groveman, A. Schwartz, Joe Widrow, N. Levine, H. Newman, S. Buchholz, E. McNamee and A. Bornstein.

## Joint Board Delegates:

Joe Weiner, Sam Spitzer, Sam Buchholz, M. Feinberg and H. Newman.

## Local No. 56

Elias Finkelstein, Chairman; Morris Shapiro, Vice-chairman; David Godes, Secretary-Treasurer; Isidore Weiner, Recording Secretary.

## Executive Board Members:

Morris Shapiro, Chairman; Joe Morabito, Morris Goldberg, Morris Goldstein, Louis Rubin, A. Weinstein, Abraham Dressner, Isidore Demarsky, Esther Lisrone.

## Joint Board Delegates:

Elias Finkelstein, Joe Morabito, Morris Shapiro, Louis Yaffe, M. Demarsky, David Godes, Abraham Kushner, Abram Dressner, Esther Kipnes.

The result of the elections in Locals 24 and 73 will be given in the next issue of JUSTICE.

## Local 89 Opens Staten Island Camp

The third summer season of the Italian dress and waistmakers' colony at the Villa Anita Garibaldi, Great City, Staten Island, opened up Saturday with a dinner and entertainment to the vacationers and to invited guests of the union, and with singing, dancing and a general good time that began early in the afternoon and lasted well into the evening.

Local 89 is the Italian Waist Makers' Union, and Antonini, big, jolly, good-natured and eloquent, is secretary. Most of the Italian waist makers are human—they like good times. And like the rest of the labor movement, they aren't crazy to be overcharged at commercial summer resorts. And Unity House at Forest Park belongs to them, of course, but the railroad fare is a little steep for those who have families and who must be near the city.

So three years ago they got a place at Staten Island on Southfield Boulevard, near Midland Beach. It used to be a boarding house and it was made over into a neat, clean, attractive home for about 60 men and women.

Not so far away, at Stapleton, brave old Garibaldi lived with his wife, Anita, and made candies. Anita Garibaldi is already a legendary heroine among Italian revolutionaries, and so they gave her name to their summer home.

The house is on the cement boulevard and back of it, near enough to give it a fine view and cooling breezes, are the pretty Dongan hills. A few minutes' walk east is Midland Beach.

And part of the house equipment is an automobile to take the guests to the beach and back for their bathing. On the side is a bit of ground made into an excellent basketball court, and in the rear a large and airy building used for dancing. Yesterday it was temporarily converted into a dining room.

And to make everybody feel happy, there is one of the best Italian cooks in the city, and if Saturday's meal is a criterion, the guests are in soft.

That's the physical equipment. Anita's wife sits in his office with books and papers in front of him, trying to look like an impersonal hotel clerk—but that good-natured fellow couldn't look stern if he tried.

Oh yes. We mustn't forget the guests who sat at the guest table. There were among others, W. K. Mackoff, Harry Berlin, Julius Hochman and a number of others from the Joint Board of the Waist and Dress Makers' Union and delegations from the executive board of the International and Local 48 (the Italian cloak makers) and Locals 22, 25, 60 and 66.

President Sigman was in Chicago and couldn't attend, but he sent his regrets, while Vice-president Ninio, who is head of Local 48, sent a cordial message, but said that illness at home made it impossible for him to attend.

All the guests made speeches, but the real speeches were the happiness of the members of the Waist Makers' Union and their anticipation of a two or four weeks' vacation at their own home.

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## Union Health Center News.

In a recent study which the Union Health Center made of the Tuberculosis patients that came to the Health Center during the last year many interesting facts were discovered. The entire report of this study will be printed in a later issue of JUSTICE.

It is interesting to note that there were 62 tuberculosis patients in the last year. Of these 62, fifteen were operators, fifteen were cloakmakers, thirteen were pressers and the others were divided among various other locals and trades.

The youngest patient suffering with tuberculosis was 22 years of age, the oldest being 56 and of this number five died within the year, each of these being advanced cases at the time they came to the Health Center for treatment.

These facts are merely an indication of the conditions which we have found in making a thorough and detailed study of the 62 tuberculous cases.

The special treatment that has been tried with asthma patients at the Union Health Center has been highly praised by the patients who have received great relief. Although the medication is still in the experimental stage, nevertheless many of the asthma patients who have come to the

Union Health Center have found great relief in its use.

The special Women's Clinic is now being held in conjunction with the regular Gynecological Clinic, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. All women members of the I. L. G. W. U. are urged to take advantage of this clinic which is in charge of a competent woman physician.

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The Special Women's Clinic is now being held in conjunction with the regular Gynecological Clinic, on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. All women members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union are urged to take advantage of this clinic, which is in charge of an extremely competent woman physician.

## A New Cooperative Residence Club

Large numbers of women employed in the professions, in business and in industry come into contact with the perplexing problem of securing satisfactory rented living quarters. A cooperative association of young women is now organizing to work out plans to meet this phase of the housing problem.

The general plan of organization is based upon Rochdale principles of cooperation. The capital is to be raised from the sale of shares in the association. The current rate of interest will be paid upon share capital. Each member will have but one vote. Net savings will be returned to resident members in proportion to the amount of their patronage. Membership is dependent upon ownership of at least one share of stock at \$5 and the payment of an initiation fee

of \$1, the latter to be used for organization expenses.

Plans are now under way to lease or purchase a unit of houses in a central location—in the Gramercy district, if possible.

The policy and management will be under the direct control of officers and a board of directors elected from the members of the association. The actual management of the club will be carried on by an employed personnel of a manager and assisting staff.

Organization meetings are being held each Tuesday evening at seven o'clock at 167 West 12th Street. Those who may be interested are cordially invited to attend. Further information may be secured from Helen Alfred, 27 Barrow Street, New York City.

## JUSTICE

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## Inquisition At Amherst

By A. ZELDIN

The little town of Amherst, in Massachusetts, recently has become a point of general interest in America, and perhaps abroad. Amherst did not win this huge publicity because it is staging a heavyweight championship fight battle—this honor has gone to the heretofore unknown township of Shelby in the hills of Montana. But Amherst has had another fight, true not nationally so important as the Dempsey-Gibbons go, but nevertheless an encounter of great attraction. To use the phrase of the liberal-minded, the conflict at Amherst is between the dark forces of reaction and the free spirit of mankind.

The storm center of the Amherst fight is, as you know already from the newspapers, the firing of President McKeljohn of Amherst College by his trustees. The readers of this journal may take little interest in professors or college instructors and consider a fight only worthwhile when it involves a contest between workers and employers or labor representatives against a capitalist government in a legislature. But this would be a grave mistake—particularly in this case. The Amherst incident involves a progressive person who dared to defy the moneybags by teaching his students to think honestly and independently. That, of course, was enough to start a lynching party against him.

The right to think freely and independently is one of our fundamental liberties without which progress is absolutely impossible; it is the divine fire of inquiry that leads us on toward achievement and forges the weapon that crushes the barriers of super-

stition and ignorance which obstruct our way. If today we have a relatively better social arrangement it is because we have better and more human rights as against property rights. The battle of ideas is the forerunner of the battle of class interests. If the seekers after truth and the daring thinkers had not prepared the ground, the present struggle of the disinherited classes against their oppressors would be quite impossible.

With this in mind only can we appreciate the significance of the fight against Dr. McKeljohn. The ex-president of Amherst College is not a revolutionist in a political sense. No one charges him with scheming to overthrow the American Government. It is quite probable that he is a very loyal citizen; nevertheless, he is a revolutionist because he thinks independently and has taught others to think likewise.

And under present circumstances this is a crime in America. Not only has the ruling class in America not conceded the right to organize to the American workers, it has not yet conceded the right of freedom of thought to the American citizen. We dare say that the conflict of ideas is today even more intensive in America than in the struggle in the realm of economics. This fight goes on not only in the colleges and in the press but in the churches and temples as well. Mr. William Jennings Bryan is a convincing case in point. Bryan, many times defeated candidate for the presidency, has in recent years opened fire against the Darwin theory of evolution and goes as far as demanding that the teaching of evolution be forbidden in schools and col-

leges. He is a firm believer in the Bible and is convinced that man was literally created on the eve of Sabbath. Moreover, he would force his views upon every one of his 100 million fellow-citizens just as he aided in "putting over" prohibition. His spiritual horizon is not wider than that of Voliva, the founder of the "Vion City" sect, who to this day believes that the earth is the center of the universe and that the sun and the moon revolve around it.

Within the American churches there also rages today a fierce fight concerning the divine origin of Christ, and the weight of the controversy centers principally about the right to inquire and honestly to doubt. It is a struggle to liberate the human mind from the chains of dogmatism and to leave the door wide for inquiry of all sort—political, social, economic as well as religious. To be sure it is this fundamental issue that is involved in the fight in the American colleges, though somewhat modified in form. On the one hand there is the organized power of the entrenched interests who would retain the status quo—and on the other there are the McKeljohns, the Beards, the Cattells. Heretofore the fight was entirely one-sided. American capital, through its control of the higher educational institutions, could eliminate and suppress all the "ekys" and "obscures" of undesirable academic inquiry without difficulty. But the struggle for academic freedom was not without some results. It has put the problem of higher education squarely before the American public. The great masses of the public are coming fast to realize that Wall Street controls, besides the press, also the universities and colleges and they have started a movement to liberate these institutions from the yoke of Big Business.

The fight in the American universi-

ties is aimed principally at modern tendencies in social science and economics. Many universities, among these the largest and the richest, are being maintained by private endowments and contributions. They are governed by trustees who are mostly bankers and corporation lawyers in control of American industry. They learned from experience that it is impossible to fight ideas. These trustees are now launching a crusade against the bearers of these ideas and are persistently and methodically eliminating any and all members of the teaching staffs who show an inclination for independent thinking. A few years ago two of the best known professors at Columbia University were fired in this way—Beard and Cattell, and now comes Dr. McKeljohn's turn. Officially the charge against him is that he is an inefficient administrator. Of course the true cause lies somewhere else. He taught his students not to depend on the old moss-eaten formulas and texts, but to seek for themselves the answer to problems that troubled them.

He even went farther. He objected to military training in the college—which borders on disloyalty and lack of patriotism. This happened several years ago during the war period, but American Capital has a good memory. Dr. McKeljohn was on the list and his term had to come sooner or later. The trustees of course maintain that the president's theories on education were not an issue in the matter at all. On the other hand, they say that they are in accord with his liberal methods, but they are opposed to him as an administrator. But such is the way of inquisitors. When the Holy Inquisition burned Giordano Bruno about 300 years ago in Italy, it was not because he preached that the sun does not revolve around the earth, but for the weighty reason that he was "disloyal" to the Church.

## New Remedies for Unemployment

The time to talk about remedying unemployment is when everyone is busy and prosperous.

The Chicago clothing workers have just inaugurated a new type of unemployment insurance by collective agreement with their employers. The women's garment workers in Cleveland have had such a plan in operation for a couple of years. There is a proposal for state legislation on the subject which has made progress in Wisconsin.

Unemployment insurance is a term which is going to be heard increasingly in this country. It has a larger meaning and a larger possibility than appears in the words themselves.

A basic weakness of the wage-earner's economic position is his lack of reserve funds in time of slack work. Wage-earners often complain that, although they are paid off, salaries continue to be paid to executives and dividends are sent on to property holders. The wage-earner has to bear the brunt of industrial depression.

The reason other interests are insured against depression is that during prosperous periods the employers lay aside a large part of their profits and build up surplus reserve funds upon which they can draw when business falls off. The wage-earners have no such surplus. Attempts to build one up by the usual union "out-of-work benefits" help, but do not go far enough to remedy any serious condition.

It is a striking fact that in the severe depression years of 1921 and 1922 the total of dividends and interest paid by large corporations hardly fell off at all from the boom year of 1920. They paid these sums

from huge profits accumulated in previous years.

Unemployment insurance is an attempt to build up a similar reserve fund in prosperous periods for the use of wage-earners when business falls off.

The Chicago clothing plan merely represents a beginning, but it is a promising one. It was adopted at the same time as a wage increase, so that part of the increase goes into the fund instead of into the individual pocketbook. The employers contribute to the fund 1½ per cent of their total payroll every week. Each wage-earner also contributes 1½ per cent of his weekly earnings. Thus, 3 per cent of the amount paid in wages goes into the fund. The fund will be allowed to grow, and no payment will be made out of it, until Jan. 1, 1924. After that, any union member who is unemployed on account of slack work will receive 40 per cent of his full-time earnings, up to \$20.00 a week. This payment will begin in the second week of unemployment. Each worker may draw benefits up to five weeks a year, if he is unemployed for that time.

The fund will be in charge of Trustees, consisting of representatives appointed by both sides, and neutral members appointed by these. Its actual administration will be entrusted to the employment office of the union.

This plan was devised by the union itself, was one of the demands made on the employers, and was secured by collective bargaining. It is part of the agreement and must be renewed when the agreement expires. If for any reason it is not renewed, the remainder of the fund will be expended

according to the original plan. It is thus not a patent piece of "welfare work" handed down from above, but a new development of union activity. The Cleveland plan differs from the Chicago plan in a number of respects. The most important of these is that the fund does not go on from year to year, but any remainder goes back into the employers' bank accounts at the end of each year. Thus it is aimed at seasonal slack work but not so much at periods of bad business. It is contributed entirely by the employers, and each employer is made responsible for his own employees to the extent of 41 weeks' employment a year. The chief object of the plan is to give the individual employees a financial incentive for regularizing

their production, and thus to do away, as far as possible, with the necessity of paying the benefits.

Such experiments are among the most important now being made in the industrial world. The more widespread becomes the adoption of such plans, the better is their chance of success. If they ever become general enough so that the burden of unemployment is largely shifted from the back of labor to the back of owners and managers, we shall have gone a long way towards avoiding industrial depression altogether, because those responsible for the conduct of industry will suffer more by its interruption.

("Facts for Workers," June, 1923)

## Dress Makers

Members of Local No. 22

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DECISION OF THE LOCAL, OUR QUOTA OF BUSINESS AGENTS TO REPRESENT OUR LOCAL AT THE JOINT BOARD FOR THE ENSUING TERM WILL NOT BE ELECTED BUT APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

IT IS THE INTENTION OF OUR EXECUTIVE BOARD TO INTEREST ALL INTELLIGENT AND ABLE MEMBERS OF OUR LOCAL WHO KNOW THEMSELVES TO BE CAPABLE OF PERFORMING THE DUTIES OF A BUSINESS AGENT AND TO FULFILL ALL THE OBLIGATIONS OF THAT OFFICE TO FILE AN APPLICATION.

WE ESPECIALLY REQUEST OUR CHAIRMEN AND CHAIRLADIES TO CALL THE ATTENTION OF EACH AND EVERY INTELLIGENT WORKER IN THE SHOPS TO THE ABOVE FACTS.

ALL APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED WILL BE ACTED UPON BY A SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

APPLICATIONS CAN BE FILED EVERY DAY FROM MONDAY, JUNE 25th, UP TO SATURDAY, JUNE 30th, FROM 9 A. M. TO 7 P. M., SATURDAY FROM 9 A. M. TO 12 M.

APPLICANTS SHOULD CALL TO SEE OUR SECRETARY, BROTHER SCHOENHOLTZ, 16 WEST 2nd STREET, ROOM 2.

Executive Board, Dress Makers' Union, Local 22

## "Is This the Unity House?"

By FANNIA M. COHN

The conference of the League for Industrial Democracy held at Camp Tamiment brought together many men and women prominent in the world of art and science and in the Socialist and trade-union movements. The management of our Unity Village, under the direction of Brother Rothenberg, who has applied himself so conscientiously to his task, took advantage of this occasion and extended its invitation through Sister Winnick to the guests of Tamiment to visit the Unity House. Among the friends and comrades who had lunch or dinner at the Unity House on Saturday and Sunday were Morris Hillquit and Mrs. Hillquit, Dr. Louis Levine and Rose Stransky (Mrs. Levine), David J. Sappos and Mrs. Sappos, B. Viadeck, and William Johnston, president of the International Association of Machinists.

A delicious meal was served by the charming members of our union who combined the art of "waiting" with good fellowship. Then our guests attended one of our spontaneous get-togethers in the artistic reception room. Hundreds of our members, seated in a circle on low rockers or on soft rugs, under the direction of the inspiring Mrs. Fox, the recreation teacher, sang beautiful folk-songs and labor songs—folk songs typical of Jewish humor, and labor songs expressing the hopes, aspirations and inspiration of the toiling masses.

Our guests, inspired by the surroundings which called forth so much joy on the part of the audience, expressed in a few hearty words the effect that these surroundings had upon them. They spoke of their appreciation of the fact that this village, which was built for the wealthy and where nothing was spared that might add to comfort or beauty, now belonged to the tens of thousands of waist and dressmakers.

Especially thrilling for our guests was the thought that workers who provide the well-to-do with all the comforts and beauty that art and science afford, and who cannot provide for themselves more than ugly, unsanitary tenements and uninspiring surroundings, have at last, collectively, through the power of the modern trade union, found it possible to acquire some of this comfort and beauty for themselves.

Soon there were heard voices of hundreds of hikers—the delegates of the I. L. D. Conference—rising in protest against their leaders who undertook this trip without a knowledge of the road to the Workers' Unity House. They were certain that this was some villa belonging to the wealthy. How could they imagine otherwise? They saw before them a forest stretching for miles in every direction and in the midst of it a large tract of cleared land with beautiful flower-beds, and a number of proud looking cottages, built for the pleasure of the rich. An electric sign, reading WELCOME TO UNITY, soon re-assured the puzzled hikers.

How much was added to the surprise of the newcomers when they began visiting the grounds and buildings! They entered a dining-room, with snowy-white table cloths and immaculate walls, looking out upon a cool lake. Then came the parlor with its imposing fireplace, its many windows looking out on the porch, walls beautifully decorated with paintings, its floor covered with soft

rugs. Across the lane was the library and reading room, containing files of the leading papers and magazines and hundreds of books; further on the concert room and dance-hall, to say nothing of the tennis-courts.

Our good sisters, Rose Piotita and Anna Susnofsky, were soon overwhelmed in the ice cream parlor with orders for ice cream and souveniers, which are kept there for the convenience of its patrons, the waist, dress and cloakmakers.

Oh, how great it is to be carefree! Even the hot spell had hardly any effect on the visitors and hikers. The lake became their refuge and many made for the swimming pool and the boats. The swimming pool is part of the seventy-acre lake. The seventy bath-houses, hidden among the trees on the bank, were soon occupied by the vacationists. The small pavilions on the pier, which extends into the lake, rang with joyful voices and with laughter. The lake was covered with boats and canoes, protected from the sunrays by the overhanging branches of the trees. The more indolent of our visitors sat in them, rocking and creating their own breeze.

Amidst this invasion, there was enough room left for those who prefer rest and solitude. They were seen taking their hammocks and a book or magazine into the woods or to the balconies.

Soon the twilight fell upon the lake, and the moon stealing out from behind the clouds tinted everything with silver. The lake once more became a fairyland at this magic touch, a lovely scene colored by the moonlit sky overhead and the stretching grass underfoot. And now I saw enacted before me a scene I witnessed two years ago. The members and guests trooped down to the lake. They sat on the shore and built a fire on the beach. Someone started a melody and soon there came songs in different languages, and many improvised and

dedicated to Unity. It is delightful to see how our people have learned to enjoy nature and how, under its influence, they play and sing like care-free children.

The Unity House is a source of inspiration to those who are devoting their lives to the labor movement. Its grandeur can always be enjoyed no matter how often one may have visited the place. Art and beauty are always thrilling. Our Unity Village is a place where our members, young and old, men and women, should come for renewal of courage and a strengthening of their faith in the achievement of the ultimate aims of the working class.

The conception is still held by many that some people are born to rule, direct and manage, while others are born to be ruled, directed and managed, and that both groups should be prepared for their life task accordingly. Every attempt that workers make to manage their own lives, be it even in a modest cooperative enterprise, so long as it is managed by workers and for workers, is a challenge to this conception. The success of such enterprises, whether they are economic, spiritual or intellectual, should be of grave concern to every worker. Some are always waiting for an opportunity to say, "I told you so. Workers are not ready to assume responsibility. They are not sufficiently prepared to be able to succeed in their own enterprises no matter what they may be." How many of our members realize the responsibility that rests with us because of the fact that it was our good fortune to initiate activities that may become an inspiration to the labor movement in its future battles?

I know that our members in the midst of their troubles and worries have some moments when they dream of a better world—a world in which those who produce the wealth that goes to make our civilization will also enjoy its fruits.

At such moments our members must realize that the time is near when the workers, through their trade unions, are becoming more and more responsible for the dawn of a new civilization.

## Two More

(In place of a Fabletton)

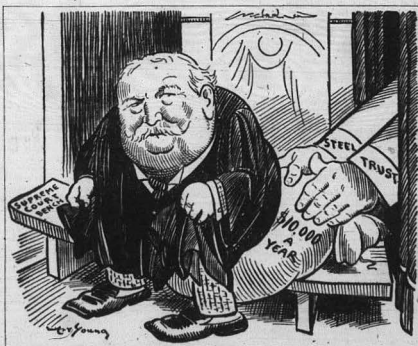
By Z. W.

The news that two more revolutions have been added to the roster of human upheavals surely ought to gladden the heart of every revolutionarily-inclined person on our terrestrial plane. It ought to relieve their anxiety and give them a sense of greater ease and security.

It has been a hard and onerous task, we must confess now. We have had to lie awake nights over the fate of that lone child of ours—the Russian Revolution—seared stiff lest it might be overcome by some infantile malady, the number of which is legion indeed. Only parents who have had the misfortune of bringing up an only child have had the taste of what we had to endure with that precious, cranky, and obstreperous offspring.

So now that we have a whole three of them—thanks to the revolutionary heavens—it might be a great deal healthier for them as well as for us. We shall now be able to lay the mischievous thing across our knee every once in a while as the occasion might move us without running the danger of being dubbed "yellow," or "counter-revolutionary."

We can now divide our affections, sympathy, and effusiveness in a more or less equal measure between all these revolutionary children, each of us according to our tastes, disposition and sense of judgment. We are inclined to believe that there are lots of folks who will love the Bulgarian coup no less than some have liked the Russian upheaval. Regarding the Chinese revolution—we take it that it is the bounden duty of every radical person to become enthused over it. Sifted and bemirched mankind is indeed greatly indebted to the Chinese proletariat. It is only that we return it some sympathy for the years of starved and laundered efforts on our behalf.



Drawn by ART YOUNG

### THE SACRED SUPREME COURT BENCH

Chief Justice Taft has a nice new cushion pushed under him every year.

# JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

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## EDITORIALS

### THE STRIKE OF THE BALTIMORE CLOAKMAKERS

This Thursday the cloakmakers of Baltimore went out on strike. This strike signifies that the cloak manufacturers of Baltimore have treated their workers contemptibly mean. It is also a sign that these employers, not satisfied with legitimate profits, have fleeced and mulcted their workers as much as they could. But this strike also signifies that even the Baltimore cloakmakers, the most patient members in the family of our International, have finally lost patience and picked up enough courage to strike.

The Baltimore cloakmakers are striking, first of all, against the existing haphazard conditions in the local cloak shops. The Baltimore cloak manufacturers have been paying their workers as little as they wanted to, and the cloakmakers have had next to nothing to say in this matter. The strike aims to fix once for all minimum wage scales for union workers. The Baltimore cloak strike also purports to force the local manufacturers to accept certain union conditions which they will have to live up to. This strike aims to compel manufacturers to recognize the union as the representative of the workers in time of negotiations and disputes between workers and employers, and to enter with the union into an agreement, the terms of which shall be respected and observed by both sides.

In this strike the Baltimore cloakmakers will be aided, by word and act, by their International. The International is very much interested in this fight, for the chaotic conditions in the Baltimore cloak trade have hurt considerably the cloakmakers in New York and Philadelphia. Lower wages, lack of union control, have converted the Baltimore cloak shops into veritable scab-nests. The Baltimore cloakmakers have betrayed their own union, their own fellow-workers, in allowing their condition to grow worse and worse. Baltimore, one of our earliest union towns, should be a union stronghold instead of a place where labor is to be obtained at the cheapest rate and under miserable working conditions. It was this which prompted the General Executive Board at its last meeting to make a decided effort to reestablish Baltimore as a union cloakmaking city.

To make a thorough job of it, the Out-of-Town Department of the International has moved its entire headquarters for the period of the strike to Baltimore. All other work was put aside and Vice-president Halperin, with his staff, is now in Baltimore where, with the aid of the local active workers, a big effort is being made to bring order into the cloak shops of Baltimore. The manner in which things have gone on until now in Baltimore, surely cannot continue. The local cloak industry must be unionized or the Baltimore cloak manufacturers will have to look for some other business.

We believe that the strike of the cloakmakers in Baltimore will end in a victory for the strikers. It is difficult to perceive how the Baltimore manufacturers could be so blind and obstinate as to undertake a fight with our International which they know they eventually must lose. It is quite likely that the bad way in which the Baltimore cloak trade finds itself is not entirely the fault of the manufacturers. A good deal of the blame falls upon the local cloakmakers who have permitted themselves to be so horribly exploited and who have forgotten that they have a union which can and must protect them when necessary.

But all these considerations are a matter of the past. Today the Baltimore cloakmakers, thanks to the organization work conducted among them for some time past, are united and feel keenly the importance of standing together and fighting together. We believe that the cloak manufacturers realize this too, and that they will not lose precious time and as soon as possible will concede the just demands of their workers. The Baltimore cloak employers surely know that their workers are the most poorly paid among all the cloakmakers in the United States, and there is no ground or reason why it should so continue.

The Baltimore strike is in good hands—in the hands of men who have fought more than one battle, all of them true and tried leaders. If the strikers remain loyal and do not betray their own cause or desert the ranks, their fight will be won in a short time. Then our Baltimore workers will be able to look straight into the eyes of their fellow-members, something which they could not and have had no right to heretofore.

We expect the Baltimore cloakmakers will conduct themselves in this strike in such a manner that they will later be able to honestly feel that they won their strike largely through their own efforts, that will make victory even more precious to them, more durable and more worthwhile preserving.

### THE SUPREME COURT DECISION IN RE THE KANSAS INDUSTRIAL COURT

The decision of the United States Supreme Court in the recent Kansas Industrial Court case is being treated in the labor press as a victory for trade unionism. Abstractly speaking, it is actually so. Trade unionism adheres firmly to the principle that all disputes between capital and labor must be decided by the affected parties only, and that a third uninvited party should not and must not interfere. Such an interference by a third party is regarded as leading in the end to involuntary servitude.

This opinion has on its side the Constitution as well as the whole spirit of bourgeois society—the so-called Manchester principle of "let well-enough alone." Let both opposing sides fight out their issues among themselves and let "freedom" remain unimpaired in all its grandeur and beauty.

This principle seemed to have been much in vogue until labor unions grew to great power, until they could offer actual and serious opposition to capital. After the unions had become influential and their victories had begun to multiply considerably, the spirit of the Constitution and the principle of "laissez-faire" of a sudden was retired into oblivion and a third factor appeared on the scene—the "public." The new theory read about like this: If the fight between labor and capital would hurt no one but themselves, they could wage it as long as they wanted to until the strongest would win. But as in this fight there is involved another, and quite as innocent one, to boot, the "public," this public has a right to interfere. It is on the basis of this principle that Governor Allen has managed to pass his law for compulsory arbitration in the State of Kansas and to create his Industrial Relations Court.

In reason and logic the protest against the Kansas Law should have been raised not only by workers who through this law were compelled to work practically against their will, but also by capital, as capital cannot develop and prosper under a system of compulsion. Nevertheless, capital not only passed over it in silence, but even proclaimed this law as a great victory for itself and for society in general. The reasons for this rather strange action are quite obvious:

Had there been no such thing in our social structure as a labor movement, capital would never have consented to an Industrial Court which would to an extent limit its freedom of action. But the unions have become stronger and stronger in recent years and have made ever greater attempts to exert a certain amount of compulsion upon the employers. So the latter decided that, if compulsion they must accept, they would rather take it from a court than from a labor union.

Yet, now we see that capital is renegeing on the entire bargain. The question arises, has the Industrial Court been more favorable to the workers than to employers? Has the Court proved itself more of a despot than a labor union? To this the reply is an emphatic No. On the other hand, in nine out of ten cases, the workers have felt the lash of the court while the employers have been handled with silk gloves. Why, then, this change of attitude on the part of capital? And why did the employers aid in breaking down this law which has helped them considerably against the power of organized labor and against the everlasting threat of strikes?

The labor movement might well ponder over these questions. Surely no one can suspect the Wolf Packing Company, which started this action against the Kansas Industrial Court, of being friendly to the labor movement, just as no one will think the Pennsylvania Railroad friendly to labor because it fights the Railway Labor Board which was reared on the same foundation and formed for the same purpose as the Industrial Court of Kansas. For the labor movement to howl "victory" now that it has contributed nothing to the winning of this decision and when its main sponsors were labor's bitterest enemies, is surely senseless. It would be far better for the labor movement to seek an answer to the question why capital, which only recently was so much in love with the Industrial Court, has now rebuked it in so early and violent a death and why the Supreme Court so quickly decided to act as the executioner of the Industrial Court which only a while ago was supposed to have been the savior of our society?

This question can be answered in two ways: First, it is quite likely that the Industrial Court has failed to come up to expectations. Its main purpose was to bring an end to strikes. But strikers and the unions have practically ignored it and have done what they deemed necessary in order to carry on their legitimate functions. When necessary, they waged an open fight against their employers, and when this or that one of their leaders was arrested, others came and took their places. In other instances, the fight was conducted in the factory itself and in such a manner that the law could not intervene. The Kansas employers found this very soon and discovered that they were in a worse situation than before, that the compulsory law with its industrial court was a still-born child which, instead of aiding, has brought harm to them. The workers remained free because they were determined to remain free, and the employers were more or less bound to this law which they themselves had created. They therefore decided that the best thing to do was to bury this undesirable offspring as quickly as possible.

The second answer that can be given to this question is the following:

The Industrial Court, like the Railway Labor Board, was created in the "seven fat years" of the labor movement with the sole purpose of curbing to some extent the power and the militancy.

# What the Fifth Quarterly Meeting Has Accomplished

By S. YANOVSKY

## II.

The last three months have been "quiet" months in our International Union. With the exception of some localities where conflicts between the workers and the employers have occurred and are taking place now, things have been rather peaceful in the main centres. Nevertheless, the reports of President Sigman, of Secretary Baroff and of all the members of the Board were extremely interesting as they contained information of unending organization work which proceeds everywhere. It can only be added that this organization work and these reconstructive drives could have been even greater and productive of better results were the International supplied with greater funds for this work.

Sigman and Baroff both dwell upon this point in their reports very strongly. The Eastern Organization District, under the management of Vice-president Halprin, and the Western Organizing Office, under the leadership of Vice-president Perlestein, as well as the individual cities and locals, need more means and more organizers. But organizers cost money and organizing work that is capable of yielding results is also costly. The locals owe the General Office on the Cleveland Convention assessment more than one hundred thousand dollars and this places the International in a real predicament. The work is highly necessary and must be carried on but, without the aid of the locals, it perforce must be halted. It is, of course, well to practise economy, but "economy" cannot be practised at the expense and sacrifice of the very work undertaken by the organization, as in the long run such an economy proves costly and inexpedient.

Take, for instance, the Middle-Western field, which, according to the report by President Sigman and Brother Perlestein, is full of good organizable material. But it requires a number of additional organizers and a leaflet and circular distribution drive, and this means the expenditure of a substantial sum of money.

Or, for instance, a city like Toledo, Ohio, which now became a nest of ugly scabbery. They are making cloaks in Toledo by the piece, as in the good "old" times, and a number of the workers have become, as they used to, contractors with helpers who they exploit heartlessly in order to make a living. Toledo, as a result of this, has become a menace to the whole cloak industry in the Middle West, and everything must be done to make Toledo again a union city as it was not so long ago. This task, hard as it is, is nevertheless not a helpless one; the workers have belonged to the union

for a long time, and though they feel depressed and broken down in spirit, a revival campaign is likely to bring them back into the fold very soon. But this too requires means, and until the delinquent locals meet their obligations to the General Office such work can obviously not be continued.

The situation in Cincinnati, though not exactly ~~the same~~ in Toledo, also requires a lot of work. So does St. Louis, and so does Los Angeles. They require new organizers who would entice the workers and infuse new energy and activity into the local work. In Los Angeles they want Spanish-speaking organizers in the dress trade who would come in direct contact with the large number of Mexican women workers in that city.

Regarding the Out-of-Town Department in the East, its work could also be improved if it is not compelled to skimp and economize cent by cent in its expenses. The General Executive Board has therefore decided to treat the delinquent locals as severely as they deserve. The time has come to demand: either these locals are a part of the International and will enable the General Office to go on with its legitimate work or by their obstinacy and callousness they will forfeit the right to be regarded as part and parcel of our Union.

In general the situation, as judged from all the reports submitted by the general officers, has changed but little. The report of Vice-president Reiberg of Philadelphia stands out nevertheless in its cheerful account of things at present in Local 15 as compared with conditions but a short time ago. President Sigman's and Max Amdur's reports on the situation of the cloak industry of Philadelphia are also worthwhile recounting in some detail.

According to the report of Vice-president Reiberg, Local 15, which only a while ago was regarded by the local dress and waist employers as extinct, has blossomed out anew in the last ten months. It paid back a debt of \$10,000 which it owed and is now completing the payment of another—namely—debt of \$5,000. This money was raised by an assessment levied by the local upon its members and it signifies the readiness and the willingness of the members of Local 15 to support their organization. This, however, is but a beginning. The union is determined to go through with its program and to keep everlastingly at those few manufacturers who have during the last strike declined to concede union terms and are maintaining non-union by force now. The fact is that the workers in these shops are already seeing the error of their ways and are repenting for not having joined the bulk of the workers in the

industry during the last strike. Little by little they are joining the local—and very soon their employers may expect that the union will renew the fight for union terms in their shops.

They may threaten the union that the moment any one of them is attacked by the local the whole mass of them—the members of the manufacturers' association—will jump to his rescue and counter-attack the union. This, however, will not deter the union in the least should it make up its mind that the time has come for converting the few remaining shops in the Philadelphia dress trade into union shops. The injunction hanging over the head of the union will awe these employers but little. Injunctions and police brutality have never been known to deter the Philadelphia workers from demanding their rights once they were confident of their justice. The union also will try, with the aid of our counsel, Morris Hillquit, to see if this injunction cannot be recalled or modified now that the strike is over and the cause for the generosity of the judges is here no more.

Our readers know already what has transpired in Philadelphia cloak circles recently. We only desire to say here that, thanks to the energetic interference of President Sigman, an end has now practically come to the cry of "leftism" in the Philadelphia cloak trade. The "lefts" have concentrated all their power on the last maneuver, but it is clear by this time to everybody that all told they are only an insignificant handful and that the great majority of the Philadelphia cloakmakers are far away from them and their silly sophistry.

And in speaking about it, we might add that, according to reports from all sides, this "left" business seems to be at an end everywhere. It never amounted to much in our locals, and very often personal and petty misunderstandings have been interpreted and misinterpreted by some preternatal malcontents here and there as a fight for "principles." But the malady seems to be disappearing now. The union members have come to see these slick maneuvers and are taking them at their worth. Occasionally a sign of this disease still crops up—as in the case, for instance, of the recent elections of Local 22, in which a big band had been taken by a so-called shop-delegate league. But we shall return to this in our next article—when we shall deal with the committee that appeared before the Board at its last meeting.

The G. E. B. was, quite naturally, interested to learn what is going on now in Locals 3 and 38 since they had been separated from each other. The report of Vice-president Leftkowitz

on this matter satisfied everybody. It appears that both these locals which have been treading on each other's toes since they were "amalgamated" are now, after they had been severed, working along unmoored, each doing its level best to improve and safeguard work conditions in the shops. It might be mentioned here that Local 38 has sent a committee to the G. E. B. with a request that a strong campaign be undertaken among the private dressmakers who have been competing very strongly with the members of the ladies' tailors' local. The Board treated this request very seriously as it realizes that the work among these dressmakers is highly important as their trade has grown to be a very big industry and the Cleveland Convention has passed a resolution favoring such an organization campaign. It is interesting to note that Local 38, which occupies itself with trade problems, had no time for such trifles when it was united with Local 3 and had to devote all its efforts to "high" politics.

Vice-president Breslau reported on the work of the Constitution Committee and the Committee on the labor bank. The last committee was compelled to slow down its work recently owing to the departure of Comrade Morris Hillquit for Europe, and now, with his return, the work will be taken up again, and it seems beyond doubt that very shortly the International Labor Bank will be a living, functioning reality.

The Boston situation was reported upon by Vice-president Monosoff. According to him, Boston and Worcester will soon be 100 per cent organized. The agreement between the cloak employers of Boston and the union is to expire on July 1st and the Boston Joint Board intends to present to the employers the following demands: No shop to operate with less than six machines and with no more than two partners, and that each shop employ a cutter. The committee that appeared before the Board on behalf of the Boston Joint Board also declared that the demand for a raise in wages should be presented to the employers as the cost of living in Boston and the rents are inordinately high. The committee requested that the G. E. B. sanction the calling of a strike should one become necessary.

The Board decided to act carefully in this matter and instructed Secretary Baroff to proceed to Boston as soon as possible after the meeting and to investigate the local situation so that the General Office might act with a greater knowledge of facts in this matter. In general the state of affairs in Boston is quite favorable. The Joint Board goes on with its work efficiently and is well fixed financially. This cannot be reported about Local 49, the Dressmakers' Union of Boston, which now counts 1,200 members who are quite busy at work, and the local is in the able hands of its new manager, Israel Lewin.

(Continued Next Week)

of the labor unions. Now, however, when capital thinks that the labor movement is weakened and its fighting spirit considerably diminished, the Industrial Court, which after all imposes certain limitations upon the freedom of capital, is quite an unnecessary thing. When capital had no other alternative, it accepted the least evil for itself, in preference to the greater evil, the strong hand of the labor union. But now that the open shop epidemic has made inroads into the labor movement, as capital quite likely thinks it did, such an Industrial Court, which is a burden upon the taxpayers and of but little value to capital, is quite unnecessary.

Which of these two answers is the correct one? If the second has a shadow of truth in it, it would seem to us that the labor movement has very little ground to rejoice over a "victory" which is but an index of its material weakening. We, however, believe that this assumption of a substantial loss of strength of the American labor movement is without foundation. True, the various employers' associations continue to boast that they have introduced "everywhere" the open shop. Nevertheless, when they are called upon to point out where such open shops have been introduced they cannot produce the evidence. Thus they have recently come

out with a statement that all of Indianapolis is an open-shop city. But Gompers came back and proved with facts that Indianapolis is one of our strongest union cities, where most of the trades and industries are controlled by the unions.

We are more inclined to regard the first answer as the correct one. The workers themselves, in their eternal and determined opposition to the Industrial Court, have made it entirely ineffective and consequently superfluous. From this point of view, the death of the Kansas Industrial Court is an incontrovertible victory for the workers. Had the workers, as "law-abiding citizens," submitted to this compulsory arbitration law, it would have remained in force and the Industrial Court of Kansas would have been functioning full swing today. The fact, however, remains that the workers have never accepted this law. Alexander Howat went to prison, but remained adamant in his opposition to the Industrial Court.

Kansas did not become a state of industrial peace and without strikes. This eventually brought about the practical abolition of the industrial court. And the United States Supreme Court, by its decision, only confirmed an accomplished fact—the demise of the Industrial Court of Kansas.



## Strong Men of Straw

The Religion of Main Street. By The American Library Service, New York. 1923, 200 pp. Rev. Dr. Percy Stickney Grant.

By SYLVIA KOPALD

Nothing is more certain than that Dr. Grant is charging men of straw. Yet the irrepressible vitality, the persistence they possess is amazing. Dr. Grant is a bore-from-within. He would demolish these men of straw in their own citadel. At the end of the first fray they stand still firm, while Dr. Grant gathers forces for a new attack.

To state the issues of this battle-royal is to gain some notion of both their age-old importance and—in the light of modern science—their fundamental ludicrousness. Was Jesus divine or mortal? Was he born of a virgin? Did he perform miracles? Shall Christianity remain a mass of tight medieval doctrine, or shall it, by absorbing science and modern life, pass beyond creeds into the heart of all humanity?

In this book are gathered those of Dr. Grant's sermons in which he sought to answer these questions as well as the documents of the stern passage with Bishop Manning and the Anglican Church to which they brought him. Although the sermons have not been "polished" for publication, but stand in their rough, original form, Dr. Grant emerges from them, a noble and courageous figure—a scholar, a modern, and a human. But ridiculous as are the men of straw he seeks to destroy, they wield a tremendous influence in the circle in which he moves. One cannot but feel that Dr. Grant can hardly hope to break them unless he breaks through that circle. For they are today the center from which all points on its circumference are measured.

To those of us who read the New York newspapers the controversy which raged about Dr. Grant some months ago is more or less familiar. In the pages of the book the disjointed details fall into a complete pattern. Dr. Grant, in the belief that churches should become communal institutions, had attracted every Sunday night to the Church of the Ascension "Roman Catholic and Protestant, Jew and Gentile, agnostic and free-thinker, Socialist, anarchist and Republican" for communal worship and thought. "The high officials of the Anglican Church in time protested at this innovation. After some internal struggle they finally 'closed its doors to the commoner.'" Dr. Grant immediately took up the challenge. In a radical sermon he asked "Shall we Consecrate Churches?" His reply to that question started the ball rolling.

For Dr. Grant was not content to answer with a simple "No." He went on to point out that the sea of consecration, of setting the church aside for special rites, came down from lower savage notions of the taboo and magic powers. Christianity, by consecration, seeks to turn its churches into temples of miracles where the wonder-working power of Christ, son of God, may be revealed. But "very few clergymen educated in the larger universities accept the idea that Jesus Christ has the power of God." They no longer believe in miracles and sacraments; yet the constitution of church government forces them either to profess this witch-magic or get out. Let the church absorb to itself science and life so that it may become a refuge for men's hearts and minds.

This is a stirring appeal and one to which Dr. Grant returned in later sermons. But it was also an appeal which the Church officials could not permit to pass unchallenged. There is a certain inevitable logic in Bishop

Manning's argument to Dr. Grant: "As a minister of this Church you are obliged constantly and publicly to declare your belief in it (the Apostles' Creed) . . . At your ordination you were asked publicly and solemnly, 'Will you then give faithful diligence always so to minister the Doctrine and Sacraments and the Discipline of Christ as the Lord hath commanded and as this Church hath received the same . . . ?' To this question you replied, 'I will do so, by the help of the Lord.' If you cannot now conscientiously accept and teach the Christian faith as contained in the Apostles' Creed, it is plain that you cannot consistently continue to hold your commission as a minister and teacher in the Protestant Episcopal Church."

In his reply Dr. Grant refused "either to correct publically the impression given by his recent sermon or to resign voluntarily from the ministry of this Church." He reaffirmed instead his inability to accept the miraculous elements of the gospel and certain of the Articles of the Apostles' Creed, drew up a long and impressive supporting his position from among the big names of the Anglican Church and asked for a broad interpretation, so to speak, of Church Law and the Bible. When this first gust had thus been withered, Dr. Grant returned to his attack upon the religion of Main Street.

His book leaves us as it met us—with a question: "Do We Need A New Religion?" asks Dr. Grant. "Yes," he answered, "if the old religion will not take room for the modern mind; if it will not clean house and get rid of old fetishes inherited from centuries ago . . . No, if the life of Jesus becomes the light of her Church, a liberating, forgiving, brotherly, serving religion that breaks down barriers and makes of all mankind one self-respecting and humanity revering nation and force."

And there's where the rub comes in. Let us disregard for a moment the solid basis of Bishop Manning's argument. To get rid of "old fetishes" in the Church, to remove the men of straw of ritual and superstition would be to remove from it its creeds and sects. Yet does not even a superficial survey of the Church today soon convince one that sectarian hatreds—Catholic vs. Protestants and Protestants vs. Protestants—are the most real things in it? How does Dr. Grant propose to overcome them? Mere invocations of a finer, truer spirit such as he makes from his platform will never turn the trick. Why by himself unconsciously would he be to one, said, "The Kingdom of Heaven is within you," but I do not understand that he meant that was the only place it was. How convenient it is for a man with thirty or forty or fifty thousand dollars a year, who does not want to be touched with the social side of things to say "The Kingdom of Heaven is within you!"

Exactly—the Church today is an institution functioning in a capitalist environment. There may be need for such a religion as Dr. Grant desires (though I, for one, said, "The Kingdom of Heaven is within you," but I do not see just where a religion unconcerned with the after-life, accepting science, and rejecting hardened dogma differs from personal philosophy and poetry unless it is codified), how will it take root in the present situation? Today hates are more useful to the dominant classes than unifying loves. The Interchurch Committee sponsored the Steel Re-

port and the Interchurch Movement collapsed under the horror of its rich supporters. Judge Gray's report favoring the twelve-hour work day was prefaced by an intense religiousness that startled even the newspapers. In Christendom the Church was a tremendous force; in Soviet Russia its priests plot with foreign counter-revolutionaries against the state.

## Reading The "Big Business" Press

By BERTHA WALLERSTEIN

I suppose I must be very stupid, but can you explain these things to me?

You see, I have been reading the "Big Business" press. Of course, I know it is written for a business man's brain, so I can scarcely expect to understand it; but there are one or two things that are especially puzzling. For instance the *American Lumberman* makes a joke. I suppose it was meant for a joke because it was so short. It quotes Roger Babson as saying that most wage-earners spend all they get, and adds that it would not be so bad if they earned all they get. Now, it was not the first time that I had heard that people get money which they do not earn. I even know a gentleman who gets \$5,000 every month for doing nothing but cutting coupons, only I thought it was funny that a manufacturing journal should see anything wrong in it. They are always saying that they have to charge high prices because they have to pay dividends on their stock. They seem to think they have to pay dividends even on watered stock. So it is funny that one of them should turn round now and raise a kick because people are getting money which they do not earn.

Can you explain it?

There was the same sort of thing in the *Chicago Tribune*—one of those things which seem natural enough at first, and then, when you look at them, they do not seem to be at all clear. It said that \$90,000,000 worth of Victory bonds at 4% per cent, which matured on December 15th, were still outstanding. That meant that the owners lost the interest for these months—a total of \$1,000,000. Quite a tidy sum—is it not? And the Tribune declared that these bondholders were too ignorant or too lazy to get on the job and redeem their bonds in time and make their money work for them somewhere else. It is the poor, the Tribune says, who are so lazy and ignorant. The rich had cashed in their bonds and kept their money working for them. The rich are always on the job, and that is why they are rich. The poor let things slip through their fingers, and that is why they are poor. The situation illustrated unfairly, says the Tribune, "the fundamental error of those who rail at wealth as an injustice and a crime itself."

Well, that seems reasonable enough. The Tribune rails at poverty

Various forces and men are working within the Church as is Dr. Grant, "for a juster arrangement of life, for a squarer deal and a less cruel system by which men eat their daily bread." But whatever they may accomplish, it is safe to prophesy that the men of straw will hold the churches until that new order has been brought to pass.

as a crime. The poor are fools to be poor. Look at unorganized workers. If they joined a union and raised their wages they would not be so poor. They are not collecting what is due them on their labor, which is as bad as those bond-holders who are not collecting what is due them on their capital. But the poor lose so much more by not cashing in on their labor than they lose by not cashing in on their bonds. Funny— isn't it—that the Tribune did not talk about what they lose on their earnings instead of what they lose on their investments.

Can you explain it?

Then I came across something queer in the *Railway Review*. It was about the handling of anthracite coal on the Reading Railroad. It was really quite interesting, explaining how many hoist 35 cars at once and then string them together and push a train. I understood that part without any trouble. But what I could not understand was something at the beginning.

The writer talked about the "task which the railroads had to keep the coal consumer warm and snug." Now, you know, of course, it was awfully stupid of me, but I thought that the miners had the job of digging the coal and that the railway-men had the job of transporting it, and judging by what everybody said, I understood that between them they had made rather a mess of it. Funny— isn't it—that I should have thought that. You know, I really thought that we shivered and shook all winter because the miners had been so heartless and selfish and gone on strike and because the railway-men were so greedy and unkind that they would not obey the Railroad Labor Board, and now, I discovered that I was "warm and snug" all winter because the railway companies were unfeeling and efficient.

I asked Solomon about it.

"You Fear Crumb," said he. "If you were cold, it was the fault of the miners and railway strikers, and if you were warm, it was due to the company."

"But, Solomon, I asked, 'was I cold or was I warm?'"

"You Poor Crumb," said Solomon, and he is supposed to be very wise, you know. "You were both—one for the miners and one for the company."

Now, please, can you explain it?

## American Labor Party Issues Convention Call to New York Labor Unions

Dear Comrades and Friends:

In conformity with the policy adopted by the General Council at their regular meeting of June 25th, you are hereby notified that the nominating convention of the American Labor Party will be held on July 6, at the Rand School Auditorium at 8 P. M. sharp. The address is 7 East 15th Street.

You are requested to send your delegates prepared to participate in the nominations to be made and we request that you have selected in advance a list of desired trade union and labor candidates.

Your regular general council delegate, is entitled to sit in this convention and we are sending all a copy of this letter which will serve as a credential.

We look forward to a full attendance so that we may face the people of New York with a ticket representative of Labor and worthy of our cause.

Fraternally,  
JEROME T. DE HUNT,

Chairman,  
MARIE B. MAC DONALD,  
Organizer.





## DOMESTIC ITEMS

## CONGRESSMEN AND THEIR CLERKS.

Apparently to provide vacation money for members of their families a large number of clerks and stenographers have been dropped entirely from the payroll or put on short rations by members of Congress who employ them. One girl employed by a member of the House charges that while she was paid at the rate of \$2250 per year, she was obliged to refund \$50 a month of that amount which was paid over to a relative of the Congressman.

## FARMERS SHOULD ORGANIZE, SAYS GOMPERS.

The farmers of the nation should organize as labor has done, President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor declared in Chicago before the National Wheat Conference. "If wage earners had not organized no one would have listened to their demands, and if the farmers expect to be listened to they must do likewise," Mr. Gompers said.

## BRICK MANUFACTURERS GET 400 PER CENT PROFIT INCREASE.

Conservatism is horrified to learn that the bricklayers in New York have won their strike and \$2 more pay a day, setting the limit of their work at a thousand bricks a day, declares the Washington Herald. But nobody seems excited because the brick manufacturer gets nine dollars more for a thousand bricks than he did a year ago. The manufacturers demand an increase in profit 400 per cent as great as that demanded by the bricklayer.

## U. M. W. OF A. WARNS AGAINST A COMMITTEE.

Warnings to members of the United Mine Workers of America and other trade unions in the organized labor movement against giving aid in any form to the "Progressive international committee of the United Mine Workers of America," was contained in a statement issued by the International Executive Board of the United Mine Workers of America.

## NEW MOVE TO ORGANIZE STEEL WORKERS.

Twenty-five representatives of organized labor met in Chicago and started a movement to organize workers in the steel mills. The support of the American Federation of Labor was pledged by President Gompers who declared "The late action of steel manufacturers in deciding to continue the 12-hour day leaves the workers no hope for relief except through organization."

## PLAN ACTION AGAINST RAIL BOARD.

Preliminary conversations between railroad executives and representatives of the Big Four Train Service Brotherhoods are understood to have been held relative to the advisability of concerted action looking toward the abolition of the United States Railroad Labor Board.

## SEEK REDUCTION OF IMMIGRATION QUOTAS.

Members of the House who advocate making the present immigration quota even smaller are convinced they can pass the Johnson 2 per cent quota bill next Congress. They have been sounding sentiment among the new members and think they have a majority. The Johnson Bill would allow each European country the yearly quota of 2 per cent of the number of its nationals in this country in 1890.

## I. W. W.'S REJECTED FOR LOGGING CAMPS.

Employment will be refused by leading lumbermen and loggers of the Pacific northwest to men known to be members of the Industrial Workers of the World and similar organizations hostile to American institutions. This announcement was made following a meeting of prominent timber operators at Tacoma at which an organization was formed to combat radicalism.

## A WHEAT CONGRESS IN CHICAGO.

More than 300 delegates representing all phases of the national wheat problem as it is related to banking, railroads, international affairs, bread making and farming will meet in Chicago for the National Conference at which plans will be laid to establish outlets for the American farmers' 170,000,000 bushels surplus a week.

## INCREASE OF SIX MILLION SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Nearly 6,000,000 more pupils are attending schools in the United States than were enrolled 20 years ago, the United States Bureau of Education announced recently. In 1902 there were 16,000,000 as compared with 22,000,000 in 1922. School property has risen from \$601,000,000 to \$2,400,000,000.

## 7,300 ITALIANS DUE IN JULY; 15,000 ENGLISHMEN.

The Commissioner of Immigration in Italy is besieged by workmen and peasants from all the provinces eager to be included in the new immigration quota to the United States beginning July 7th. The commissioner has arranged for the emigration of 7,300 during July.

A record rush of immigrants from England to the United States is predicted by shipping companies during July. Passages for 15,000 have been booked for vessels reaching America during the first few days of the month.

## FOREIGN ITEMS

## ENGLAND

## EXODUS OF BRITISH ARTISANS.

Great Britain is worried over the increasing number of skilled artisans and servants who want to take up their abode in the United States. So great has been the stream of immigrants leaving England that the government has created a special committee to inquire into the causes.

## THE QUAKERS AND EUROPEAN MILITARISM.

In a statement issued from the Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends in London, an appeal is made to rulers and peoples to deal with the "present deplorable state of Europe" by calling a new type of conference to revise the Versailles Treaty, in which the delegates will confer as equals, free from the temper of domination.

At the International Seamen's Conference in London of the International Transport Workers' Federation, a resolution was passed calling upon the transport workers in particular and the international workers' movement generally, to create a united front against war and counter-revolution. The conference re-affirmed the previous instruction to the Bureau of the I. L. P. to boycott the movement of men, munitions and materials of war for all purposes contributing to reaction.

## PREMIER AND RUSSIA.

The new Premier, Mr. Baldwin, has informed the British Labor Party that he has received so many resolutions from labor bodies on our relations with Russia that he cannot reply to them separately.

## DIFFERENCES IN COST OF LIVING.

During the last few months the cost of living shows a tendency to remain stationary. There are however differences between the various countries. In the U. S., Canada, Great Britain and Holland, prices have fallen to 54-64 per cent over pre-war rates; in Switzerland and Japan prices remain 70 to 90 per cent above pre-war rates. In Belgium, France and Poland, there is a tendency to rise. In Germany wholesale prices have fallen slightly, but retail prices have not followed them. In Austria retail prices have declined slightly.

## GERMANY

## MINERS RECEIVE FIFTY PER CENT WAGE INCREASE.

An agreement was reached between miners' leaders from the Ruhr and representatives from the coal owners, whereby the men get a raise of 50 per cent in wages. . . . The Communist union at Gelsenkirchen has issued an appeal to the workers to accept these terms although they are much below the men's demands. . . . That the strike movement was a spontaneous outburst due to hunger is made clear by the fact that it is breaking out elsewhere in Germany.

## WOMEN'S WORK IN GERMANY SINCE THE WAR.

In general, the industrial work of women in Germany is more extensive than before the war. Women are retaining the cigar-making which they first took over during the war; and also in some districts, the tending of the semi-automatic machines used in making small hardware goods. They also hold their ground in all those branches of industry in which they have always been dominant, namely, the textile industry, cleaning, laundry work and typing.

## INCREASE OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN GERMANY.

The official figures for persons in receipt of unemployment benefit on May 1st, 1923, was 321,638. On October 1st, 1922, the number was only 21,028.

## INDIA

## WOMEN STRIKE IN MADRAS

The first all-women strike was announced as having broken out in some Madras spinning mills at the beginning of May.

A new Labor party, calling itself Communist, but having no connection with Moscow, has been formed in India. It will affiliate with the Indian National Congress. It advocates non-cooperation and passive resistance.

The Labor Press in India numbers six papers, namely, two for railway workers, one for clerks (Calcutta only), one for postal employees, one socialist and one labor paper for "Swadharma," the labor paper which is the earliest of these, is only two years old.

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# 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 13—BUSINESS ENTERPRISE AND THE REPUBLICAN PARTY.

#### I. Business Enterprise.

1. The most important aspect of American life from 1870 to the present.
2. "Golden harvest fields, whirling spindles, turning wheels, open furnace doors, flaming forges and chimneys filled with eager fire," meant prosperity.

#### II. Railways and Industry.

1. Extension of railways.
  - (a) 30,000 miles in 1860.
  - (b) 166,000 miles in 1890.
  - (c) 242,000 miles in 1910.
2. Railways enabled people to market goods, served as agencies of inter-communication, and aided in settlement of the West.
3. Government aid to railways.
  - (a) In 1872 Federal government granted railways 155,000 acres of land.
  - (b) More than half the territory in the States between Lake Michigan and the Pacific was granted to private companies in aid of railways and wagon roads.
  - (c) About half of New Mexico, Arizona and California were given outright to railway companies.
  - (d) Vast grants from Federal government were supplemented by gifts from the States of land and by subscriptions amounting to more than \$200,000,000.
4. Railway fortunes in capital.
  - (a) Capital invested in these railways was enormous.
  - (b) Union Pacific Railroad when completed valued at \$110,000,000.
  - (c) Railroad promoters reaped tremendous fortunes.
5. Growth and extension of industry.
  - (a) Manufacturing, mining and metal working, if measured in dollars, outstripped value of railways.
  - (b) By the end of the century \$10,000,000,000 invested in factories alone, and 5,000,000 wage earners employed in them. Value of their output \$14,000,000,000.
  - (c) Untold wealth in the form of natural resources; coal, copper, lead, gold, silver, petroleum. Individuals made fortunes out of these natural resources.

#### III. Corporations and Development of Monopoly.

1. The pool, the trust and the banking corporations all intertwined and in control of the economic wealth of the country.
2. The corporation very significant because it eliminated many of the futile and costly wastes of competition in connection with manufacture, advertising and selling. It established laboratories for research in industry, chemistry and mechanical inventions.
3. But corporations enabled individuals to extort wealth from purchasers because by eliminating competition they had a monopoly. Corporations had even attempted to acquire a dominion over the labor market.

#### IV. The Corporation and Labor.

1. Personal bond between owner and employes no longer existed.
2. Owner disappeared from the factory and in his place came the manager representing capital.
3. Many corporations in the past, and even today, soulless in their attitude toward labor.
4. Emergence of the "labor problem."

#### V. Cities and Immigration.

1. Along with the growth of industry there has come a tremendous increase in growth of city population.
2. In Washington's day nine-tenths of the people were engaged in agriculture and lived in the country.
  - (a) In 1890 more than one-third of the population dwelled in towns of 2500 or over; in 1920 more than one-half.
  - (b) Between 1860 and 1900 New York city increased from 1,174,000 to 3,437,000. Today its population is nearly 6,000,000.
  - (c) A republic of small farmers has passed away.

## The Labor Movement and Its Problems

It is needless to say that every intelligent worker is anxious to understand the important problems which confront him at home, in his industry and elsewhere. He has to act upon them so frequently that unless he understands conditions, he will find himself unable to help to solve the problems.

Our Educational Department has felt more and more the need of meeting this situation among our members. For this reason our labor courses in the Unity Centers for next season have been arranged so as to be of greater interest than before.

The courses in the Unity Centers will be divided into three groups. The first will present a general study of the Trade Union Movement in the United States. It will describe and analyze the chief aims, problems and methods of the movement. In order to understand these clearly, it may be necessary at times to go back into the history of the United States. This will be done only so far as to show how certain conditions of today are the logical and inevitable results of what happened before. In order to make this subject still clearer, it will be necessary at times to compare American developments with those in important European countries. In

addition to this, a special study will be made of our own organization, the I. L. G. W. U., with its problems and methods.

The second group will deal with the economic problems of today. An analysis will be made of the important matters which require attention and action. The problems of distribution of income, organization of industry, financial control of industry, waste in industry, etc., will receive careful attention.

The third group will concern itself with a study of our society as it is organized today. Such important institutions as the factory, the bank, the railroad, the market, etc., will be analyzed, so that the students will understand thoroughly just how these function in our society.

These courses will be given in the Unity Centers next season and it is hoped that many of our members will attend them. We feel convinced that after studying these subjects, our members will be better qualified to decide on a great many of the matters upon which they are called to act at the business meetings of their union, at their shop meetings and on election day. There is no doubt that this knowledge will enable them to be of greater service not only to themselves but also to their organization.

## Report of Education Sub-Committee, Trades Union Congress General Council

(Continued from March 30 issue of "Justice")

### II.

Training for Positions as Labor Representatives on (a) Local Authorities, (b) House of Commons

The development of the working-class movement has not yet arrived at a stage when the majority of the organized workers and their wives can be relied upon to vote labor from conviction. The extent to which labor will win control over local and national affairs will for some time to come be determined by the extent to which the average wage-earner thinks it is more capable of managing everyday affairs than those who oppose it. While the average trade unionist may be relied on to support his own trade union, the extent to which he may be depended upon to give the same measure of support to the trade-union movement as a whole—or its political expression the Labor Party,—will be determined very largely by the extent to which labor representatives and officials "make good" in the sense in which he understands the term; and his conclusions on this matter are often arrived at with an inadequate knowledge of the circumstances and difficulties confronting the movement—a knowledge to be made adequate only by education.

### III.

Industrial Management—Works Council

In recent times a great deal has been heard about workers' control industry, but very little attention appears to be given to the question of equipping the workers for such an undertaking. Here, again, the German trade unions have shown a commendable insight into the possibilities of the Works Council established by legislation, throughout German industries, since the Republic was set-up, and the "Review" of the International Federation of Trade Unions reports that, in the larger educational machine since provided by the unions:

"Every town with a population of over 50,000 was to have a special course of instruction set up for the training of shop stewards. The fees for the teachers came from the Central Fund of the Trade Union Federation; the other expenses were borne by the local Trade Unions."

"The Works Council Act makes it necessary that the workers who have to attend these Councils should be equipped thoroughly if they are to be of any service. Recognizing this, (Continued on page 11)

### 3. Part of this tremendous increase in city population has been due to immigration.

- (a) Free land no longer available, therefore, immigrant has remained in city.
- (b) American business men anxious for large labor supply to man their industries.
- (c) Character of immigration.
- (d) Attitude of government toward immigrants.
- (e) The present immigration law.

Reading: Beard History of the United States, Chapter XVII.

# With the Waist and Dress Joint Board

By M. K. MACKOFF, Secretary  
(Record of Meeting, June 19, 1923)

## OUTSIDE COMMITTEES

Brother O'Brien, representing the Brockton District Shoe Workers' Union appealed to the Board to help the 20,000 striking shoe workers in the Brockton, Mass., District. This district, until the time of the strike a few weeks ago, was completely under the control of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, a strictly non-strike organization which compelled the workers to submit all differences to the State Board of Conciliation and Arbitration from whom little justice could be expected. Brother O'Brien stated that the boot and shoe workers have therefore formed their own union, namely the Brockton District Shoe Workers' Union. The workers stand firm for their right to maintain their own organization but must begin at the bottom with no treasury.

It was decided to refer this request to the Finance Committee for investigation. The Finance Committee was further authorized that if they find it necessary they may denote any amount up to \$100.

## READING OF MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting of June 12th were read and upon motion were approved.

## COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was received from the Farmer-Labor Party of the United States in which among other things they state that:

"Now, as never before, when the flagrant misuse of the courts and public agencies has been developed to a point where the workers on the farms and in the workshops are wondering where they are to turn next, the urgent necessity of the situation has compelled the workers to realize that salvation lies alone in united political action by the workers of hand and brain.

"Duplication of political efforts, competition of candidates of rival political groups of workers, must cease.

"In view of the above facts, and in response to the earnest request of many individuals and organizations, the Farmer-Labor Party of the United States is calling a National Convention to which will be invited representatives of all 'labor, farm and political groups' for the purpose of devising means for knitting together the many organizations in this country in such a manner as will enable the workers to really function politically.

"Invitations to send representatives to this convention of the Farmer-Labor Party have been sent to all national organizations in the country, but the National Committee felt the rank and file should also be represented, and it was therefore voted to send credentials to all local and central labor and farm bodies in the United States and urge that delegates be sent to this most important convention."

An inquiry was made of the President whether the Joint Board has a right to send delegates to a political party in view of the fact that the Joint Board several weeks ago decided not to affiliate itself with any political parties. The ruling of the chairman was that the Joint Board could do so.

The ruling of the chairman was appealed to and was sustained. Brothers Berlin and Hochman were elected to represent our Joint Board at the convention.

Brother Mackoff expressed his appreciation of the great honor bestowed upon him by the Joint Board in re-electing him again to the high office of Secretary-Treasurer and he assured them that he fully believes that they could have bestowed no higher honor upon him.

From the cheers of the delegates it was evident that the statement of Brother Mackoff was well taken.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REPORT

The Board of Directors reported on their meeting held on Monday, June 18th, as follows:

## JEWISH RELIEF COMMITTEE

The Board took up the request made at the last meeting of the Joint Board by the committee representing the Jewish Relief Workers' Committee.

It was decided that our Joint Board buy machinery for the Jewish Relief Committee for \$100 and that this machinery should be inscribed with the name of our organization, it being understood that the committee of the Jewish Relief Workers' Committee will also get credentials so they may solicit in the shops.

## ANTI-FASCISTI ALLIANCE

The Board then took up for consideration the resolution adopted by the shop chairmen at their last meeting pledging their material as well as their moral support of the anti-Fascisti movement. In order that our

members may be better informed about the Fascisti menace to organized labor it was decided that a circular letter be sent in English and Italian to every shop chairman. Collection lists are also to be enclosed and it is understood that the shop chairman will turn the money collected over to our offices from where it will then be forwarded to the Anti-Fascisti Alliance.

## REQUEST OF "MESSENGER"

The Board of Directors after taking into consideration the contributions made by our Joint Board to the Messenger Magazine, decided to make a further donation of \$50.00.

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

Brother Mackoff submitted an itemized statement of expenses incurred by the Joint Board during the month of May.

The secretary's report was taken up for discussion and after due consideration upon motion it was decided to approve this report.

## GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Brother Hochman, manager of the Joint Board reported as follows:

Due to the dullness in the industry we have slowed down our organization work for the last few weeks and have given up some of the strikes against shops that have been out since the last general strike.

Since the last meeting of the Board of Directors, we succeeded in unionizing 9 open shops and settling 4 Union shops that were on strike. At present there are seven shops on strike.

We have utilized the last few weeks in making a thorough investigation and revision of our list of non-union shops. This investigation disclosed the fact that a large number of shops have opened of late and that there is a great need for active organization campaigning. Unfortunately, there is not enough work in the industry at present. We must, however, make all preparations for an extensive campaign against open shops, as soon as work is resumed.

We also have prepared a circular calling upon the workers of the non-union shops to unionize. We laid particular stress upon our recent gains, namely, the 40 hour, 5 day week and introduced the slogan, 5-40-2, to stand respectively, for the five day week, forty hour week and two rest days. We hope to have this circular ready for the next chairman meeting so that the chairmen may distribute them around the important non-union shops in the industry.

## INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR

By H. SCHOOLMAN

This Week Twelve Years Ago

The cloakmakers of New York celebrate the first anniversary of the first epoch-making strike of 1910. The Joint Board adopts resolution expressing hearty thanks to the shop-chairmen for their loyal and indefatigable work in maintaining union conditions. A huge mass meeting is held in Cooper Union which is addressed by Meyer London, M. Winchevsky, John Deutsch, M. Weinstein, Dr. Henry Moskowitz, and Dr. George M. Price, who spoke to the audience of the great significance of the strike of 1910.

The Cleveland strike is in full swing. Union succeeds in stopping off ninety per cent of the Bohemian contractors who joined the strikers.

Chicago skitmakers organized a local for themselves and the International issued a charter for them as Local 94.

The Baltimore union calls a strike in the firm of Drimberg and Humberg, because the firm demands \$200 security from our workers. The union also demands that the outside workers employed by the firm obtain the same price as the inside workers.

The Bijou Waist Company offers a waist as a premium to each girl who turns out the largest amount of work each week. The announcement of this bonus starts a heart-breaking race in the shop, though only a few in the end succeed in obtaining the coveted bonus.

In regard to the embroidery workers, Brother Hochman reported that a conference was held with the newly formed association.

## LABOR BUREAU

The Board of Directors took up the matter of the functioning of the Labor Bureau. It was brought out that in spite of difficulties there is some work being done there. Brother Hochman told the Board that it is time to collect data on the proposition and that as soon as he is ready with this data he will submit a report and recommendations to the Board of Directors.

## British Labor Educational Report

(Continued from Page 10)

the German trade unionists have caused to be set up in every industrial centre lecture courses to supply the necessary information. This is the syllabus used by the Frankfurt Trades Council:

Introduction to Social Economy. Two lectures.

Nature and Function of Industrial Enterprise. One lecture.

The Function of Capital in Industrial Enterprise. Two lectures.

The Rates of Exchange. One lecture.

The Question of Housing in Connection with Industrial Enterprise. One lecture.

Bookkeeping and Balance Sheets. Five lectures.

Coal. One lecture.

Commerce. Two lectures.

Costing and Statistics in Industrial Enterprise. One lecture.

Patent Law and Trade Marks. One lecture.

Industrial Enterprise and its Place in Economical Life. One lecture.

A more advanced scheme is conducted in Belgium, where all Labor education comes under a Central Committee representative of the Trade Union and Cooperative movements and the Labor Party. Special classes are run under the auspices of this committee for the training of shop representatives, and special textbooks have been prepared to meet the needs of the students. Special classes are also run for the training of Labor candidates.

The foregoing also has an important bearing upon the development of the Cooperative Movement and upon the more recent development of industrial guilds.

(To be continued.)

## NEW YORK DRESS AND WAISTMAKERS, ATTENTION!

Wednesday, July 4th, Is

## INDEPENDENCE DAY

A LEGAL HOLIDAY

on which no dress or waistmaker is allowed to work!

WEEK WORKERS ARE TO BE  
PAID IN FULL FOR THAT DAY

All members of the Union are asked to notify the office of any violation of this order.

JOINT BOARD DRESS AND WAISTMAKERS' UNION,

M. K. MACKOFF, Secretary.

DON'T WORK ON JULY 4TH!

# The Week In Local 10

By SAM B. SHENKER

Concurrence in the Executive Board's recommendation for the appointment of a constitution committee to revise the union's rules in accordance with the International's ruling on the merging of the dress-making local and the tabling of the resolution calling for participation in the Chicago conference of the Farmer-Labor Party. Locally completed the business of the well-attended meeting of all the branches of Local 10 last Monday night in Arlington Hall.

At the June 21st meeting of the executive board, Manager Dubinsky reported to the board the action of the G. E. B. of the International, this sessions of which he as vice-president attended, on the merging of locals 22 and 23.

He pointed out that the Board decided that there should be one dress-makers' local which should be placed under the control of the Cloak Joint Board, and that the dress pressers' local, which is already part of the Cloak Joint Board. In view of this, as was reported in these columns last week, it will be necessary for the cutters to revise their constitution to meet this new condition. Local 10 is composed of three branches, it will be remembered. Since, as the manager pointed out to the board, the dress joint board is practically dissolved, the question of merging the cloak and dress branch presents itself.

Then there remain the waist cutters. The miscellaneous branch is not touched of course. But it cannot be disputed that the organization's by-laws would have to be revised. Hence, when the executive board reported this to the general meeting and recommended the appointment of a constitution committee, the members adopted the report of the Board unanimously.

When the question was raised as to what becomes of the old constitution in view of the adoption of the Board's report, it was pointed out that nothing else could be done but dismiss the old committee. A motion to this effect was carried.

A constitution committee which was appointed and which is charged with this important work consists of Brothers David Dubinsky, Joseph Fish, Samuel Perlmutter, Isidore Nagler, Benjamin Ewy, John C. Ryan, Harry Zaslowsky, Harry Goldstein and Sam B. Shenker.

The motion to table the resolution urging the sending of delegates to a conference of the Farmer-Labor party to be held in Chicago July 3rd, evoked no discussion. As soon as it was pointed out that Local 10 received no communication from the American Labor party, with which it was affiliated, calling for the election of delegates, a motion immediately was made to table the resolution.

In a statement issued by the American Labor party the reasons why this organization does not participate in the Chicago conference are outlined. "The A. L. P. does not believe," the statement reads in part, "that a sufficient number of powerful national and international unions are ready to send delegates to Chicago. Most of the organizations that will be represented will be local in scope except a few state organizations. Considering this fact the Chicago conference to be held in July appears to the A. L. P. to be premature, lacking in any promise of good results and disappointing in its outcome."

Among the recommendations of the Executive Board approved by the members was one which extends the appointment of Morris Alovis as busi-

ness agent for the miscellaneous branch for the balance of the year.

July Fourth, Independence Day—which occurs on Wednesday, is a legal holiday. Cutters are instructed to keep away from their shops on that day. The agreements with the manufacturers in all branches of the ladies' garment industries, give the workers the right to refrain from working on July 4.

## CLOAK AND SUIT

The report of Samuel Perlmutter, manager of the down-town office of the Cloak Joint Board, and the action of business agent Benjamin Sacks in a very interesting case, are some of the activities for the past week in the cloak and suit branch.

In making up his regular report, Perlmutter made extracts of such parts of it as relate to the cutters. This, together with a communication, he submitted to Manager Dubinsky, who considers it a very good report, particularly now when the season still seems to be a good way off.

The manager of the down-town district submits a list of 23 shops against which liquidated damages were collected for violations of the agreement. The total amount collected, which, it is needless to say, was collected against firms found to have been doing their own cutting is \$502. Not only have the customary \$44 been collected as provided for in the agreement, but even such an amount as \$75 was collected from a firm which cut more than a week's work. There are some instances where \$35 has been collected. This, Perlmutter informs Dubinsky, was collected from some firms which seemed to have cut out only one or two day's work.

In addition to this report shows that the down-town office controls 288 shops and 46 stores. Sub-manufacturers number 293. There are 49 manufacturers and 45 "bundle contractors," firms who receive cut work. This makes a total of 243 shops in which cutting is done on the premises.

There are 242 cutters employed in the 243 shops. Of this number 17 shops employ between two and three cutters. The balance of the shops, numbering 207, employ one cutter each. It will thus be seen that not every shop employs a cutter. However, it should be borne in mind that the survey was made in the slack season, a time of the year when the "one man" houses do not employ cutters for full weeks.

Perlmutter in this report lists the wages received by the cutters working in his district. The wages range from \$44 to \$70. There are 45 men whose wages are from \$44 to \$45 per week. Twelve men receive from \$47 to \$49. To 66 men \$50 to \$55 is paid per week. Fifty-one men receive \$55 to \$57. Fifty men earn \$6 to \$62. And 18 cutters are paid from \$65 to \$70 per week.

Business agent Sacks earned the commendation of the office in a case which caused the organization a good deal of aggravation last season. The case refers to the employment of a non-union cutter by the firm of Yellin Brothers.

The firm was carefully watched by the office, as it was suspected that the agreement was being violated. Finally it did come to the attention of the Manager that a non-union boy was employed in this shop. When a few investigations brought this to light and the charges were proven the cutter appeared before the manager and requested permission to join Local 10. It is customary for

the office to make the condition that the non-union cutter, before he is permitted to join, must first promise not to seek working privileges for the shop from which he was removed, especially if the cutter is young and learned the trade in the particular shop.

The boy accepted the conditions and became a member of the union. A very short time lapsed and the office became aware of the fact that a member of the firm was cutting work. The firm seemed to pay very little attention to the union with regard to its shop. This was mainly due to the fact that the present was the slow time of the year. The employer took advantage of this, thinking that for the time being the union would take no action.

The office filed a complaint, which was given to business agent Sacks, in whose district the shop was. Brother Sacks seemed to have little regard for the fact that the present was the slack season. He proceeded with the complaint at once and insisted upon collecting damages for violation of the agreement.

The firm wanted, apparently, to give battle. A stoppage was ordered and after a short time, the matter was adjusted by the collection of \$50 damages. The money collected was turned over to the cutter whose job it was and who was deprived of the work which was done by the firm.

The firm was given very plainly to understand that only good standing members of the cutters' union should be hired for cutting. As to the cutter who practically received pay while he was out, he has learned that it pays to be loyal. The Manager feels Sacks is deserving of commendation because he took more than ordinary measure for the enforcement of the agreement.

## WAIST AND DRESS

There are two reasons why the present time is a very dull one in the dress and waist trade and union. First, the season has not yet begun—and second, the unions comprising the dress and waist joint board are in a state of turmoil because of the impending combinations of the dress-makers' and pressers' locals.

If the season were on, activities would not be lacking. But the dullness which hit the trade a few months ago has not yet abated. About three weeks ago it seemed as if the season was starting. Calls for cutters and patternmakers were coming in. Whenever calls for the latter grade workers began coming into the office, it is a sign that the season is approaching. It is the patternmakers who are the first to secure employment. It is these men who make and grade patterns and cut samples and duplicates, and generally prepare salesmen for the road. And two or three weeks later cutters are put on.

But the calls that came in seemed to be a false alarm. The men who were then hired were laid off in about one week's time. However, the time when the industry will assume its customary speed is not distant. The week after July 4th is normally the time.

As regards the carrying into effect of the G. E. B.'s decision to merge the dress locals, that work is being carried on gradually. Manager Dubinsky, as Vice-president of the International, is one of the committee appointed to effect the merger. It is his opinion that this would be an accomplished fact within four or six weeks.

Every local union is now confronted with the difficult task of readjusting itself to the new situation. It will be seen from the general report contained above that Local 10 too is confronted with a similar task. For the cutters it is not as big a job as it is for the other locals. Local 10 is practically one; it is simply a question of doing away with a branch.



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## CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10

### Notice of Regular Meetings

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