

"My righteousness
I hold fast,
and will not let
it go."
—Job 27.6

JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

Vol. V, No. 28.

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BONNAZ EMBROIDERERS, LOCAL 66, WIN 40-HOUR WEEK

Sign New Agreement With Association for Two Years

The Embroidery Workers' Union, Local 66, has gained a very important victory after conferences with the employers' association in the trade which lasted about four weeks. Under the terms of the new agreement which is to last until February 1st, 1925, the 40-hour week will become operative

on November 1st next, in all the bonnaz shops in the city.

The new agreement was signed on Thursday, July 5th, between Local 66 and the new employers' association, which took the place of the old liquidated association. The work hours in the embroidery shops will now conform to the hours prevailing

in all the dress and waist shops, where the 46-hour week was introduced after a short strike last Winter.

At these conferences, the Union's committee was headed by Max M. Esensfield, the manager of Local 66, and by Julius Hochman, manager of the Dress Joint Board, with which the local is affiliated.

LADIES' GARMENT BUTTON WORKERS ON STRIKE

Association Negotiates for Settlement With Union

On Tuesday morning, July 3rd, the workers in all cloth and celluloid button shops of New York went out in a general strike.

About three years ago they began to organize, and as the great majority of them are working for employers who supply with buttons the women's wear industry, they naturally turned for help to our International as an integral part of the industry. At that time they were granted a charter as Local 132, but the new organization did not display much vitality and very soon became

dormant.

The local, however, took a new lease on life several months ago when Brother Harry Dubinsky became its organizer. Since then the button workers' organization began to grow by leaps and bounds. There is in this trade also an association of manufacturers and, as soon as the union began to grow stronger and it became obvious that a strike for establishing uniform conditions in the trade was imminent, the employers got in touch with the officials of the union and commenced to confer on terms of a

general agreement in the industry.

The union nevertheless went on with its organization work preliminary to a general strike and as a result the button workers left their shops, obeying the call of the union last Tuesday morning. The main demands of the local are week-work, a forty-four hour week, recognition of the union, and an increase in wages. Heretofore fifty hours has been the rule in the trade and the wages were unusually low.

The strikers meet at Beethoven Hall and during the week they were

G. E. B. Committee Goes to Cleveland Next Week

The special committee elected by the General Executive Board to investigate general conditions and wage scales in the cloak industry will join President Sigman in Cleveland on or about July 10th. This committee, which consists of Vice-presidents Wampler, Feinberg, Ninfo, Heller and Bradley, has been charged by the G. E. B. to make a thorough survey of the cloak industry in the principal centers of the country with the purpose in view of evolving a general policy on the control of the jobbing trade and of a systematic method of protecting the above-the-minimum scales in the cloak industry.

While in Cleveland, the committee will study the results of production methods in that city and the way they affect workers' earnings. President Sigman, who is now in the Middle West, will join the committee on July 10th.

addressed by Vice-president Ninfo, Organizer Dubinsky, Brother Greenleaf, the chairman of the local, and Arturo Giovannitti, organizer of the International. About sixty per cent of the workers in the trade are Italians.

"Lefts" Fail in Phila. Elections Baltimore Strike Going Strong

Last Thursday, there took place elections for business agents in the Philadelphia Cloakmakers' Union.

The committee appointed by the General Executive Board to supervise the election, consisting of Vice-presidents Ninfo, Heller and Dubinsky, spent the entire day in Philadelphia, taking care that no unfair or discriminatory methods to any side be practiced during the balloting.

The Philadelphia Joint Board, of course, had its own election committee, but the special committee of the G. E. B. confined itself to observing that the "special" tactics employed by the "lefts" with the purpose of winning the election by every means fair or foul did not go too far. That the committee carried out its duty in the best manner possible is indicated by the fact that all sides in the campaign admitted that the election was properly handled, and if not for this committee there would have been a great

deal of trouble during the balloting.

As a result the "right" candidates were elected by a substantial majority, Brothers A. Damsky and George Rubin having been returned by 543 and 460 votes respectively. The two "left" candidates who failed of election were Brothers Sacks and Levine. They polled a small vote and the hysterical campaign conducted by their supporters did not appear to carry much weight with the Philadelphia cloakmakers. Another candidate, Brother Cohen, who ran as an "independent," also for the obvious purpose of splitting the vote opposed to the "lefts," received an insignificant vote.

The Philadelphia cloakmakers obviously are beginning to realize that it is time for the members to take matters in hand and to elect men for office who will represent the trade interests that affect the workers most in the best possible manner.

Mayor of Camden, N. J., Calls Conference to Settle Local Strike

The cloakmakers' strike in Baltimore is continuing at the same pace as it started. According to Vice-president Halperin, the leader of the strike, the strike situation in that city has come out much better than expected. Many shops which the union doubted would join the walkout have closed down and the cloak strike is pretty much general. A little more endurance and the strike will surely be won.

The purpose of the strike is to abolish the so-called open shops and to introduce union conditions in all the cloak factories. The main demands of the unions are week-work, recognition of the organization and a collective agreement. Among those in charge of the strike, besides Vice-president Halperin, are Brother Goldberg, International organizer in Baltimore, and Sister Ruth Gordon. The

strike also has the cooperation of the Central Labor Union of Baltimore, and Brother Browning, its president, appears sincerely interested in helping the strikers in whatever way he possibly can. The Central Labor Union is also helping our Baltimore organizers to fight in the courts the injunction which a local firm obtained against its workers.

In Camden, N. J., a strike against the firm of Leff & Company, a cloak shop, has been going on for several weeks. The Mayor of Camden has now taken a hand in the situation and has made an attempt to call both sides into conference. As yet, nothing has come out of this effort, but another conference is in view and it is hoped that better results will follow this final get-together between the union and the employer.

Two More Worcester Dress Shops Settle With Union

The strike against the dress manufacturers in Worcester, Mass., is being energetically pressed ahead. Not a striker has deserted the ranks of the union since the first day they have been out and the workers are confident that they will win.

On his trip to Boston last week, Secretary Baroff paid a visit to Worcester and addressed the strikers, together with Vice-president Fred Monoson, the leader of the strike. Last week two more shops settled with the union, the Fringely and the Master-son dress firms. There are only three more shops left on strike and these will also be compelled to settle soon

if they are to stay in the dress business in Worcester.

On July 1st, the agreement between the cloakmakers' union and the cloak manufacturers' association in Boston expired and forthwith conferences looking forward to the effecting of a new agreement began.

The Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union is represented at these conferences by a committee headed by Secretary Baroff and Vice-president Monoson. The union has put several new clauses in the new agreement. One of those points is for a readjustment of wages for a number

Appellate Court Approves Decision Denying Injunction

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, First Department with

of workers in the Boston cloak shops who get much less pay than they deserve. The union also demands of the local contractors' association that in a little shop composed of two or more workers only one should have the right to do actual work in the shop. They also ask for a change in the six legal holidays guaranteed by the old agreement. It would seem that there will be a peaceful settlement in Boston. The union, however, is ready for any emergency and will stand firmly by its demands.

Five judges sitting decided that it approved the decision of Justice Bijor of the Supreme Court denying the application of the Jeannette Dress Company, for an injunction against the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, and its affiliated locals.

The workers of the Jeannette Dress Company of 14 East 33rd Street went out on strike in the month of February, 1923, for the purpose of establishing union conditions in the factory of the Jeannette Dress Company. They picketed the shop and the employers applied for an injunction.

(Continued on Page 2)

Topics of the Week

By MAX D. DANISH

A VANDERBILT AND THE LABOR UNIONS.

THERE has been a strike in the street railway system of Schenectady for the last six weeks and as a result of this strike, city traffic in Schenectady and adjacent towns, despite the efforts of the trolley magnates to import professional strikebreaking talent, is at a standstill. The Schenectady trolley system belongs jointly to the New York Central and the Hudson & Delaware railways, and so when the State Industrial Commission arranged for a hearing last week on the possibilities of settling or arbitrating this strike, the press-reading public was treated to a rather interesting bit of testimony from William K. Vanderbilt, a director of the trolley company.

The general public is rarely given an opportunity to learn what a Vanderbilt thinks, if at all, on present-day problems and vicissitudes. The last pronouncements by a Vanderbilt on general matters which gained lasting fame was the memorable declaration of the old "Commodore" Vanderbilt more than a generation ago to the effect that the "public be damned." From this quintessence of bourgeoisism, it must be admitted, the Vanderbilt of 1923 has evolved an appreciable step forward. The Vanderbilt who testified before the Industrial Commission last week "approved" of trade unions and collective bargaining and believes in arbitration. But he does not attend board of directors' meetings very much and must perform, with the best of intentions, leave such "operating details" as the squelching of a strike by force to the operating officials who are everything but in favor of union recognition or dealing with union Vandebills.

In this respect Vanderbilt is but typical of the absentee landlord in modern industry. Perhaps he is sincere in his profession of "approval" of collective bargaining and unionism as an abstract proposition. The vague call of industrial justice may have touched or tinged his views somewhat. But it is a far cry from opining to "operating details." This must be left to the fighting watchdogs of the coupon books who are paid for it and who know how to use every weapon of brutality in present-day industrial warfare so that dividends continue to come in true, big and regular.

THE MINERS REMEMBER

IT IS a long way from a cloak shop to a coal mine. How many people, indeed, and not skeptically-minded necessarily, would have but a few years ago believed that, at a convention of anthracite miners, garment workers would be hailed as the closest friends and brothers-in-arms of the coal diggers, and a bond of everlasting friendship formed between the workers' organizations in these far remote industries?

Yet such are the facts. Such is history. When the anthracite miners gathered in convention last week at Scranton, Pennsylvania, one of the first sessions of the convention, at which Secretary Green spoke of the generous assistance offered and extended the miners during the great strike of last year, was given over to a fraternal demonstration for the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. Not only did our Union give the striking miners \$50,000 in cash, it succeeded in raising a loan of several times that amount to tide over the financial difficulties of the embattled coal diggers.

"We owe the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union a debt," said Secretary Green amid a storm of applause, "and should the Ladies' Garment Workers ever need a friend, we coal miners of America will be the first to help them."

This needs but little comment. And just as the miners remembered the fraternal aid so wholeheartedly given them by our workers during the critical days of last year's strike, so will the cloakmakers and dressmakers remember this comradely pledge in time of stress and need.

THE IMMIGRANT TIDE AT OUR DOOR

TO THE many aquatic sports there appears to have been added another one, which bids fair to become a regular annual classic.

It is the heart-breaking race of steamers laden with anguished, panting, human cargoes, to reach American shores as the hand of the clock shows twelve midnight on June 30th annually and to win the right to be admitted within the quota into the United States. Almost two dozen liners have for years been lying in wait at the starting line, carrying at least 16,000 persons who have farscuddled in distant lands to come knocking at America's door. But the Johnson law limits the number of immigrants who may enter in any one month. And if some unlucky alien, through ignorance or chance, have paid hard-earned money for passage on a slow ship, whatever their personal qualifications may be, they are hopeless losers.

The misery, the pain and anguish of the immigrants, and of the thousands that are being regularly detained at Ellis Island and other points of entry, have been told many times over. We are becoming hardened, accustomed, as it were, to these tragedies. These brutal restrictions may sound unbelievable for a nation which practically has been built up since its earlier days by immigration. But it is a fact that, from year to year as these restrictions grow, we are becoming ever more callous and indifferent to the fate of those who, driven by the woes of the Old World, come knocking at our door, only to be denied admission.

SWEATSHOPS IN JERSEY TOWNS

WHEN in the course of its organizing activities our Union has from time to time been forced to come out with charges that the sweatshop in the garment trades has come back to life in all its ugliness and atrocity in many of the small shops in New Jersey, Connecticut, and other adjoining territory, many good persons have been inclined to discount these charges as of "union propaganda." These nice folks must have received a real jolt when they read last week how several of these sweatshop bosses received heavy sentences in a Jersey City police court for giving home-work to children of school age and for otherwise violating shop laws in making women's garments.

In Jersey City and vicinity alone, some 400 complaints have been made which involved over forty such pest-nests. As has always been the contention of the Union, these bosses work for so-called "runaway" employers from New York who, in trying to dodge union work conditions in New York City, are setting up such sweatshops in New Jersey and elsewhere, where

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APPELLATE DIVISION DENIES INJUNCTION

(Continued from Page 1)

tion in the Supreme Court which was heard before Justice Bijur. They charged that the union had entered into a conspiracy for the purpose of ruining the business of the Jeannette Dress Company.

Morris Rothenberg appeared as attorney for the defendant unions and contended that the workers had a lawful right to strike and to picket with the object of improving their condition by unionizing the plaintiffs' factory, and that the evidence of interference was not such as to warrant any injunction.

Justice Bijur in the lower court

sustained the contention of counsel and denied the application for an injunction. He held that any interference with the workers could be controlled by the police and that the situation did not warrant injunctive relief.

The Jeannette Dress Company thereupon took an appeal from Justice Bijur's decision to the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court and the appeal came before the Appellate Division on June 15th. The Appellate Division in its decision by a vote of four judges against one sustained the view of Justice Bijur that the case did not warrant any injunction.

school children and young girls are employed at miserable wages and under violently bad conditions.

A humane judge sentenced the first batch of these offenders to sixty days in jail and imposed substantial fines, having refused to listen to pleas for commutation of sentence and to heed whippersnappers to set these offenders free. This is good news for the garment workers of New York. It will serve as a wholesome check to the greedy and crafty employers in the garment trades who would stop before nothing to dodge union conditions and the payment of a living wage. If garment shops are to be set up in the vicinity of New York, they will have to be operated on a legitimate basis, where workers in return for their labor will receive a fair wage and be accorded fair treatment.

TO FIGHT LABOR BY "MOVIES"

THE president of the National Foundry Association, the president of the National Association of Manufacturers, and a group of their fellow-workers for the weal of humanity have gone into the motion picture business. They have formed the American Motion Picture Corporation, capitalized at three million dollars, and they claim that their venture is an institution which aims purely and simply to promote Americanization by means of "educational and religious" films.

Incidentally the group knows in the world of industry as the most inveterate aggregation of "open-shoppers" and labor-baiters. Of course, their claims that they have gone into the motion picture business for "educational" purposes are not worth an egg-shell. Neither will any fair-minded person lend credence to their statement that they have entered the film business to fight the "Red menace" in this country. Any one who is familiar with the record of the huge capital and employing aggregations which they head knows their principal purpose is to fight organized labor and, as the natural inference from this, their new venture can be fairly designated as an undertaking to poison the minds of the American people through the screen against the efforts of organized labor to win a place in the sun for itself and to secure a higher standard of living.

The American labor movement would, perhaps, do well to take a page out of the book of their sworn enemies in this respect. The unspoken stage, the film, has become a tremendous factor in molding public opinion in America. Some time ago efforts were made to film passing events in the labor world, its appeal, its principles and its mission, from the labor union point of view. As yet these efforts have not made great headway. It is, perhaps, in good time now for the big labor unions of America to make an earnest attempt, so as to counteract the insidious and menacing move on the part of organized "Big Business" in this field.

FROM OUR JOINT BOARDS AND LOCALS

Boston News

Events in Local No. 20

By A LOCAL OBSERVER

By S. FREEDMAN

CLOAKS AND SUITS

Conferences are the order of the day among the cloakmakers in Boston—conferences with the jobbers, conferences with the contractors' association and individual manufacturers, and all because the agreements expire on July 1st and the fall season is already knocking at the door. The Joint Board is represented by a conference committee composed of the various crafts in the industry. This conference committee is headed by Abraham Baroff, secretary-treasurer of the International, and Vice-president Monosson. Brother Baroff spent the entire week in Boston in an effort to bring about an amicable adjustment so as to avoid a tie-up of the cloak and suit industry. The Union demanded a readjustment in the wages of those workers in the trade who are at present not receiving a remuneration for their work commensurate with their skill and ability. It further demands from the contractors' association that, in those of their shops where there are two or more partners, only one of them be permitted to engage in the actual work of producing garments. There are a number of other minor demands, among which is a change in the legal holidays. Under the old agreement the cloakmakers get six legal holidays with pay. Even if there is no work at all during a holiday week, they are to receive pay for the holiday. But the Union finds that it is much easier to collect for holidays when they occur in the busy season. With this in view, the Union desires to give up Memorial Day and Thanksgiving Day and get in place of these the first of May and Election Day. There is also a demand for a certain number of machines in a shop, before it will be recognized and dealt with as such. The Joint Board hopes that a settlement will be reached but in any event is well prepared for war, should occasion demand it.

WAIST AND DRESS

The trade slowed down this week to a considerable degree, but in the majority of the shops samples for the fall season are being made, and from all appearances the slack season will be short-lived.

In a number of instances the manufacturers contemplate closing their shops for the week of the Fourth of July, thereby evading payment to their workers for the holiday. The office will, however, insist in all such cases that the firms live up to the agreement, which provides for six legal holidays with pay, whether the shop is open or closed during the week of a holiday. A letter was at once dispatched to the president of the contractors' association which read as follows:

"It has come to our attention that some of the members of your Association contemplate closing their shops for the week of the Fourth of July.

"The Union considers this an attempt to evade the payment of wages for Independence Day to our workers.

"In order to avoid unnecessary conflicts and friction, we wish to call your attention to the clause in our agreement which reads as follows:

"18. The Employer agrees to observe the following list: (6) Legal Holidays with pay to all the workers, week-workers as well as piece-workers, men and women, as follows: MEMORIAL DAY, INDEPENDENCE DAY, LABOR DAY, THANKSGIVING

ING DAY, CHRISTMAS DAY AND NEW YEAR'S DAY.

"It should be understood that week-workers are to be paid for these days on the rate of their regular weekly earnings; piece-workers on the rate of their respective minimum wage scales."

"The Union is going to hold your Association collectively and your members individually responsible for the pay of the workers for that holiday.

"Yours truly,

"Waist and Dressmakers' Union,
"Local No. 49."

At the Executive Board meeting of Thursday, June 28, it was decided that the Union arrange an excursion for our members for Saturday, July 28, 1923. This excursion will go to Provincetown on the Cape, one of the historical and most beautiful spots in New England. The price of the tickets depends on the number of the participants, but in no event will it amount to more than \$1.50 per person. Letters announcing this excursion will be sent out to all shop-chairmen, and it is to be hoped that our members will participate in great numbers, so as to make a real get-together.

WORCESTER NEWS.

The news from Worcester this week is very cheerful. Two of the shops, namely, Feingold's and the Martman Dress Company, settled during the week. All the strikers in these shops will return to work as victors on Monday, July 2d. The shop of Schultz Company was settled some three weeks ago. There are now only three shops out, against whom the strike will be even more vigorously prosecuted. The strikers were at no time lacking in courage, but the fact that most of the manufacturers were compelled to come to terms with the Union has inspired the workers who are resolved to stay out for months if necessary in order to achieve a complete victory. Another occurrence during the week helped to put the strikers in a cheerful frame of mind, and that is the visit to Worcester of Brother Abraham Baroff, secretary-treasurer of the International, who stopped off here on his way to Boston. A meeting of all the strikers, as well as of the workers in the settled shops and of the cloak and suit workers, was arranged for Tuesday morning, which was addressed by Brother Abraham Baroff and Vice-president Fred Monosson, the leader of the general strike. At the conclusion of the meeting a spontaneous cheering demonstration took place in honor of the International for its generous aid in the present struggle. A resolution was unanimously passed to this effect, amidst the cheers of the assembled strikers.

The visit of Brother Baroff to Worcester coincided with the walkout of the New England telephone operators. When the meeting was over the strikers decided to march in a body to the telephone exchange to cheer up those who were picketing around the building. When the president of the Worcester local of the telephone operators and the pickets who were there at the time saw the army of girls coming towards the exchange in one long file two abreast, they became frightened, thinking that the company had succeeded in importing scabs to take their places. But when they found out who these marchers were, there was cheering that could be heard for blocks around.

Our member meetings, which are being held regularly on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month, have been very well attended lately. We have from three to four hundred members at each meeting, and it would seem that the rule imposing a fine of two dollars on each worker who fails to attend a member meeting at least once a month has produced good results.

This lack of attendance at union meetings is a burning question with a great many labor unions. Whether or not the imposition of fines will make them attend is, of course, a problem; we are, however, decided to try out this experiment, and the members might as well know that this decision adopted by the meeting of the shop chairmen will be strictly carried out.

We have made a few settlements lately which are decidedly worthwhile pointing out. These are the agreement with the Norman Rubbercoat Company of New York and the settlement with the Schwartz firm in South Norwalk, Conn.

The first of these has been warring against our local for the last three years. It opened a shop at Columbus, Ohio, and tried in addition to send its work into every scab-nest it could discover operating under cover. But its Columbus shop proved a failure and so it moved to Mount Vernon, N. Y. But here, too, things were not entirely satisfactory and our local became declared a strike against it in Mount Vernon and soon stopped the shop. Finally, the firm applied for a settlement and recently, with the help of Dr. Paul Abelson, we reached an agreement with it on very favorable terms. The firm obligated itself to manufacture its products in union shops and under union conditions exclusively. The strong feature about the agreement is that prices once settled at the beginning of the season cannot later be changed for the worse at the will of either the jobber or the manufacturer.

This is the beginning in the direction of making the jobber in our trade responsible too for the prices and working conditions in his contracting shops—a task which is facing us and which will have to be met as we approach the renewal of agreements with our employers in general.

One of the oldest firms in our trade,

Edward Krieger & Company, recently embarked on this new-fangled jobber plan, giving up their factory with its forty-odd employees, and going into "jobbing exclusively." It is not, by the way, the first time that we have had trouble with this firm, which has more than once broken its contract with the union. Why then, give up non-union shops out of town?

The union declared this move by the Krieger firm was a lockout and told the firm that it would declare it on strike. The firm thereupon notified the local that it had changed its mind and would, for the time being, continue operating its plant.

We hope that the Krieger firm will realize that the union is alive to this "jobbing" scheme and will not permit forty-five men to be thrown out of their jobs just like that. They seem to be satisfied with their set of workers and have no trouble at present with the union. Why, then, give up the inside shop and court a scrap with the local?

We gladly announce to our members and to the readers of this journal that we have finally moved our office to the new headquarters, at 130 East 25th Street, corner Lexington Avenue, third floor.

We have a well-furnished, spacious and light office now—where our members could spend an hour or two of their leisure time in a congenial atmosphere. It is a conveniently located office too—as all elevated trains and subways lead there—and our members will take advantage of this fact and become steady and regular visitors.



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spirit such as is shown by these workers, a strike cannot be lost. A committee of the Worcester strikers discovered that one of their employers is giving work to the Savoy Dress Company, 132 Harrison Avenue, Boston. The office of Local No. 49 was notified and the shop was stopped on Friday, June 22d. At the time of writing the Savoy Dress Company is still on strike.

JUSTICE

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Harding's New World Court Plan

By B. MEIMAN

(Special Washington Correspondent to "Justice")

Like Abraham of old, President Harding was compelled to sacrifice his own and only offspring, the World Court—in the interests of peace. Not of world peace—perish the thought!—but in the interest of peace in the Republican Party. World peace is of considerably less importance to Harding than harmony in the ranks of his own party, than peace with the political forces that might renegade him and re-elect him as President.

"I could not do otherwise. My soul yearns for peace. My heart is anguished by the sufferings of war. My spirit is eager to serve. My passion is for justice over force. My hope is in the great court. My mind is made up."

These words from President Harding's speech are beautiful, virile words. So speaks a man with a *stern* will whose opinion once made up is adamant. Yet, how odd these words round when placed side by side with the other parts of the same speech, in which he made a complete right-about-face in his plan on the World Court. Before there was a chance to count noses upon Harding's original pet proposal, the President acquired the proverbial cold feet and turned turtle on the entire plan. In this last speech he made such changes in the World Court scheme as would all but eliminate the entire plan. Yes, his soul yearns for peace—peace with those who are for and those who are against the World Court,—peace with the "irreconcilables," the Borahs, the Johnsons, the LaFollettes, and peace too with the Lodge and Smoots in the Senate, and with all other important Republican politicians outside of it.

President Harding was chosen as the standard-bearer of his party because of his ability as a peacemaker. Party harmony is President Harding's

ideal, which he worships loyally and honestly, and when this god calls upon Harding to sacrifice his sole offspring upon the altar of peace, Harding asks no question and, like Father Abraham, feeds his son to the pyre.

What saintliness! What a great political prince he is, our President Harding! In the Republican paradise he surely is entitled to a seat of honor at the great feast-table.

When President Harding first came out with his plan about the World Court, no one suspected him of having invented this scheme out of his own head. Everybody knew that wiser heads than his own had taken a hand in its preparation. And those who are in the knowing are aware that Hughes had proposed this plan to the President and influenced him to push it before the public authorities. The very first author of the plan was Elihu Root, who also prepared the plan on how the eleven judges comprising the World Court were to be elected. The plan which is adopted at present is that the judges of the World Court are chosen by the council and the assembly of the League of Nations.

That the authors of the original plan of America's participation deemed it very important to determine the way and manner of the election of the justices of this court can be seen from the letter written by Secretary Hughes to President Harding last, before President Harding came out openly in favor of the World Court. In this letter, Secretary Hughes says as follows:

"The practical advantages of the present system of electing judges by the majority votes of the council and assembly of the League of Na-

tions, acting separately, is quite manifest. It was this arrangement which solved the difficulty, heretofore appearing almost insuperable, of providing an electoral system conserving the interests of the powers, both great and small. It would be impracticable, in my judgment, to disturb the essential features of this system."

We can see therefrom that the manner of the selection of the justices is one of the paramount parts of the World Court and the original authors of the plan are strongly opposed to any changes in this plan.

Nevertheless, after four months of battling for the plan, and having cried, "My mind is made up, my resolution is fixed," President Harding in the fifth month turns somewhat in true aristocratic fashion and sends forth a brand-new plan on this pet scheme of his, a plan which will most likely carry the responsibility of America's participation in the World Court.

What are Harding's new changes? They amount to the following:

1. In the event of the death of one of the justices or whenever a vacancy is created on the World Court bench for any other reason, the judges themselves are to fill such a vacancy.

2. That the justices of the World Court be nominated by the permanent arbitration court of The Hague and that the election of these judges be taken from the hands of the council and assembly of the League of Nations, to be given over to the other judges of the Court. President Harding also proposed that the World Court be nominated not by the League of Nations but by the permanent arbitration court which sits at The Hague or by a special committee to be created for this purpose.

These changes will make the World Court entirely independent of the League of Nations. It will, so believes the President, fully satisfy the irreconcilables who shudder at the thought that America might sneak into the League of Nations through a back-door.

What will the practical results of this change in the President's plan

amount to? It appears almost certain that in a practical sense the plan is entirely doomed. First, its chances for passing the Senate have become materially smaller, and second, even if adopted by the Senate, it will most likely be rejected by other nations.

If President Harding could have hoped that this plan would pass the Senate, it was merely because he was certain that the Democratic Senators, with the possible exception of a few, would all support the plan of America's participation in the World Court. The Republicans in favor of such participation would, with the Democrats, perhaps number the sufficient two-thirds majority which is required for it. Without the aid of the Democrats, Harding can have no hope whatever of obtaining two-thirds of the Senate in favor of his plan. The recent changes made in the plan by the President will compel all the Democrats to vote against the plan—so that there can be no doubt—which in other words means that the proposal will never be sanctioned by the Senate.

And should it by some miracle pass the Senate, a series of long and protracted diplomatic negotiations will have to be started with other governments that have to change their decisions with regard to the election of these World Court justices as that is the main conflict in the American plan. This diplomatic path is so long, tedious and doubtful that it will most probably kill the plan at least for the next few years to come.

This is what President Harding sought to accomplish. Even if the Senate adopts his plan, there will be no split in his party for the next few years, such as this problem threatened to bring about. For the time being a united Republican Party will again nominate him for President, and traditionally Harding believes the nomination of the united political party is strong enough to carry its candidate into the White House, which in the end is the only important thing that counts.

It is needless to add that this candidate for which Harding is so zealously working is no other than himself, the great apostle of a petty peace.

A Workers' Artist

Ditte: Toward the Stars. By Martin Andersen Nexø. Henry Holt & Co., 1922.

By SYLVIA KOPALD

Since the first beginnings of Soviet Russia, the Russian workers and peasants have gazed towards a new art. Above art, suffering and the pain, Russia's soul has striven for expression. There has been something tremendously stirring in this creative activity born amidst such uncertainties and travail. The stories of crowded theatres and opera houses, of a rich literary and artistic renaissance, of a greatly increased interest in form and material have testified, together with the economic and political programs, to the new Russia that is rising.

One persistent note has sounded through this stimulated creative life in Russia. Russia is building a new kind of art, it has been said, just as it is building a new social world. This will be a worker's art, written in a new direct way of, to and by the great mass who, in a world without economic classes, become truly the people.

There can be little doubt but that such a world as Russia is painfully building must yield an art entirely different from that of the capitalist world, just as capitalist art is different from feudal. For art is a mirror of life and how men react to it. Because men's interests, concerns, dominant attitudes are different in Russia from what they are in, say

America, Russia's art must be different. Its artists see different things, respond to different stimuli.

So much may be granted. On the other hand, it is a mistake to believe that there is nothing we may call worker's art in the capitalist world. Nor am I thinking only of such fragments as Upton Sinclair gathered together in his interesting "Cry for Justice." There are painters, poets, sculptors, novelists, dramatists whose work portrays predominantly, if not entirely, the struggles and lives of the toilers. In recent years an increasing number of writers have been drawn into the workers' world. And little wonder. Artists are sensitive hearts and there is nothing else in the present-day world so stirring, so significant and so sad as that world of workers. Gorki, Hauptmann, Toller, Nexø are, perhaps, the outstanding names among the workers' artists.

When Martin Andersen Nexø went to Russia some months ago, the masses there immediately hailed and accepted him as one of their own. When Nexø returned he spoke of Russia's strivings as only one who is heart and soul a part of them can speak. To any who knew Nexø's work these things were no surprise. Nexø always has been a workers' artist.

With this third and final volume of

Ditte's story he has completed his second epic of the working class. *Pelle, the Conqueror*, gave us first the working man—his childhood, his young manhood, his maturity. We follow Pelle in the three volumes of his life from the farm on which his father worked to his activity in his trade union. When we turn the last page we know that Pelle remains forever ours. Ditte is the working class woman. Her life also is traced from childhood to maturity. But hers is a bleaker life, as woman's is always bleaker than man's. The world in which they move is so true that the pages of the books are no boundary line between them. Pelle appears frequently in Ditte's path. Because they are working men and women of Denmark, their life is in many ways superficially different from ours. But basically the struggle of the poor is one.

In the last volume of Ditte's epic is packed practically the whole tragedy of the workers. Winter's cold, with not enough money to buy warmth; sickness, with not enough money to buy proper care; childhood, with not enough money to buy for it heedlessness and joy; hunger, with not enough money to buy food; craving for beauty and decency and self-respect, with only sordidness, dirt, and the doles of charity; and always, everywhere unemployment or its shadow. In this world Ditte moves, an ever worried, harried mother.

For Ditte is a "mother-heart." She can never resist a child's cry. In addition to her own brood she has taken over the care of two waifs. The tenements among which & her

home teem with children. To all of them as well as to their older folk she is "Mother Ditte." It means added work, this maternal bungalow of "Ditte." For she can never see a baby that has dirtied itself without leaping to make it comfortable again; or a child that is unhappy without seeking to bring it joy again. And the heart-rendering struggle to support her own. There is the baby that has just been born to her (after its father's death) and Peter and Anna. There are more, too, although they are grown-up. For mother-hearts worry over all the needy. There is always splendid Karl, who loves her, and the lodger (Herr Kramer) who never pays his rent and old Kasmussen; and intermittently many others.

The struggle to make ends meet steadily cripples Ditte's strength. The radiant stripes of poverty's ruses and her heavy worries terribly quickly. Work is always so hard to get. Ditte takes everything. She scrubs steps and goes out to risk folk "by the day." In desperation she tries to strike out on her own. She buys a sewing machine on installment and apprentices herself to a contractor. The contractor refuses to keep her a learner (at a fraction of her true worth) but Karl puts an end to that. Ditte then sums proudly "on her own." This gives her a chance to be with her children and bring the pennies in. And the agency from whom she has bought the machine is so considerate when she so much needs it that she pays nothing. When she has paid 100 of the 300 kronen due, however, she

(Continued on Page 5)

At The Miners' Convention.

By J. CHARLES LAUE

The one organization that was singled out for compliments at the recent convention of the delegates of 158,000 anthracite miners at Scranton, Pa., was the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union. All through the coal fields of Eastern Pennsylvania the Italian, Slavic, Welsh and Irish miners and their sons, the young American miners, knew about the generosity of the International toward the miners in their great struggle from April to October, 1922, when they successfully resisted the wage reduction movement and stemmed the tide of reaction against all this labor unions.

This acknowledgment was made publicly from the platform by William Green, secretary-treasurer of the United Mine Workers of America. He also expressed his admiration for the International's members and its leaders.

"If the International ever needs a friend, it can count upon the miners of America," he remarked.

As a result of this demonstration of solidarity, a bond has been established between the needle workers and the coal diggers that nothing can dissolve. The tribute to the International by Secretary Green follows:

"The employers of labor will hesitate a long time before they will do battle with this body of men again. We won our six months' struggle with

a half million men involved and practically without funds. Now, with the United Mine Workers fully recovered in numerical, moral and financial strength, we can, if necessary, fight again.

"We had the last fight under adverse circumstances. All industries felt the hand of depression. At that time the finances of the miners' organizations were low, but we didn't let the newspapers or reporters about it. The fact is we won our fight without money. What couldn't we do if we ever get some money?"

"We had to raise money and we went up and down the land looking for a friend who could loan us a few dollars. We called on a splendid organization in New York City, the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union and they responded with fifty thousand big, broad American dollars.

"The United Mine Workers will never forget this help extended by this wonderful union. If the situation is ever reversed and the Ladies' Garment Workers need aid, and we can give it, they need but call upon us and we will respond."

"If the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union ever needs a friend, the United Mine Workers of America is ready to be that friend."

Secretary Green then related how the miners' organization was successful in raising a million dollars from

banks in New York City, and from banks in the Middle West, loans received without any collateral and no more security than the honesty and integrity of the union leaders and the fact that a half million men were backing the miners' organization.

"I asked a banker why it is that you require such gilt-edged security when lending money to corporations and none from the U. M. W.," remarked Secretary Green.

"The banker replied: 'The resources of the U. M. W. and its backing of 500,000 members is all the security I ask!'"

"When the general coal settlement was made last September and the strike was won, the battle had to be continued in sections of Pennsylvania and West Virginia. A total of \$709,000 was poured into the Connellsville coke fields (around Pittsburgh) which had never been organized and from which the miners' organization has never received one cent in dues," Green declared.

"Yet," he added, "the professional critics had found fault with the United Mine Workers for not winning the strike there." He related that, to avoid recognizing the union, the Frick Coke and Coal Company lifted the wage of the coke workers from \$4 a day to \$7.50, and when the non-union men saw the notice at the pickets of the mines that they were to get five cents more than the union scale "the Devil himself could not keep them from going back."

Secretary Green said the United Mine Workers would countenance no backward step and no reduction in

wages, yet he cautioned the delegates to take notice of public opinion.

"There is something tender and sensitive in America now—public opinion," asserted Secretary Green. "Just now we want to try and feel the pulse of public opinion. It is hard to win a strike without public opinion on your side. You cannot win it if it is crystallized against you. Let us be strong and united. In our demands, confident that the good people of America will be with us."

There was considerable excitement at the convention over the charges of radicalism brought against Rinaldo Capellini, the newly elected president of District 1, of Scranton. These charges were as vigorously denied by the leader of the 70,000 coal miners of that region. He too had heard of the International.

"They denounce me with being a radical," he said. "Look at the International Ladies Garment Workers. They are radical and are admitted to be one of the finest labor organizations we have."

To be acquainted with the International and its leaders is like a pass word in the entire coal district, for although so entirely different racially and so widely separated in their industries, the bonds between the 500,000 miners and the 500,000 needle workers, (if we include all the big unions) are strong, for the miners and the garment workers have the same ideas about the future when labor will be on top. These million workers in America are moved by the same spirit of class consciousness.

When A Volcano Speaks

By A. LEBEDIGER

Every animated object and everything that lives in our terrestrial plane has its own peculiar tongue.

Man, the liveliest talker among the animal family, talks in words, in a studied, grammatically-arranged manner. Beast and cattle, dumb-tongued though they be, give vent to their "talk" in baying, howling, meowing, and similar semi-articulate sounds. Birds talk in chirp and song; the forest, talks as its leaves stir and rustle; the rivers and brooks speak through the undulating ripples of their waves and ripples; the sky above speaks the language of thunder and lightning—and the language of the volcano is fire and lava.

When a volcano goes to sleep for any length of time we seem to believe that it has lost its tongue, that it has become deaf and, for all that, dead. Then man regains confidence and builds a house under the shadow of the dumb-erective fiery ridge. But when the volcano becomes active again—say it has again found its tongue and again it says to a terrified mankind: "Beware, I speak again, and

I talk not in vain. Not a phrasemonger am I like so many of you of the human kind. Every word of mine is a sheet of flame, that leaves a fiery mark behind it, that annihilates and leaves destruction behind it...."

When I read of an awakening volcano spilling boiling lava down into the blooming valleys and dales under its feet, my fancy interprets it to me as an act of vengeance. It is the volcano revenging itself on the little men who sit at its feet, and absorbed in their petty daily tasks, believe that it has lost its power, that it is all played out. No living thing will admit death—and least of all a volcano.

A volcano, in this respect, is like a great genius. A genius, too, will at times pass into a lapse of power, a strange unaccountable atrophy. And people then come to believe that his rule is ended, that his gifts have evaporated, that he is all played out. But then, of a sudden, the genius is awakened; again the genius creates and keeps an astounded world wondering at his marvelous resurrection....

A Workers' Artist

(Continued from Page 4)

consideration abruptly ends. They take the machine away. Poor Dittie! Things go hard indeed. Karl of the brave heart and clear mind gets pneumonia. While tender him as best she can. But the ordeal is too much for her tired body. As soon as he recovers she allows herself the luxury of collapsing. Then little Peter becomes the breadwinner. He picks up fallen coal from the railroads and carries bundles. He does very well and things look promising—until he is caught one night under the wheels of a locomotive and crushed. The unemployed and the unions give him a "demonstration" funeral. But Dittie's weak heart cannot stand this last blow. She goes to "join Peter," and

"fight the workers' case among the stars."

The world goes on after she has left it—much as she left it. The workers still hunt jobs and fall to demonstrating Karl's stirring union talk. The ragspickers and scrubwomen still grovel about in others' dirt. The rich still move in another world and attempt with one hand to stop demonstrations and unions and with the other to dole out charity. The snooty, dirty children still seek their childhood in the dreary alleys of the slums. "Old Dittie lives in vain!" she sighs in conclusion.

It is for workers to make sure that she did not. Her story should be on every worker's bookshelf, next to that of Pella.

Volcanoes and geniuses alike, so we should like to believe, never die out entirely. They may slumber and retire for the while, but the smouldering fire still persists and prepares the moment for new, wonderful, albeit terrible outbursts.

.....

The language of volcanoes is not the ordinary daily prose which we all so well know. It is the language of revolution.

It is a language which knows no pity. Its every bark is a death sentence; every flicker a severe decree,— warning to all weak down-hillers that they must flee and help themselves betimes lest they be overwhelmed and lost without a trace.

The language of a volcano and of revolution knows of no halting barrier, control, or rule. Whatever they meet on their way they exterminate root and branch and wipe off the sur-

A Plea for Pleaters

Dear Editor:

I should like to ask you to print this letter if possible.

The organization activities of the I. L. G. W. U. are extending from day to day. The present time is not only favorable for organizing the skilled worker, but the unskilled as well.

The pleating trade, which was once organized and later disbanded, is employing more than 5,000 pleaters and helpers in New York alone. Now the time is opportune to reorganize

the pleaters and to organize the stitchers who are employed in that trade. I am not aware of the organization system formerly employed by the International, but I do know that in the past three years no organizing activity in this trade has been undertaken.

I happen to come into continual contact with workers employed in the trade and find they are very eager to be organized. I wish to call this fact to the attention of the I. L. G. W. U., which organization is in a position to organize that trade.

Very truly ours,

SIMON SCHIFF,
Member, Local 22.

LABOR FESTIVAL AND CONCERT IN CITY COLLEGE STADIUM AUG. 6TH

On Monday, August 6th, the workers of New York City will take over the City College Stadium, in one of the largest working-class demonstrations of its kind in the history of the City.

Under the direction of the New York Call, the Jewish Daily Forward, the Verband and the Naturalization Aid League, and numerous other la-

bor groups of the City and vicinity, a workers' music festival has been arranged for that evening.

If you want the Negro workers in your shop to join the Union, to become members in the I. L. G. W. U., or to help in the labor, ask them to read—

THE MESSENGER

The Only Trade Union Publication for Negro workers in America

2305 Seventh Avenue
New York City

JUSTICE

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EDITORIALS

HARDING AS THE SAVIOR OF THE LABOR MOVEMENT

Who would have believed it?

Harding, who heretofore has correctly been classed as an enemy of the labor movement and who, by his actions in every clash between capital and labor, has clearly demonstrated his anti-labor bias, of a sudden declared in his speech at Helena, Montana, the other day that he is the warmest and most devoted friend of organized labor in America! And who is most amazing in this speech he did not take the least trouble to explain the contradiction between all that has been done against the labor unions under his administration and this startling declaration that he had all but saved the labor movement from destruction.

We can only explain it on the ground that President Harding is another "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde,"—a type which is not as rare as some people are inclined to believe.

The picture of Harding as a "great friend and savior of labor" side by side with the activities of his Attorney General during the last shopmen's strike, for instance, or during the miners' strike, is anything but harmonious. Can it be possible that President Harding believes that the great American public has by this time already forgotten these events? Frankly, our sole explanation for this remarkable Montana speech is that President Harding has himself entirely forgotten his other dual personality; that Mr. Hyde, who had played such a significant part when organized labor was fighting for its life last year, is now on his agitation tour, entirely merged in that lovable, humane and pleasing personality of Dr. Jekyll.

Our assumption that Harding the preacher is entirely out of contact with Harding the doer is still further supported by the fact that the President seems to have forgotten that there still lives in America one Samuel Gompers, a person who, whatever his shortcomings, is pretty long on memory, and who could surely be counted upon to quickly remind Mr. Harding that his startling professions of "friendship for labor" are largely myth and fiction.

And, sure enough, Samuel Gompers was not long in setting Harding straight with regard to his rather unexpected confession of love for labor. We quote from this reply some passages which we are honestly convinced cannot be refuted by anyone who has lived in America during the last few years. Says Gompers:

"It is difficult to find, in the injunction brought by the Harding Department of Justice against the miners and railroad workers, any great effort to conserve the forces of organized labor. . . . Those whose memory is not short will recall that, when Harding's Attorney General obtained his injunction against the railway shopmen, he declared in court: 'As long as I can speak for the Government of the United States I will use the entire force of the Government to prevent the labor unions from destroying the open shop.'"

"If the labor movement in America has not been destroyed, it is because the unions themselves have saved the day, and they have done this in spite of the official acts of some of the President's leading officials and advisers."

Gompers replied to Harding's confession of love for the workers in the most effective manner, by arraying a formidable mass of incontrovertible facts. But there are in that Helena speech of President Harding a few other points and thoughts which deserve consideration. In speaking of the prosperity brought about by the war and the sense of "justice" which this war developed among our capitalists towards the workers, President Harding sermonizes as follows:

"The worker indeed is fast becoming one of the great creators of capital, either by concentrating his savings from wages in his own banks, the number of which continues to multiply, or by depositing his savings in other banks. The result nevertheless is the same. The worker is becoming more and more the financier and the controller of his own labor. Never again shall we return to the time when large sections of the community were prone to adopt the view that a deep chasm divides capital and labor. The worker is becoming more and more a capitalist on his own account."

But is this true? Let us see for a moment. If it is true that the worker becomes himself a capitalist, why talk about a labor movement, about labor unions? What good are they if there are no exploiters, and if exploiters and labor and capital are one in body and soul? The worker, says President Harding, quickly becomes one of the creators of capital. This remark re-

quires but a little correction. The worker is not now becoming one of the principal creators of capital. Capital is the result of labor and of labor only. To say therefore that the worker is now becoming one of the great creators of capital is simply not to understand the true character of capital. It may surprise us that the President of the United States would not know such a simple thing as a thing which Lincoln understood seventy years ago—but such is the case.

And now let us go a step further. A capitalist, as commonly understood, is a person who, in one manner or another, has absorbed as his own what others had created. To say therefore that the worker quickly can become a capitalist is sheer nonsense. For should a worker become a capitalist, he would perforce have to take away from others and appropriate to himself the labor of others, in which case he would become the exploiter and those whose products he would appropriate would become the exploited. What concerns the fact that workers save up some crumbs which remain from their wages and put them away in savings institutions, which gets for them some annual interest, we shall admit that this does make them miniature "capitalists,"—save for the distinction that their savings are not applied by them for the exploitation of others, but for the improvement of their own lives at their own expense. In other words, instead of consuming all they honestly earn for their immediate needs, they save up as much as possible to provide for a sick or old day for old age when they are no longer capable of earning a living.

If this, in Harding's opinion, means that workers become capitalists, we can only say that the President has discovered nothing new. Bitter want and merciless exploitation have taught laborers in times immemorial the virtue of saving something for the next day. The same want taught them later to build unions, to organize and to provide themselves with the necessary weapons in the ceaseless conflict with their exploiters. It is therefore ridiculous to hear the President assert, because some labor unions have their own banks where workers deposit their savings instead of leaving their puny surpluses in the banks controlled by their employers, that workers are becoming capitalists and that the problem of capital and labor is already solved.

Labor banks cannot convert workers into capitalists as long as these workers have to earn a living from their labor and are compelled to yield a substantial part of their labor to capital. Labor banks will not abolish this state of affairs and, as long as substantial part of the earnings of workers and laborers remain deep and unbridgeable. This chasm will be filled to the brim not when every worker will have become a capitalist but when every capitalist will have become a worker.

This and only this is the very soul of the labor movement. No sophistry, no sweet talk, and no flattery by either labor or capital to each other will change this situation one hair's breadth. It is true that the labor movement in America, young as it is, is itself not entirely clear on its own ultimate aims and purposes. Even Samuel Gompers does not see, or rather would not see, it. He is too much concerned with the daily fight of labor to give greater thought to the deeper meaning and striving of the labor movement. That is why he deems it necessary to declare himself in agreement with President Harding against the nationalization of certain industries, and against the abolition of private property in certain public utilities.

Gompers believes it necessary to declare that the labor movement as a whole is opposed to it. This may be true for the moment, but for the moment only. Soon, very soon, the entire labor movement will arrive at the point of view which is substantial part of this movement has already reached; namely, that the abolition of private property in everything which can be justly treated as public property is the only way from the present chaos to a condition of real economic orderliness.

THE UNITED MINE WORKERS AND THE COMMUNISTS

In arguing with our local Communists, we have never failed, among other things, to strongly resent the fact that, of all the sections in the American labor movement, they have picked as their choice playground our Jewish labor unions with the aid of which they would make a social revolution in America, entirely neglecting such basic labor bodies as the railway workers, the miners, the building trades, whose role in such a planned revolution would obviously be far more important and decisive.

Our argument seems to have had some effect upon the apostles of domestic Communism, for, as we see from the daily press, they have finally made an attempt to invade the United Mine Workers and to begin boring from within.

But, oh, what a sad and awful beginning! Even before they had managed to produce the slightest ripple or crevice, Mr. Lewis, the president of the miners, rather impolitely had shown them the door; and, most remarkable of all, not only was there no protesting voice heard against such autocratic action on the part of Mr. Lewis, but all these minor delegates at the Scranton convention were ready to use violence upon these "union disrupters," as Mr. Lewis called them. For a while it looked as if they really would have had a close call, if not for a few newspaper reporters who came to their aid and saved them from serious injury.

Thus the first step towards the social revolution ended in America in a highly tragic manner.

Had this, for instance, happened at a convention of railway workers, the aristocrats, the "bankers" of the labor movement, some explanation could have been found for it: "These

What the Fifth Quarterly Meeting Has Accomplished

By S. YANOVSKY

III.

Not less than nineteen committees appeared at the last meeting of the General Executive Board. They occupied at least one-third of all the sessions and almost each of them had an important purpose in view. Most of these committees represented our own locals who came to ask advice and guidance on matters immediately concerning them, while other committees, though not directly affiliated with our International, were nevertheless closely allied with the general labor movement and could not therefore be regarded as outsiders.

The appearance of these committees is of great value to the members of the Board themselves, for, while the Board cannot always gratify the demands of these committees, it learns from them first-hand the actual condition of the sub-divisions of our union and the state of affairs in the labor movement in general. These committees often throw light upon a subject from different angles and give the members of the Board the opportunity to judge matters more accurately and impartially. These committees are always given an opportunity to have their full say, and, before they leave, they are usually given a chance to answer questions by the members of the Board and to listen to parting remarks of the president. Brevity might not hurt the appeals of the committeemen and their cases would not suffer much thereby. But it seems that most of the committees appearing before the Board are under the impression that the longer they speak the more effective will they make their cases appear. President Sigman, on the other hand, is very hospitable and, as not infrequently every member of a large committee desires to have his say, these statements drag out into hours. The only satisfaction to be derived from these prolonged affairs is that none of these committeemen can later say that he or she did not have the chance

to state before the members of the Board all he intended to say.

A committee from the Knitgoods Workers' Union came to request a charter from the International. Hitherto this union has not been affiliated with any international union. At the time they had belonged to the Textile Workers, but the knitgoods industry has since assumed an entirely different character and has practically become a ladies' garment trade. They have operators, finishers and cutters, and very often cloak-makers are employed in their shops. Moreover, certain cloak manufacturers are at the same time also knitgoods manufacturers. The committee desired very much that the knitgoods workers become a local of the International Union. They recently had a strike which was partly a success and they now have a membership of 3,000. They claim they would benefit greatly under the leadership and guidance of the International. They are very much indebted for their recent success to the aid given them by the Joint Board Cloakmakers' Union and believe that, as a part of the International, they might have scored even bigger gains.

The General Executive Board naturally was very sympathetic towards the request of this committee. Before adopting a decision in this matter, President Sigman with the consent of the Board decided that, since the Knitgoods Workers had come upon a time belonged to the Textile Workers, it would be well to ascertain whether their affiliation with our International would not now cause a jurisdictional dispute, and it was therefore decided to make an inquiry concerning this matter from the American Federation of Labor and also from the Textile Workers. The ultimate decision on this matter will depend upon the reply to this inquiry. We do hope that the reply will be favorable and that the Knitgoods

Workers, which appeared to be a wholesome and active union element, will soon become a part of our International.

A second committee, which frequently comes to the meetings of our G. E. B., is from the monthly magazine, "The Messenger," which is published in the interests of trade union and Socialist agitation among Negro workers. This time, in addition to the Messenger committee, there came another committee organized along similar lines. The second committee believes that "The Messenger" is too literary in style to appeal to the great masses. They have organized a press service which supplies the newspapers read by Negro workers with labor news, trade-union articles and other propaganda material which, they say, is more adapted to the tastes of the masses. It appears that there is not much love lost between these two committees, but it is naturally quite difficult for us to determine which of them has a greater influence among the Negro workers. One thing is certain, that an educational campaign among Negro workers is imperative as a great many of them are invading our trades; and even though we do not draw any race or color line, and gladly admit Negro workers into our unions, the necessity of spreading trade-union agitation among them is only too obvious. The G. E. B. has never refused to give the trade union and Socialist agitation among Negro workers its full support.

A third committee which came with a request for help was a so-called committee of veterans, an echo of the late World War. We have in this country the American Legion which is fast developing into an extreme reactionary factor in the fight between capital and labor. There is, however, among the returned soldiers, a progressive element which strives, at least so they say, to counteract the work of the American Legion. This

committee told of their achievements in this direction and claimed that they are entitled to the support of the labor movement. We do not know what the General Office of the International has decided to do in this respect. Our impression is, however, that our G. E. B. did not respond very warmly to this request for aid. The fact is that in all our fighting we have believed more than anything else in the old saying "Help yourself," and we depend very little on the aid of outsiders, no matter what name they assume.

And now that we are through with the committees "from the outside," we shall pass to our own committees with their principal demands and requests.

A committee from the corset workers in Bridgeport appealed strongly for a wider organization campaign and for the sanctioning of a strike in case our corset manufacturers do not grant some of their demands. The committee declared that in the biggest corset shop in Bridgeport the workers are imbued with the spirit of unionism and are ready to come out at a signal from any organization.

The committee from the private dressmakers' union of Philadelphia came to ask for a special organizer. It is important, they stated, that the International help in enrolling into the local hundreds of private dressmakers, which it could not do with its own small resources.

Local 64 sent a committee asking that all the buttonhole makers in the various locals be forced to join Local 64, or else its existence is threatened, as it can not achieve much for those members who belong to it. (To be continued next week)

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AT REDUCED PRICES

Taught during the day and evening hours for women's, children's, children's and infants' garments. The most practical and most easily-learned system taught.

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reactionaries, quite naturally, would hear nothing of communism and of a social revolution."

This, however, could not serve as an explanation for the miners, who are familiar in the labor world as militant and veteran fighters and who could not be thrown into a panic by the phrase "social revolution." The fact is that fiery revolutionary agitators such as Parsons, Most and others of the same color have been listened to and were beloved by the miners years and years ago. The miners have produced from among their ranks such fighters as Moyer, Pettibone and Haywood, and the miners' union is generally known as one of our most progressive labor bodies. John Lewis himself, the president of the union, can by no means be classed as a reactionary. Shortly before the convention, rumors were spread that the miners' union was about to split up into Rights and Lefts and that a certain Capellini, a revolutionary firebrand, would head the rebel faction. It ended, however, with Capellini delivering a speech in which he praised this reactionary Mr. Lewis sky-high, and made a motion that the convention thank him for his capable leadership.

Many of us know too, Mr. Green, the secretary-treasurer of the United Mine Workers, who was one of those who supported the proposal at the last convention of the American Federation of Labor in Cincinnati, to send our ex-President Schlesinger, widely known as a Socialist and radical, as a fraternal delegate of the American Federation of Labor to the British Labor Congress.

From all of which it is clear that the United Mine Workers Union is not "a reactionary bunch," and yet our Communists received such a miserable reception there. Is not this something which our Fosters should ponder over with deep concern?

Granted for argument's sake that their contentions with regard to the labor movement are right; granted that they are right in saying that, as long as the American unions remain as they are at present, there is no hope for a social revolution in America. But can they not understand that, by the methods they are employing, they are only succeeding in making themselves hated and despised by all workers and more so by the progressive workers? Cannot they understand that for

an "outsider" to attempt to play the role of the dictator to any labor union is an act of brazen infamy and that each and every thinking person will justly resent such an act?

Consider the situation carefully. There is a convention where elected delegates from the various mine districts are assembled to work out plans for new wage scales and new demands. Of a sudden there appears a leaflet in which, though we have not seen this piece of "literature," the leaders are in all likelihood branded as fakirs, as counter-revolutionists, and as traitors to the workers in accordance with the best form and fashion of our domestic Communist product. Is it difficult to visualize what indignation such a leaflet aroused among the delegates, and did not President Lewis have the full right to act as he did in inviting the few Foster adherents in the gallery to leave the convention quickly and to let the United Mine Workers transact their business without their interference? The same thing has happened to our own unions. The Communists had better luck. In these unions, Mr. Foster has had the temerity to ask that he be allowed to speak and, when his self-interest was refused, felt sore and aggrieved. In a few of our own local unions an outside unattached body such as the so-called shop delegates' league, is permitted to interfere in inner union affairs and some union officers are found who see no evil whatever in it. These union officers fail to conceive that it is a shame and, a disgrace for a labor union to allow itself to be dictated to by any one on the outside, as if the union, its members and its leaders consist of imbeciles who are not capable of managing their own affairs!

But what may happen in a union composed largely of half-hysterical women, whose minds are poisoned by high-sounding and empty phrases, cannot and will not take place in any labor union which has a sense of dignity and self-respect. That is why the communist agitators received such a mean welcome at the Scranton Convention of the anthracite miners.

Will it be too much to expect that our Communists will learn something therefrom? Let us hope so. For the honest among them, those whose object in the labor movement is not jobs and personal influence, could be of great use to it if they would only free themselves from silly bombastic phrases and would deal with realities only.

The Public National Bank

On East Broadway

EAST BROADWAY ALWAYS HAS BEEN REGARDED AS THE VERY HEART OF THE GREAT EAST SIDE—ON EAST BROADWAY THERE ARE LOCATED MOST OF THE NEWSPAPERS THAT MOULD PUBLIC OPINION FOR THE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS WHO LIVE ON THE EAST SIDE, IN THE GREAT HARLEM DISTRICT, AND IN THE BRONX—EAST BROADWAY'S CAFES ARE THE GATHERING CENTRES OF THE JEWISH INTELLECTUAL ELITE, THE VERY PULSE OF THE SPIRITUAL LIFE OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE.

ONE OF THE MAIN BUSINESS PRINCIPLES OF THE "GREAT JEWISH BANK" IS TO BE REPRESENTED IN EVERY JEWISH SECTOR IN THE GREATER CITY—AND EVEN THOUGH OUR MAIN OFFICE AT DELANCEY AND LUDLOW STREETS IS LOCATED IN THE VERY HEART OF THE EAST SIDE, WE ALWAYS HAVE BEEN EAGER TO HAVE AN OFFICE ON EAST BROADWAY, THE CELEBRATED THOROUGHFARE OF THE DISTRICT.

Our Wish Has Finally been Fulfilled

***Last Saturday, June 30th, a New Office of the
PUBLIC NATIONAL BANK***

was opened

AT 177 EAST BROADWAY

WE HAVE PLACED AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE PUBLIC A SPLENDIDLY APPOINTED BANKING OFFICE WITH EVERY FACILITY AND CONVENIENCE FOR DEPOSITORS, AND WITH SAFE DEPOSIT BOXES FOR THE STORING OF JEWELRY AND IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS. BUSINESS HOURS IN THE NEW OFFICE ON EAST BROADWAY WILL BE FROM 9 IN THE MORNING UNTIL 8 O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING EVERY BUSINESS DAY. ON FRIDAYS THE BANK WILL CLOSE AT 5 O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON.

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Madison Ave. and 102d Street
Madison Ave. and 116th Street

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177 East Broadway



DOMESTIC ITEMS

HIGH DEATH RATE FOR AMERICAN BABIES.

There are nine countries where a newly-born baby has a better chance to grow to healthy childhood than in America, Secretary of Labor Davis declared. Every year 250,000 American babies die before reaching the age of one year, the Secretary declared, and 600,000 American children, so-called defectives and delinquents, are growing up almost totally neglected.

TELEPHONE STRIKE IN NEW ENGLAND.

Telephone operators went on strike last week in all the New England States except Connecticut. The strike was called by the Union in an effort to obtain a shorter work-day and higher wages. In many parts of New England the system is entirely paralyzed.

RAILWAY EXTENSION FOR MINE DENIED.

Basing its decision on the conclusion that there are already more coal mines in the country than is consistent with the efficient use of carriers' equipment and their aggregate car supply, the Interstate Commerce Commission yesterday denied the application of the Virginia Railway for authority to construct a one-mile extension to serve new mines being opened by the Pocahontas Fuel Company.

AMERICAN EFFICIENCY MERITS HIGHER WAGE.

American wage workers are not paid high wages when the productivity is considered, said Julius Klein, of the United States Department of Commerce, speaking to the Merchant and Manufacturers' Association of Baltimore. With an equal number of employees an American plant can turn out at least four times the output of a like establishment in Europe, so that the higher pay here is more than absorbed.

ST. LOUIS PLASTERERS HIGHEST PAID.

Union plasterers of St. Louis announced that they had won their fight for \$14.00 for the eight-hour day. This is said to be the highest wage paid plasterers in the United States.

ALABAMA FIGHTS CONVICT LABOR.

The anti-leasing prisoner forces of Alabama have organized a state wide campaign in preparation for one of the bitterest legislative fights in the State's history when the Assembly reconvenes next month. The anti-leasing forces have the support of the League of Women Voters and practically every newspaper in the State in their fight to do away with the leasing of convicts. They are opposed by the great coal companies under the leadership of Governor Brandon who have reaped tremendous profits from cheap convict labor.

ALABAMA CONVICT MINING MOST HAZARDOUS.

Out of every 80 convicts sent to work in the privately-owned coal mines of Alabama one man loses his life each year. Figures compiled by the State Insurance Department show that there are several occupations more dangerous than coal mining, but this by no means tells the true story of the hazard to the convict miners. Convict mining is the most hazardous industry in Alabama, statistics show.

ONTARIO LABOR DEFEATED.

A sweeping defeat of the coalition united farmer-labor government by the conservative opposition was conceded last night by the Drury government of Ontario.

PENNSYLVANIA EMPLOYE REPRESENTATION CONTINUES.

Ignoring the recent rebuke of the U. S. Railroad Labor Board directed against the Pennsylvania Railroad, the northwestern region of the road, completed the election of "employee representatives" of the shapemen and miscellaneous forces under the road employee representation plan.

VACATION TIME

is a

Good time to have your teeth taken care of.

Have your teeth thoroughly examined by your own dentist at the Union Health Center, 131 East 17th Street, before you have your vacation.

You will feel one hundred per cent better with good teeth in your mouth.

The Dental Department of the Union Health Center is Your Dentist. Charges are based on costs, not profits. Remember, a small cavity today means a bad tooth tomorrow.

Office Hours: Daily 10 A. M. — 8 P. M.
Saturday 10 A. M. — 5 P. M.

Closed All Day FRIDAY During July and August.

FOREIGN ITEMS

ENGLAND

COMMUNIST SET-BACK IN ENGLAND.

By an overwhelming vote of 2,880,000 to 366,000 the British Labor Party rejected the application of the Communist Party for affiliation.

METAL WORKERS' CONGRESS.

The International Metal Workers' Congress was held at London, June 4th and 5th, Mr. J. T. Brownlie of the Amalgamated Engineering Union presiding. The International comprises 18 countries, and has a total membership of some 7 million workers, 8 British unions being represented in it. The Congress was attended by 5 foreign comrades: Mr. Hansen of Denmark, Mr. Dismann of Germany, Mr. Hug of Switzerland and Mr. Merheim of France.

EMIGRATION OF WOMEN FROM GREAT BRITAIN.

Canada, Australia and New Zealand are all willing to assist (in varying degrees) in contributing to the costs of emigration of British women domestic workers under 25 years of age. There are no openings for other work for women. Most of the unemployed women in Great Britain are, however, neither willing nor suitable to enter domestic service, and if they are, they can find plenty of work at home.

AUSTRIA

CIVIL SERVANTS.

On July 2nd and 3rd, 1923, there will be a preliminary discussion at Vienna on the subject of the founding of a Civil Servants' International. Holland, France, Germany and Austria have promised to send representatives and other countries are invited.

THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF WORKING WOMEN.

The International Federation of Working Women will hold its biennial conference this year from 14th to 18th August at Schönbunn Castle, near Vienna. This congress is being held during the time of the Summer School of the I. F. T. U. so that delegates may attend both congress and school (the latter opens on August 11th). On August 16th the I. F. T. U. will have a private consultation with the delegates to discuss "How women can best be won over to take a greater share in Trade Union Activities." Other subjects to be discussed are: "The Regulation of the Wages of Home Workers" and "The Payment of Family Allowances in addition to Wages."

GERMANY

YOUNG WORKERS' INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL.

An International Summer School for Young Workers will be held at Schloss Tinz, near Gera, Germany, from July 26th to August 9th, under the auspices of the I. F. T. U. in conjunction with the Young Workers' International.

This will be the first gathering of the kind organized by the Young Workers' International, which includes Germany, Belgium, Holland, Switzerland, Denmark, Sweden, and France. The mornings will be given up to instruction on Socialism, the trade union movement, organized educational work, etc., and the afternoons and evenings to sport, excursions, discussions, entertainments, etc.

PALESTINE

PALESTINE FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS.

This federation, which has just affiliated with the I. F. T. U., is the first eastern organization to link itself up definitely with the western labor movement. It is mainly Jewish, both in origin and constitution, for the local Arab population is as yet almost unaffected by industrialism and many of the peasants continue to live under feudal conditions. The Federation, however, is anxious to encourage friendly relations between Jewish and Arab workers. Non-Jewish workers are freely admitted as members of trade unions, and they have already begun to organize in the Railwaymen's Union, and in the Metal Workers', Woodworkers' and Printers' Unions. They even took part in the recent strikes of woodworkers at Jaffa and of building workers at Chalfa. Most of them are, however, without class consciousness, so that the growth of the Labor Movement depends largely on the immigration of Jewish labor from Europe.

FRANCE

EIGHT-HOUR DAY AND THE CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL.

A frequent objection to the eight-hour day is the encouragement it is said to give to drinking among the working classes. The French Ministry of Labor has recently caused an enquiry to be made into the subject. The result points to a diminished, rather than an increased consumption of alcohol, and these conclusions are confirmed by the independent observation of a French doctor.

ANTI-WAR SPEECH AT UNVEILING OF JAURES' MONUMENT.

Speaking at the unveiling of a monument to Jaures, Anatole France, the most famous living French author, made a noteworthy speech, in which he declared that France is again sowing the seed of war, mainly by her occupation of the Ruhr. France is sunk in sleep, she has lost all sense of self-assertion, and is allowing herself to be led towards the abyss by a parliament which is ignorant and foolish. Five years before the war Jaures declared his belief in the possibility of an European Peace Congress, which would achieve the approachment of France, England and Germany.



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 14—The Republican Party and Big Business.

I. The Republican Party Supreme, 1861-1885.

- At the time when business was growing so rapidly, the National Government and many of the northern State governments were in control of the Republican party.
- Many of the leaders of the party were business men and the party, therefore, championed
 - Protective tariff.
 - A sound monetary and banking system.
 - Promotion of railways and industry by land grants.
 - Development of internal improvements.
 - Easy immigration that there might be a ready labor supply for factory and mine as well as people to settle the western lands.
 - A policy of laissez-faire, or government non-interference in industry.
- Sources of Republican strength.
 - Originated on a wave of moral enthusiasm—opposition to slavery.
 - Business men had confidence in it.
 - Workmen and immigrants supported it because of its land policy.
 - Civil War veterans because of its liberal pension policy.
 - Investors in government bonds trusted it.
 - Spoils system furnished an army of party workers who could be relied upon in every campaign.
- Republicans dominated the South during the years immediately after the war, and as we have noted, established Negro supremacy in that region.

II. The Growth of Opposition to Republican Rule.

- Evil practices and corrupt conduct of many within the party led to severe criticism by the public.
 - Members of Congress received railroad stocks in exchange for land grants and other favors to the companies.
 - Revenue officers, in return for bribes, allowed whiskey distillers to evade their taxes.
 - Post office system honey-combed with fraud.
- The attempt to reform the party (1872) fails.
- The Republicans swept from control of National Government in 1884 by the Democrats, who were aided by the Mugwumps—as the Republican reformers were called.
- Democratic assault on tariff resulted in return of Republican party to power in 1888, whereupon the Republicans enacted the highest tariff yet laid in our history.
- Republicans again lost the presidency in 1892, when Grover Cleveland was elected a second time.
 - Democrats again attacked the tariff but were only partially successful in their efforts to reduce it owing to a split in their own party.
 - Also passed Income Tax Law which was later declared unconstitutional.

III. The Republican Party Again Supreme, 1896-1912.

- During these years "Big Business" continued to grow, although we should note that the era of complete laissez-faire was gradually breaking down.
 - Attempts to prohibit combinations in restraint of trade.
 - Interstate Commerce Act, 1887.
 - Sherman Anti-Trust Law, 1890.
 - Creation of Bureau of Corporations, 1903.

READING: Beard, History of the United States, Chapter XVII (pp. 412-424) Chapter XXI.

RAND SCHOOL

On Monday morning, July 9th, the Rand School is opening its summer school with a varied and interesting program that augurs well for its success. Three or four sessions will be held each morning, of an hour's duration each, and one session of two hours' duration on alternate evenings.

H. W. L. Dana's course on "Movements in Modern Literature" will come every Monday, Wednesday and

Friday evening at 8.00 P. M. The second term beginning Monday, July 23d, will include courses by Melville J. Herkovitz, Mr. Joseph Jablonow, Mr. David P. Berensberg, Dr. Margaret Daniels, Prof. Wm. P. Montague and Dr. John B. Watson.

Registration for the whole session or for any particular course can be made at the office of the Rand School, 7 East 15th Street, any day between 9 A. M. and 8 P. M.

A Valuable Source of Service

Mary Goff, a member of our White Goods Workers' Union, Local 62, was engaged as organizer by her local upon her graduation from Brookwood College. We are always glad to announce the appointment of intelligent persons to office in our unions. But we take special pride in this instance, because Mary Goff was a student at one of our Unity Centers and later at our Workers' University. It was there, she says, that she obtained the education that inspired her to go further in an attempt to acquire information and knowledge that would enable her to serve the labor movement more effectively.

To the practical knowledge of the trade unions which she gained from serving her local union in the diligent capacity of shop-chairman, Executive Board member, and by addressing meetings,

she has now added the basic theoretic knowledge. We hope that the time is not distant when the members at large will appreciate our "own" graduates from workers' universities and labor colleges, and will encourage them to remain in the movement and place at its disposal their practical as well as their theoretic knowledge.

In England and in Belgium, the trade unions learned long ago to appreciate the necessity of giving their young men and women an education in connection with the labor movement. In these countries the trade unions give to the students scholarships which cover the cost of their education as well as their personal expenses, and in some instances they even help to support the dependents of the students while they are getting their training.

Good News

J. M. MACTAVISH

Mr. J. M. Mactavish, general secretary of the Trade Union Congress Educational Committee and of the Workers' Educational Association, in a message to us on June 12th, imparts to us good news. He says: "At the moment I am busy with the work of the General Council of the Trade Union Congress Sub-Committee, which is considering a scheme for taking

over Ruakin College, the Labor College, London, and the Workers' Education Trade Union Committee." He also promises to send us a long letter dealing with workers' education in England.

It is needless to say how delighted we are to learn that the labor movement in England is ready at last to take over the responsibility for the education of workers.

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

(Continued from Last Week.)

IV.

Training of Teachers.

In any scheme of education for trade unionists, provision must be made for the training of trade-union members as teachers and lecturers, and so far as possible, existing working-class colleges should be used for this purpose. It is essential to the success of working-class education that a large number of teachers should be men and women who have had personal experience of wage-earning conditions. Universities do not always provide the best atmosphere for the training of such teachers.

Advanced students do not concern themselves with the social or economic opinions of their tutors. They can take care of their own convictions. They prefer the qualified teacher, if he is a master of his subject and "can deliver the goods" (even if he is anti-Labor) to the sympathetic teacher whose mastery of his subject is not so complete. But during the early stages of study it is more important that the tutor should be able to identify himself with the interests of his pupils than that he should be an "accepted authority" on his subject. It is for this reason that it is important that working-class tutors should, so far as possible, be trained under conditions in which their distinctively working-class point of view will not be submerged. The best tutors are undoubtedly those who, while being recognized authorities in their subjects, can, at the same time, identify themselves with the standpoint of their students.

These educational needs necessitate a more or less specialized education. In addition, however, there is the much wider need for a general working-class education. How to provide most successfully such an education is a problem that can only be worked out after a period of varied experience. It is obvious, however, that while certain subjects should have priority, and that all subjects should be taught with a view of awakening interest and developing loyalty to the working-class movement, no hard and fast scheme of study will meet the extraordinary varied interests of trade-union members.

This wider need can be usefully classified or arranged under the following heads:

1. Adolescents or Apprentices.
2. Women.
3. Seamen and Rural Workers.
4. General.

1. Adolescents or Apprentices. Although considerable thought has been given to the educational needs of the adult trade unionist, from various standpoints, practically no thought has yet been given to that of the adolescent or apprentice. Yet, if the trade-union movement really intends to take its educational problems seriously, it will require to give to this problem very serious consideration. Hitherto, the working-class movement has made practically all its appeals to adults, whose mental habits are more or less fixed. There is no stage of growth or development so important to the future of the working-class

(Continued on page 11)

With the Waist and Dress Joint Board

By M. K. Mackoff, Secretary

(Record of Meeting, June 27, 1923)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REPORT

The Board of Directors reported on the meeting held on Monday, June 26th, as follows:

OUTSIDE COMMITTEES

A committee consisting of Farber, Fein, Friedman, Horowitz and another member of Local 25 employed by the Philadelphia Garment Company, 500 Seventh Avenue, appeared before the Board in regard to the re-organization contemplated by this firm. This firm, the committee stated, is operating two departments, a dressmaking and a wholesale department. Both departments are working on expensive garments, ranging in price from \$50.00 to \$400.00 per garment. All the workers are employed by the week.

For the last fourteen weeks, the committee stated that there has been very little work and the workers were informed by the firm through Sister Mollie Friedman, shop chairlady, that the firm intends to give up the wholesale department of the inside shop and retain the dressmaking department only. At the present time the firm has besides its main shop an annex which is located on 23rd Street. The committee further stated that the firm made a statement that they are willing to provide work for the people in the wholesale department in any available space in the annex or in a new lot. The firm also promised to guarantee about 1000 garments more to the workers for the next season than they had during the past year.

The opinion of the committee is that this re-organization is not in good faith. They believe that the firm wants to have them out of the main shop in order to increase the dressmaking department and gradually to do away entirely with the wholesale department where most of the active workers are employed. These workers, being compelled to lose their jobs, would leave the firm a free hand to run the shop under non-union conditions.

Brother Hochman stated that he had a few conferences with the firm and the committees of the shop and believes that this re-organization is due to the lack of management on the part of the firm as they are unable to secure the proper person to manage the factory.

The opinion of the Board of Directors was that the entire question should be left to the office which should try to bring about the best possible sort of re-organization.

COMMUNICATIONS

Brother Mackoff informed the Board that he had received from the International a copy of a letter which was sent by Brother Baroff to the Joint Board of Cloakmakers' Union.

The letter reads as follows: "I beg leave to convey to you the information that the General Executive Board of our International Union has at its last quarterly meeting in New York City, reaffirmed its decision to transfer all the dressmakers from Local 23 to Local 22. The Board also decided that this newly formed local as well as the Italian local, No. 89, shall affiliate with the Joint Board Cloakmakers' Union of New York City, your body."

"The General Executive Board at this meeting likewise adopted the decision that the dress pressers' local of New York, Local No. 60, be consolidated and merge with the existing cloak, suit and dress

pressers' local of New York, Local No. 35, which will automatically place Local No. 60 also under the jurisdiction and management of your organization."

"In adopting these momentous decisions the Board was guided on principles by the following motives:

"a. The evolution of the dress industry in New York City in recent years is making it more and more difficult to draw a line of distinction between this industry and the cloak and suit trades. Cloak manufacturers and cloak jobbers are today manufacturing both lines of garments and frequently in the very same shops. The same is true of the contracting shops which are directly controlled by either the cloak jobbers or the dress jobbers or such jobbers who produce both dresses and cloaks. In the interest of a proper control and of a unified policy both in times of peace and struggle, it has become necessary to consolidate the management of the workers' interests in both these trades and to obviate thereby all the evils which have resulted from the defective prevailing system of double management and double control.

"b. A great deal of bitter and annoying misunderstanding is accumulating daily between locals and the joint boards having jurisdiction in the dress industry, which causes the workers in our trades a lot of pain and trouble in connection with the problem of transfers, working cards, double dues and assessment payments, etc. A consolidated organization and unified control in the dress industry under one joint board will automatically do away with these evils.

"c. The existence of two locals in the dress industry of New York has placed enormous difficulties in the way of union control of the jobber. The commanding position occupied by the jobber in both the dress and cloak industry and his steadily growing influence is one of the principal problems before our union today. A double organization in the dress industry has given the jobber an opportunity to evade a great deal of the union's supervision and has given rise to a situation which threatens our working standards both in the dress and cloak trades. The consolidation of the dress industry into one local and the placing of it under one management will materially facilitate the problem of the union's control of the jobbing element in our industry.

"These were the principal motives which influenced the General Executive Board to decide firmly to carry out the above given plan of consolidation of organizations in the dress industry and of placing it under one joint board at the earliest possible date. The General Executive Board appointed President Sigan, Secretary Baroff and Vice-presidents Feinberg, Lefkowitz, Wander, Nisio and Dubinsky to carry out this decision and we ask you cordially to give this committee of the General Executive Board every possible assistance and cooperation so that this fundamental and very important reform within our organization in New York City may be achieved in a manner that will rebound to the immediate benefit of every worker in the

cloak and dress industry in greater New York."

This letter brought about a warm discussion. Some of the members present stated that they were at a loss to understand why the International had omitted to mention Local 66 and Local 25 as it is a matter of general knowledge that the embroidery workers belonging to Local 66 are working both on embroidery for cloaks and dresses and that Local 25 has for so many years been so closely associated with the dress industry that it was hardly possible to make a distinction between the waist and dress industries. Still others considered that this decree of the General Executive Board is too weighty a one to be submitted to unconditionally.

After these contentions and a number of others which it would take too long to enumerate, were carefully discussed, the Board of Directors, considering that the Joint Board solely is responsible for the welfare of its affiliated locals and that the Joint Board on a number of occasions appointed committees for the purpose of bringing about a unified control of the dress industry, decided, now that the General Executive Board has made a decision, to recommend to the Joint Board that they appoint a committee to go over this matter thoroughly and to see to it, when the amalgamation takes place, that the interests of the mass of workers for whom we are responsible are taken care of properly.

The attention of the Board was called to the fact that the Finance Committee to whom the request of the Brocton Shoemakers' Union had been referred had not met. The Board, taking into consideration that the striking shoemakers are badly in need of financial aid, decided to recommend to the Joint Board that they donate \$100 towards that strike.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Brother Horowitz, before submitting his report on the most important cases attended to by the Association Department during the week ending June 26, stated that he had made arrangements to keep the Board of Directors posted on the important cases by submitting weekly reports. In this way he believes the Board of Directors will have an opportunity of becoming better acquainted with the doings of the Association Department. During the last week 21 discharge cases were filed involving 27 members. Out of these 26 were reinstated and one resigned with his consent in consideration of a compensation of \$50.

During this period five violations

of cutting were reported. Out of these four had no cutters at all and paid fines of \$44 each in accordance with the agreement and in one case a cutter was employed, but the firm did some cutting itself and had to pay a fine of \$10.

During this week the Association Department was very busy collecting wages for workers due to the fact that quite a number of employers went out of business or failed to pay the workers on the regular pay day. After stoppages of work in these shops, our representatives made arrangements with the jobbers for whom these firms were working to have them guarantee the wages for the workers. In one instance our representative was compelled to take the merchandise from the shop for the workers to work elsewhere, for fear that other people might lay an attachment on the merchandise. Approximately over \$2,000 has been collected as wages for about 55 workers. This was done by our representatives without the aid of the Association. We have also collected through the association \$592.76 as back pay in re minimum scale, compensation for overtime to piece workers and fines for cutting.

In conclusion Brother Horowitz stated that at the present time it is very slow in the industry, but there is a sign of resumption of work in the near future.

The report of the Board of Directors was taken up seriatim, each and every recommendation after being carefully discussed was approved. In particular a discussion was brought about by the copy of the letter which was received from the International in regard to the amalgamation. From the interest shown by the delegates it was evident that they considered this question of utmost importance.

The Board of Directors, after carefully considering the recommendation of the Board of Directors, concurred in their recommendation and appointed a committee consisting of Sisters Bella Ratford, Rose Worts and Brother J. Egizio to cooperate with the committees which will be appointed by the respective locals in connection with the amalgamation.

The attention of the Board of Directors was called to the fact that as next Wednesday, the Fourth of July, is going to be a legal holiday, our regular Wednesday meeting of the Joint Board cannot be held. It was decided that the next meeting of the Joint Board should be held on Wednesday, July 11th, unless the Board of Directors should find it necessary to call a special meeting of the Joint Board.

British Labor Educational Report

(Continued from Page 10)

movement as that of adolescence or what in terms of trades and industries we call apprenticeship. It is during the years of adolescence that future loyalties for the most part develop.

2. Women. In considering the problems of working-class education, the invariable habit has been to consider them in terms of men's needs. The influence of the woman's mind, at all times important, is now rapidly growing. No increase of male numbers will ever overcome the influence of women hostile or indifferent to Labor principles, more especially those who are wives and mothers, whether engaged in industry or not. Any education scheme must make provision for the special needs of women. (See Appendix III. Trade Union Educational Inquiry Committee's Report.)

3. Seamen and Rural Workers. The educational needs of seamen and rural workers present a series of problems peculiar to the industries in which they are engaged. So far as

any real effort is being made to meet these needs, it is, to a large extent, being conducted by semi-philanthropic organizations, which may or may not have ulterior motives, but which undoubtedly cannot be accused of being ardent supporters of Trade Unionism. (See Appendices I and II. Trade Union Educational Inquiry Committee Report.)

4. General. While within workers' educational movement it is necessary to consider and allow for different interests arising from differences in age, sex, industry, etc., it is equally necessary to develop a strong working-class sentiment throughout the movement, supported and made intelligent by such a body of knowledge as will deepen the conviction that industry and society must be organized and run in the interests of the community, and that this can only be accomplished through the growth and development of the workers' own organizations and institutions.

The Week In Local 10

By SAM B. SHENKER

GENERAL

The committee which was appointed by the General Executive Board for the purpose of effecting the amalgamation of the Dressmakers' Locals 22 and 23, was carrying on its work for the past two weeks. The committee consists of Vice-presidents Ninfo, Feinberg, Dubinsky, Wander and Leffkovitz.

While to the outsider it would appear that, with the decision of the E. E. B. reaffirming the stand of the Cleveland convention, the matter was disposed of, the real work is nevertheless now being done by the committee.

It is its business to call before it committees of the various locals concerned; to take cognizance of the problems affecting them and to so bring about the amalgamation as to satisfy the mass of the members in accordance with trade and organization conditions. In spite of the fact that Manager Dubinsky, as one of the committee, is called upon to attend frequent meetings, he devotes the necessary time to the needs of the members in his own local. He has prepared working cards for the coming season. These are already being issued. Members should bear in mind that from now on and for the next six months they must have the new card in their possession while working.

Cutters who swing in on the new season without loss of time in between, should appear at the office and change their old cards for the new ones.

An improvement will be noted on the new working cards. Unlike those issued previously, the cards issued for this season are numbered. The numbers correspond on the original and duplicate. Dubinsky says that this improvement will facilitate the checking up of the members employed. Another reason for the change is that members very often lose their cards, and the numbers will aid in tracing the card in case it is found.

CLOAK AND SUIT

The members at the July meeting of this division practically ushered in the new season when they approved the Manager's report and the policies outlined. In addition to this, Dubinsky submitted a report for the past month's activities in the office.

There were a total number of 513 complaints filed for the six months ending June 30th. Of these 505 were adjusted and seven are pending. For the three months ended March 31st, 310 complaints were filed, and for the three months just ended,—that is from April 1st to June 30th,—there were 196 complaints filed. The difference in the number in the two quarterly periods is because in the first three months work was plentiful, while the three months just passed marked the slack season.

In the Manager's report is contained a detailed account of the nature of the complaints for April, May and June, of which 196 were adjusted and seven are pending, making a total number of 203. There were 119 complaints filed against shops the bosses of which were doing their own cutting and did not hire cutters.

Twenty-seven of these complaints were unfounded, as cutters were found in these shops. In eighteen of the shops complained of, cutters were placed to work and liquidated damages were collected for violation of the agreement. In twenty-nine shops only fines were imposed.

In 33 shops no action was taken because there was no work. Investigations in twelve shops disclosed the fact that some employers received cut work, some shops burned down, some of these were non-union factories and others had gone out of business. One

complaint was found to have been against a retail store and two of these complaints are pending.

There were three complaints filed that the bosses were helping the cutters. These were instructed as to the provisions of the agreement covering this point.

Three complaints were filed that the cutters were not paid the proper rate for over time, which is double the regular rate. Two of these complaints were adjusted in favor of the union and one was unfounded.

Two cutters filed complaints that they were not paid the minimum scale of wages. Both of these complaints were adjusted in favor of the union. Fourteen discharge cases were handled. Twelve of these were adjusted in favor of the union, and two are pending. There were fifteen complaints filed relating to men who were not receiving an equal share of work in the slack season. Eleven of these were adjusted in favor of the union and four were withdrawn.

Six complaints were filed with charges that the cutters employed in these shops were members of the firm. Three were unfounded. Two men, of as many shops, were called before the executive board and were found guilty. These men were expelled. Cutters are to be placed in these shops when the season starts. One complaint is pending.

For various violations of the union's rules fifteen complaints were filed against cutters. Three were adjusted in favor of the union; eight were unfounded; three complaints resulted in the calling of the cutters to the executive board. One was fined \$25, the second \$150 and the third cutter was fined \$50. One complaint is pending.

Seven complaints were filed against shops the cutters of which were reluctantly obligated as members and failed to take out their union books. One cutter secured his book. In three shops it was found that the men were not there; two shops were slow and the men were not employed. One case is pending.

With the conclusion of the reading of this report Dubinsky recounted some very interesting cases which he handled during the past two weeks.

It will be recalled that in the past two issues of this publication a good deal was told of the efforts of the office to secure increases in the wages of the cutters of Kaplan Brothers. When Dubinsky first undertook this matter he could not secure the necessary cooperation from the Joint Board.

Recently, however, much to Dubinsky's gratification, District Manager Slutsky took this question up with Kaplan Brothers and succeeded in raising the wages of the firm's cutters. The men were receiving \$46.50 per week. While it was true that these cutters worked almost all year 'round, still the wages were not commensurate with the needs of the workers.

It was for this reason that the office sought to secure the increase. The cutters in question, thanks to Brother Slutsky's help, are now receiving \$50 per week.

Another shop in which the cutters were not earning a decent living is, or rather was until a few days ago, Portofino. Thirty-one cutters are employed by this firm, the majority of whom were receiving \$44. The others, of whom there were very few, got little more than the scale.

Dubinsky, in company with Israel Feinberg, manager of the joint board, took this matter up with the firm and also succeeded in raising the wages of these men. The total increase per year amounts to more than \$5,000.00.

In connection with wages the manager dwelt to some length on the policy of the office—not to issue working cards to cutters for certain shops unless the men were sent by the office.

Considerable trouble was found in some of these shops. And for the upkeep of union standards Dubinsky concluded the best and wisest means is to send men up to the shops who may be depended upon to observe union shop rules, and report all irregularities to the office.

The manager said that such action may lead to incuring individual enmity. But, he pointed out, those men here who are anxious to preserve union standards in their shops, and even the men whom such action might for the moment hurt, do and will realize eventually that this action is for their benefit and for the benefit of the entire membership.

Another case which the manager reported to the members is one which will be taken up with the executive board. This concerns a shop that has been followed up by the officers for the longest time, and but for a charge against the cutters that they had been found working on a Saturday, for which they were fined, none of the more serious charges could be proved by the manager for the longest time.

However, Dubinsky has the "goods" on them this time. This case will be reported in more detail later. For the present the matter is in the hands of the board for trial and disposition.

It is not often when a lengthy report is listened to by the members patiently and with increasing interest. But this report did receive such attention. In fact, at the conclusion of it, in addition to the applause that followed, Brother Henry Mastavone, one of the active members, rose and lauded the manager's work. He said he particularly liked the policy of the office with regard to refusing certain men working cards, in spite of the fact that he was one of those who, after working three weeks on a job, was ordered off by Dubinsky.

WAIST AND DRESS

The activities for the past month in this Branch will be reported by Manager Dubinsky at the next meeting, which will take place Monday evening, July 9th, at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Marks Place.

Hence the news for the past month in these columns will be confined to but one case, the furor Business Agent Fruhling created in the camp of the Association of Dress Manufacturers.

Recently, on one of his rounds in company with the association's clerk, Fruhling delved a little too deep into the conditions of a certain shop. The clerk objected on the ground that he, Fruhling, did too much "digging." The union's business agent insisted upon investigating the shop's union conditions. There was a verbal clash. Fruhling did not think much of it.

He thought it was merely the whim of the clerk and passed it off for such. However, the case took on a serious turn when next he came up to the association seeking his "partner" to go to a shop on the adjustment of a complaint. The head of the employers' organization ordered that the union's business agent was not to be accompanied by the association's clerk until he, in effect, decided to behave.

Fruhling took this up with Israel Horowitz, the union's chief clerk of the association department. Horowitz ordered that the business agent attend to complaints alone. Which Fruhling did.

He proceeded alone about the adjustment of his complaints. And wherever an employer, which was rare, refused to deal with him without the employers' representative, the shop was stopped, and the workers were ordered not to go on with their work until the complaint was adjusted.

So far no stoppages are pending as a result of this. The matter, however, is not adjusted yet. Fruhling in the meantime goes about his business without much concern. From all indications an adjustment will soon be reached to the union's satisfaction.



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CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10

Notice of Regular Meetings

WAIST AND DRESS.....Monday, July 9th
MISCELLANEOUS.....Monday, July 16th
GENERAL.....Monday, July 30th
CLOAK AND SUIT.....Monday, Aug. 6th

Meetings Begin at 7:30 P. M.

AT ARLINGTON HALL, 23 St. Marks Place