

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

—Job 27.6

JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

"Workers of the world unite! You have nothing to lose but your chains."

Vol. V, No. 88.

York, Friday, August 10, 1928.

Price 2 Cents

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION TAKES A HAND IN JOBBER-CONTRACTOR CONTROVERSY

Invites Bo

Act With It to Adjust Controversy

The sharp dispute between contractors and jobbers in the cloak industry of New York on the subject of prices, which has kept busy factor in the trade strained to the utmost for the last few months and which has been accompanied by a threat on the part of the manufacturers to shut down their plants, has entered upon a new phase now. The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, which for the last few months has been active in the cloak industry of New York, has notified the employers' associations representing both the jobbers and the sub-manufacturers that it does not regard this controversy as a personal quarrel between the employers only but that the workers' and the union's interests are deeply involved in it. The union therefore invited both sides to a conference with the representatives of the workers' organization at which an attempt will be made to compose the existing differences.

After consulting the New York members of the General Executive Board and all the leading officers of the Cloakmakers' Union, President Morris Sigman forwarded the following communication to the Merchants Ladies' Garment Association, the jobbers, and to the American Cloak and Suit Manufacturers' Association, re-

sponding to the manufacturers' seven reports and other sources. We learn that a serious dispute has arisen between the sub-manufacturers in our industry, represented chiefly by the American Cloak and Suit Manufacturers' Association, and the jobbers, a large number of whom hold membership in the Merchants Ladies' Garment Association. We understand that there is imminent danger of a complete stoppage of work in hundreds of shops, if the dispute is not adjusted. This would mean an almost irreparable ruin of the approaching season.

While the workers in the industry are not directly parties to the dispute, they are certain to bear the brunt of the losses, suffering and privation which an interruption of work at this time would entail on the industry. Our union is under agreement with all the employers' associations involved and has a vital interest in the subject-matter of the dispute. The workers in the industry cannot remain passive in this grave situation.

If the break comes between jobbers and sub-manufacturers, the workers in the trade will be plunged into the fight and compelled to take sides against their will. In the interests of the industry as a whole and as a

measure of self-protection we feel that we have the right and duty to exhaust every possibility of averting the threatening calamity. With that end in view, we take the liberty of inviting the officers of the employers' associations involved to meet representatives of our union in conference at 3 West 16th Street on the 9th day of August at 10 o'clock a. m., in order to go over the entire situation. We sincerely hope that your associations will see their way clear to accept our invitation and that your representatives will come prepared to make a bona fide effort to reach a fair and speedy adjustment of all points in controversy.

Very truly yours,
INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION,
Morris Sigman, President.
JOINT BOARD CLOAKMAKERS' UNION,
Harry Wanger, General Manager.

At the time of going to press, the results of this conference are still unknown. Every sign, nevertheless, tends to indicate that the International will leave nothing undone to prevent a cessation of work in the cloak industry, and will lend its influence for the working out of a fair deal to all sides concerned.

Boston Cloak-makers Renew Agreement for One Year

The agreement between the Cloak Contractors' Association of Boston and the Cloakmakers' Union expired about a month ago, as our readers will recall, the union invited the employers to confer on the terms of the new agreement some time before the old pact went out of existence. Owing to the slack time and the general apathy in the trade, however, the initial conference came to nothing and matters were left for a while in abeyance.

Later Secretary Baroff went to Boston to aid in the negotiations, and just as soon as work began to show up in the factories, both sides got busy and signed the new contract.

The Joint Board of the Boston Cloakmakers' Union ratified the new agreement at the meeting on Thursday, August 2. In the course of the last week, the agreement was taken up for discussion at the various member meetings of the locals and was unanimously approved.

As yet, the Boston cloak trade suffers from a considerable slump. There are a number of workers unemployed and the approaching season shows no signs of snap and vigor.

Chicago Joint Board Condemns Left Officers

Must Withdraw From Opposition Organization

After the sound rebuke administered to the adherents of "Leftism" in the Philadelphia Cloakmakers' Union two weeks ago when they were roundly defeated in the election held for executive board members and for Joint Board delegates, comes now the news that the Chicago Joint Board has also gone on record in adopting stern measures against such members or officers as would join outside organizations and leagues and attempt through these agencies to control the union and commit it to alien policies and tactics.

The Chicago Joint Board received several weeks ago charges against two of its officers, Brothers Davidson and Kanewsky, that they belong to an organization called the Trade Union Educational League of the Ladies' Garment Workers and that through caucus meetings planned and carried out by this league, directed by persons

not belonging to our union, they have attempted to direct the affairs of the union. The Joint Board appointed a committee to investigate this charge and on August 7, at a special meeting, this committee brought in two reports. The majority report recommended finding Davidson and Kanewsky not guilty. A minority, however, was in favor of recommending that the Trade Union Educational League is an opposition organization to our union and that those members or officers who would not withdraw from it should be expelled from the union. After a thorough discussion, the Joint Board voted to sustain the minority report, which carries with it the unqualified condemnation of all who would, by belonging to such leagues and groups, endeavor to ruin the union and manipulate its affairs from the outside.

Ten More Chicago Dress Firms Apply for Injunction

Camden Firm Gets Restraining Writ

Encouraged by the success of the Mitchell Brothers' firm in having obtained an injunction from a Federal court in Chicago, which forbids the International Union and its affiliated organizations in Chicago from carrying on organizing activity and educational work among the dressmakers employed by them, ten more dress firms in the Windy City made application for similar injunctions.

It must be kept in mind that not one of these firms is involved in a strike and that by no stretch of the imagination can it be stated that the activity of the union involves "irreparable damage" to them. They, nevertheless, believe that they can, with the help of the court, put definite obstacles in the way of organizing work among their workers.

Nevertheless, the organizing activity of the Western Office of the International in Chicago continues uninterrupted under the leadership of Vice-president Perlstein. A large organizing committee is daily on the job distributing literature in the dress

district and fast enrolling the workers into the union. It seems as if the injunction epidemic, instead of checking the success of the union, has stirred interest among the workers and eventually will serve as a splendid boomerang inasmuch as it will help consolidate the opinion of the dressmakers in Chicago for a big strong union.

One of the most sweeping injunctions ever issued affecting labor disputes in the garment industry was issued on August 6 at Atlantic City by Vice-chancellor Robert H. Ingersoll against the International Union.

The temporary injunction forbids agents of the union to enter the homes of employees of the Reliable Cloak Company of Camden, N. J., and urge them to go on strike. The injunction also forbids the workers to picket near the factory and in any shape or manner to communicate with those who are doing strikebreaking on the inside of the shop.

International Sends Condolences to Mrs. Harding

The following telegram was forwarded by President Morris Sigman to Mrs. Harding:

Mrs. Warren G. Harding,
White House,
Washington, D. C.

Please accept from the tens of thousands of the men and women who compose our organization the profound sympathy they feel towards you

in this hour of grief and pain and our admiration for the wonderful fortitude and courage with which you are bearing your great loss.

A message of sympathy couched in similar terms was forwarded to Mrs. Harding by the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union in New York, signed by Louis E. Langer, Secretary.

Would You Come to Unity for Labor Day?

Whoever wishes to spend the Labor Day week-end at the Unity House in Forest Park should make reservations as early in advance as possible. A large crowd is expected and those who will come first will naturally be served first.

This summer the Unity House as-

son will be extended a week and a half longer than usually in order to accommodate the great demand. So far the attendance at Forest Park has exceeded all previous records and the administration of the Unity House expects that it will be able to report a banner year for 1928.

Topics of the Week

By MAX D. DANISH

HARDING AND COOLIDGE

PRESIDENT HARDING is no more.

It is hardly the time, in this hour of national mourning, to take stock of what the two and a half years of the Harding administration have meant for the American workers and their movement. On the whole, the men and women who toil for a living in this country have fared no worse and no better under the Republican administration of Harding than they did under the Democratic administration of Wilson. Surely one will not contend that even a Daugherty could excel in his harsh treatment of Labor that sterling example of bourgeoisism, A. Mitchell Palmer.

One thing, however, stands out definitely. In the last two or three years, that deadly weapon, the injunction, more and more has become the inevitable sledge-hammer which is without exception being applied, particularly by the Federal bench, to crush the workers' resistance in times of strikes.

What organized Labor may expect of President Coolidge is regarded by everybody as a question-mark. When one, nevertheless, considers that Calvin Coolidge was nominated for the vice-presidency by the Republicans because of his supposed popularity in having crushed the Boston police strike in a manner that endeared him to the hearts of every standpatner in the land, the labor unions of America will be justified in viewing the future with no easy mind.

THE EXTRA SESSION

WITH the passing of Harding, whatever hope there may have been on the part of the farm bloc or the progress group in Congress to force the summoning of a special session of Congress to deal with some of the burning questions that face the farmers and, to some extent, the workers of the country, has definitely disappeared.

The next regular session of Congress, which adjourned in April, will begin not before December. Under Constitutional regulations, a period of almost eight months elapses between one Congress session and another, and it cannot be called together, no matter how urgent legislation relief might be, unless the President wills it so. For the last two or three months, the farmers in the Middle and North West, with the price of wheat plunging downward, have been clamoring for such an extra session to come to their aid. It was no doubt on the crest of the wave of this discontent and clamor that the recent political upheaval in the North West was accomplished.

Senators Brookhart of Iowa and Frasier of North Dakota, the principal advocates of such an extra session, are pressing for legislation involving governmental price fixing of the entire wheat crop of the country, selling what the domestic market would consume and having the Government take over the balance at a fixed price. The opposition to an extra session has come from the conservative elements in both parties, who fear that the newly elected members of the Senate and the House, if summoned to a special session, would be in a position to push through some "radical" legislation.

The sudden elevation of Coolidge to the Presidency will probably put the quietus on the demand for an extra session. If the late President Harding could, perhaps, have been affected by the strong demand from the farmers in the West and Middle West, the new incumbent of the White House will quite likely be little inclined to bow to the demand of the progressive Congressional group.

FORD AND THE LABOR UNIONS

LITTLE BY LITTLE, the veil is being lifted from that "man of mystery" for a long time in American industry and now in American politics,—Henry Ford.

Last week in a brilliant interview written by Charles W. Wood for Collier's Weekly, Ford made known the platform on which he would run for President in case the country demanded it. Among the salient points of this platform, which we shall not undertake to cover in this item, there is only one which sizes him up at full stature and gives an insight into the mental and intellectual makeup of this aspirant for America's leadership.

Said Ford: "You probably think the labor unions were organized by Labor. But they were not. They were organized by these Jew financiers. The labor union is a great scheme to interrupt work. It speeds up the loafing. It is a great thing for the Jew to have on hand when he comes around to get clutches on an industry."

Enough said.

THE GOLD MARK BASIS IN GERMANY

PRESS reports from Berlin announce that the Cuno Government, in cooperation with the Reichsbank, is feverishly engaged in switching from the practically worthless paper mark basis to the gold mark. Only a few days are left to complete the financial reform bills for a special session of Reichstag, an eleventh-hour measure to avert the complete financial collapse of Germany and to save the Cuno Government.

First practical steps in this direction have already been made and hereafter all big business in Germany will be fixed on the British sterling or the American dollar basis. And what is most important, wages will, as a result of this new arrangement, henceforth be computed on the same gold mark basis.

The next session of the Reichstag will also consider the new taxation bill which provides an exceptionally heavy sacrifice tax on all business and trade in unoccupied Germany. Both the shift in the direction of the gold basis and the capital levy are a distinct gain for the trade unionists and the Socialists of Germany. Organized labor and the Social Democratic party in Germany have persistently demanded the substitution of the gold mark basis for the paper mark, which has enriched enormously the profiteers and has taken the scant bread-and-butter out of the workers' mouths in the last few years.

To avoid its own collapse and the financial collapse of the country, the tottering Cuno Government is now rushing to overhaul the financial system at Germany. The near future will tell whether this precipitated move did not come too late.

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ATTENTION

Russian-Polish Cloakmakers

A very important meeting of the Russian-Polish Branch will be held on Friday, August 10th, at 7:30 p. m. sharp, at the People's Home, 315 East 10th Street, N. Y. C.

It is the duty of every member to be present at this meeting.

A. E. SAULICH, Secretary.

THE TWELVE-HOUR STEEL DAY ENDS

WITH remarkable speed, amounting almost to agility, President Gary of the Steel Trust announced last week that the twelve-hour day in the steel industry is definitely at an end. At the meeting of the presidents of the steel companies comprising the Steel Trust, it was decided to discontinue with the inhuman twelve-hour day and the seven-day week, and to substitute for it the three-shift system.

In Chicago steel plants, they have already started this week the three-shift basis. Within a short time, it is expected that this system will be introduced in every one of the steel establishments that make up the United States Steel Corporation, and the hundreds of thousands of men employed in them will for the first time in their lives begin to work and breathe like human beings.

The steel executives were, of course, faced with the highly important problem of adjusting the wages of the workers with the decreased number of hours of labor. To be sure, it does not take much sagacity to divine that this was from the very beginning the most important obstacle in the path of the eight-hour day in the steel mills. According to the announcement made by President Gary, the hourly and base wage rates of the workers whose day will be reduced four hours will be increased 25 per cent, thus making the total wage for eight hours about 16 per cent less than the old wage for twelve hours. In other words, the steel workers having gained four hours of leisure will be compelled to accept silently a reduction of 16 per cent in their earnings.

Nevertheless, it was a sacrifice well worth while. It is to be hoped that the steel workers will utilize this additional freedom from the hellish environment of the steel mill to gain a greater measure of enlightenment and to come in closer contact with their fellow-workmen in the steel industry. Then will come inevitably the labor union, and the steel workers, once organized, will find it not difficult to gain back whatever wage-cuts were forced upon them in lieu of the additional four hours of life.

FROM OUR JOINT BOARDS AND LOCALS

The Button Makers

By HARRY DUBINSKY

Several weeks ago, the button makers of New York had a general strike which turned out to be quite successful. Very few of the readers of this journal, I take it, know anything about the button trade, the earnings and labor conditions of the workers in the trade, though every ladies' garment worker handles these buttons on every garment which he or she helps to make.

Our first step was to organize the celluloid button workers, a branch of the big button industry. There are several kinds of makes in the button business—ivory buttons, composition buttons, glass buttons, galalith buttons, covered buttons, celluloid buttons and metal buttons, most of which are used exclusively in the making of women's wear. The big attractive button or buckle which you see attached to capes, coats, gowns, and dresses is made of celluloid. Some of these buttons are quite costly. These buttons serve also as trimmings, and are decorated with multi-colored flowers, with Chinese, Japanese, and Egyptian figures.

In proportion to the large capital required in this business—it takes no less than twenty-five thousand dollars to start a modern button plant—the profits from it are smaller than in any other branch of the ladies' garment industry. The trade is generally very poorly organized both on the part of the workers and the employers and has suffered from sharp and injurious competition. The workers, naturally, have been the greatest sufferers from this chaotic condition. It must be kept in mind that button making is a hard job. The temperature in a button shop is usually 50 per cent higher than in the street—steam is used to warm the celluloid and make it flexible for button-making—and the noise from the machinery is like that in a steel foundry.

The workers in the trade consist of Jews, Italians, Spaniards, some Poles, and a considerable number of Negroes. This variety of nationalities has also contributed to the exploitation which the workers in the button industry are being subjected to. The average earnings for 60 hours per week used to be 22 dollars.

A few months ago, several button makers—Gringlas, Bosnyak, Warshavsky, and a few others—came to me with the request that I help organize the trade. I advised them to go to President Sigman of the International Union who I knew would not refuse them a helping hand. I told them that several years ago the International had granted the button workers a charter as Local No. 132, and even though that local never functioned they may still regard themselves a part of the I. L. G. W. U.

They took my advice and went to Brother Sigman who received them warmly and assigned a sum for the beginning of an organization campaign, promising further help in the future. For three months a feverish campaign was waged in the trade to organize the workers. Daily meetings were held in the auditorium of the International Building. Meanwhile the employers also formed an organization, and Mr. Rosenberg, the head of the New York Button Works, a firm which has been for 48 years the leading establishment in the button industry, finally had a conference with President Sigman and at this conference worked out a basis for a settlement. Later, when the President had to leave New York on business, General Secretary Baroff and Arturo Giovannitti worked out the full basis of the agreement with the Association.

On July 3rd our general strike was declared, on July 5th the agreement was signed and on Monday July 9th about 600 button makers went back to work in union shops, having won a 44-hour week, a flat increase in wages of \$3 per week and many other concessions. The few workers who remained on strike settled shortly after that on similar conditions.

Now we are beginning to organize the other branches of the trade, and we have every reason to believe that with proper efforts we shall soon enroll into our local a membership of several thousand. Already we have almost a thousand men and women in Local 132, some money in our treasury and our hopes for the future are indeed high and bright.

Boston News

By A LOCAL OBSERVER

CLOAKS AND SUITS

The agreement with the Cloak Contractors' Association was finally ratified at a meeting of the Joint Board on Thursday, August 2. The agreement was read to the members and every one of the clauses was approved. This agreement, having been approved previously by the association, it will be effective for one year beginning July 1, 1923. Now that peace has been established in the cloak and suit industry, all that the cloakmakers here in Boston wish for is more work. The cloak and suit season, especially the suit season, has so far turned out to be a complete failure. The cloakmakers have gone through a long slack season. Many of them have been out of work for almost four months and now, because of the failure of the suit season to materialize, find themselves without immediate prospects for work. The officers of the Joint Board have their hands full in trying to obtain as many jobs as possible for those who are

idle. The only bright spot in the situation is the fact that the dress trade is a little more busy than is usual at this time of the year, and with the cooperation of Local 49, a number of cloakmakers are placed to work in dress shops. Still we hope that the season will not delay much longer in coming. We will surely welcome it.

WAIST AND DRESS

The all day excursion to Provincetown on Saturday, July 28, was an immense success. It was a much greater success than the more optimistic in the Union had expected it to be. Every one of our members who participated in this excursion had a jolly time. A great many are clamoring for another excursion, and only the fact that the summer is almost over and the time too short in which to arrange one, prevents the executive board from repeating the affair. As a result of this excursion, a movement started among members for a union house for next summer to be bought and owned by the union.

In Local 38

By B. DRASIN

At this time I wish to express great satisfaction with the progress we are making in the line of keeping our shops in a good union condition. For us who are connected with labor organizations for any length of time, we know that whenever the dull season comes around the office gets busy with complaints from both the workers and the employers. In the beginning of our dull season we had some complaints, but all of them were satisfactorily adjusted.

It seems that with very few exceptions the bosses and workers have accepted the rule of equal division of work amongst the workers of the shop. This entire matter is left to the chairman with the approval of the workers of the shop. I remember the time when this system was first introduced, when the workers themselves were skeptical about this matter; now it is an accepted principle and carried out by even the most reactionary elements of our trade.

In spite of the dull time our members are coming every day and making good their books, questioning the office regarding union matters, and discussing between themselves trade problems. All those who visit the office are immediately attracted by the atmosphere of friendship and good will which prevails.

Secretary-Organizer Drasin, together with the unpaid officers of the union, is taking care of union matters and is concerned heart and soul with what is best for the organization.

They realize that now is the proper time to start an organization campaign amongst the theatrical costume workers which number many hundreds. They have never belonged to a union and are, therefore, up to the present time working under conditions which prevail in the "open shop," are unprotected, and are left to the mercy of the boss.

For the purpose of organizing this

union and its members. The executive board at its meeting on Thursday, August 2, discussed this proposition, and while different opinions were expressed as to the ways and methods of realizing this beautiful dream, all agreed on the necessity and advisability of owning a summer home for its members. At this same meeting a committee was appointed to work out plans for raising the necessary funds for this project, and to report their plans at the next meeting of the executive board. The committee consists of Misses Dora Brown, Ida Kalitz, and Nettie Silverbrook, and will receive the wholehearted support of the office staff, to make this undertaking a success.

The dress pressers, members of Local 12, held a special meeting on Wednesday, July 24, which was called for the purpose of discussing the

trade, conferences have already been held between President Sigman, Brother H. Frayne, general organizer for the State of New York of the American Federation of Labor, and Mrs. Angel, financial secretary and business manager of the Wardrobe Attendants' Union of the A. F. of L. All those who attended the conference promised their help and cooperation, and I may state that such help is already under way. As a result of the last conference held between Mrs. Angel, who is well acquainted with the theatrical costume trade, and our committee, a call has been sent out to those workers, and we expect to have a big, well-attended mass meeting which will be held on Monday, August 6th, at 6:00 p. m., at Bryant Hall, Sixth Avenue and 43rd Street. Prominent speakers will address the meeting in different languages. I wish the readers of this article, if they know of any workers in this branch of the trade, would request them to attend this meeting, for the workers' benefit and the benefit of the organization.

One of the very few who are trying to create trouble for our union is the firm of Hatty Carnegie which established a new shop at 6 West 48th Street. The new shop is a non-union place established to compete with the union shop owned by the same firm, located at 86th St. and Broadway. Our members are requested not to accept employment there. The office is taking care of the entire matter. Further details will be reported in a future report in our weekly International papers.

Our members will kindly note that our next local meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 7th, at the Harlem Socialist Center, 62 East 106th Street, at 8:00 p. m. At this meeting a detailed report of the office will be given, and a member will be elected to the Executive Board to replace one who is out-of-town, and will remain for quite some time.

recommendation of the executive board of Local 12 that all pressers or dressers who will be found doing piece-work shall be suspended from the organization and removed from the job. This stringent measure has become necessary for the following reason: The Pressers' Local 12 is part of the Joint Board of Cloakmakers and has jurisdiction over all pressers, whether they are engaged in pressing cloaks or dresses. Because of their affiliation with the cloakmakers, who are working on a week-work basis, the same rule applied to the dress pressers. As a matter of fact this is incorporated in the agreement that we have with the dress manufacturers. But it was found that a great many dress manufacturers have entered into private dealings with their pressers to violate this clause of the

(Continued on page 8)

JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

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A "Borer from Within"

By ANNIE BERMAN

Mr. Edward Stone was a diamond dealer. His office and show room occupied a corner in the loft of a large factory building. He had no partner, and the only help he employed, besides an office boy, was a secretary, who was a young lady who attended to the bookkeeping and correspondence and even substituted for Mr. Stone when he was out. This had meant a good deal lately for he had been on a business trip to Europe, which had lasted four weeks and from which he had only just returned.

Miss Durand went over the stock with him on the morning of his return and he was pleased to note that a few new things had been bought very wisely. And when she accounted for the things that were missing, he noted her carefully, as per instruction, but he had been disposed of.

And while Miss Durand was out to lunch and he sat smoking a cigar and congratulating himself on the possession of an exceptionally efficient secretary, Mr. Stone had a caller.

The caller was Mr. Davis, an underwear manufacturer whose factory was a floor above the office of the diamond dealer. Stone knew him by sight and, while inviting his visitor to be seated, he wondered what the latter's business might be. He could not be a buyer for there was lacking in him the bustling air of self-importance which announces these gentry. Instead, there was a suspicion of doubt in the manufacturer's manner, as if he were not quite sure of a welcome. He was of medium height, thick set and looked to be about forty-five years old.

"You must be wondering what I want with you," he said as he seated himself. "Well," as Stone nodded affirmatively, "I shall not keep you long in doubt. I am here as a friend to warn you against your secretary."

"Sir," said Mr. Stone rising, "in that case, you need go no further. Miss Durand is unworthy of any suspicion."

"Money matters, perhaps, but she is dangerous in another way."

"In what other way?" inquired Mr. Stone beginning to think that his visitor was out of his mind.

"She is an agitator!" exploded the manufacturer.

"An agitator?"

"Yes, an agitator, a snake in the grass, a destroyer of peace and a breeder of discontent; one who stirs your employees and spurs them on to rebellion. A . . ."

"Stop, you are mistaken. Miss Durand is none of these things. If she were, would she be wasting time in here where there is none but an office boy to influence?"

"You do not know the breed yet. Their field is the world. No opponent is too powerful for them and no subject too humble."

"Yes," reflectively, "I have learned a good many things these last few weeks, since the strike began."

"The strike? Is there a strike on at your place?"

"Yes."

"Oh, And you suspect Miss Durand of being in some way connected with it?"

"Not exactly, but she has openly sided with the strikers."

"She has, eh. Any particular instance?"

"Many, and if you would care to listen, I will cite you one."

"Go ahead."

"To begin with, I must remind you that the strikers are a desperate lot and will stop at nothing to gain their end, not even violence. The poor devil who want to work are afraid of them. Why, two dickie-looking strikers, following in the wake of a

dozen workers, protected on all sides by guards, will make the whole army tremble." As Mr. Stone smiled, "this is no joke, I have seen it happen myself."

"Yes, but where does Miss Durand come in?"

"I will come to her presently. One morning we, that is the detectives I employ, the office staff and myself, were on our way to the elevated station to meet my employees, for they dare not come to work unescorted, and wait there every morning until we come to fetch them. As we neared the station I noticed two pickets already at work as a girl was descending the stairs. She greeted the strikers warmly and joined them. Immediately I put her down as one of them."

"As we walked along the street from Third Avenue to Broadway, the strikers increased, for they had pickets stationed all along the way; they followed us and managed to make things pretty lively. Every little while they would single out some poor unhappy strikebreaker and notwithstanding the bodyguard, make a rush at him or her as the case might be. Then, to vary the performance, they would shout their abuse in chorus accompanied by blows burning with hatred. Oh, the time I am having! The worst of it is that the public seems to be with them. If we do manage to get one of the strikers arrested, it is impossible to get a serious conviction. All that a judge dare do is to impose a paltry fine which is immediately paid by the union, and that offender is none the wiser."

"But to return. When we got here, I stood in the doorway while my employees were being taken upstairs. The strikers were on the sidewalk and as it seemed to me, holding a consultation. All at once, a girl stepped from the group; I recognized her; she was the one I had noticed before, waiting down the elevated stairs and she walked directly into the building. Believing her to be bent on mischief, I sprang forward baring the way, beside myself with rage at her audacity. I grasped her shoulders, intending to put her out. But with a force unexpected in one so slight, she threw her whole weight against me. I fell back against the wall. My head struck the marble moulding and made an ugly gash. I can show you the scar."

"I was dazed while she as coolly as you please walked toward the elevator. It was occupied by some of my employees. I was near enough to notice that the elevator boy waited for her to enter but, as she stood aloof with an unmistakably haughty air, he asked, 'Aren't you going up, Miss Durand?' To which she replied, 'Look enough for everyone to hear, 'Do you expect me to go up on a car with scales on it?'"

"From that time I began to realize that I had made a mistake and that she was not one of my strikers. I made haste, however, to find out who she was and when I learned that she held a position of responsibility with me, I knew that it was my duty to inform you of what had happened."

He had scarcely finished before the office door opened and Miss Durand came in. Seeing the manufacturer, she stiffened and walking to her desk, without a word bowed herself with some papers.

Mr. Davis rose to go. As he followed the latter to the door, Mr. Stone said: "Thank you, Mr. Davis; you were quite right."

He was vexed. He had never imagined a side like that in his secretary's makeup, and the knowledge of her audacity opened a vista of possibilities that annoyed and troubled him.

What could she have in common with a vulgar bunch of strikers? How could she force herself so far as to compromise him with his neighbors? And that, too, by interfering in matters that did not concern her. He must let her know that he did not like her attitude.

"Miss Durand," he began, "I suppose you know what Mr. Davis was here for."

"I do not know, but I dare say I can guess." Then a silence; it was very hard to scold this well-poised girl and he hoped that she might speak; but as she did not, he began again. "Don't you think that you ought to apologize to him?"

"Apologize to him—what for?"

"You know—your, you made a hole in his head."

"Did I? Well, it might have been worse. It might have been in his pocket." And she smiled at her own joke, but Mr. Stone felt to be very serious.

"You are helping in that, too. This strike is costing him a great deal of money."

"Is it?" eagerly. "I am very glad; then he will have to settle soon."

After looking at her blankly a moment, he burst out, "What on earth are they striking for, anyway?"

Very simply. "To make the difference in their own lives and the lives of their employers a little bit less."

"Sounds very nice, but how about the poor devil who cannot afford to strike? Why don't they let them alone?"

"Cannot afford to strike?" she said, echoing his words.

"Yes," he hurried on as if following up an advantage, "I have a book home, the story of a strike. I will bring it here tomorrow and you must read it. It describes the plight of a poor old fellow who is compelled to go on strike. He is an industrious chap and had worked steadily for

years, but as his earnings were small he has no money so he wants to keep on working, but they will not let him; thus, he is forced to suffer hunger, cold, darkness; he has no food for his body, no fuel for his hearth and no candle to light his room with."

"Yes," she replied, looking him steadily in the eye. "It is a terrible thing to contemplate that after one has been industrious and worked steadily for years, a couple of weeks of idleness should entail hunger, cold and darkness."

He turned away without answering. What was the use of talking? He would not convince her, anyway. He knew that the manufacturer expected him to discharge her. But he could not do this, not only because her services were invaluable to him, but for another and nobler reason, and that was the instinctive impulse to retain in his proximity a superior personality. Yet some action was necessary if he were to regain his peace of mind. What should it be? It troubled him, until all at once, it came upon him like an inspiration.

"Miss Durand, I had in mind telling you, I found things in the office in a very satisfactory shape upon my return."

"Thank you, Mr. Stone," she said quietly, though without a trace of surprise.

"And at the same time," he continued, sifting his words rather haltingly and weighing their effect, "I am inclined to believe that you are entitled to a raise in your salary."

Miss Durand lifted her head from her desk in the direction of Mr. Stone and said something, slightly flushed at the peculiar and unexpected turn the conversation had taken. Mr. Stone, eased and completely satisfied with the solution of his erstwhile dilemma, turned to some papers on his desk with these parting words:

"Yes, that'll go into effect right this week."

Anti-Fascist Movement Surging Ahead

The General Executive Committee of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers has donated \$500 to the Anti-Fascist Alliance, to continue its "useful work of combating the enemies of the labor movement."

The Joint Board of the Cloak-makers has adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Fascist movement in Italy, which murdered thousands of men, women and children of the working class, has defiled our shores and found sympathizers in this country for their notorious work of infamy and terror;

WHEREAS, it has come to the knowledge of the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union of the City of New York, through direct information of its Italian members, that Fascist bands are now being organized throughout the United States under the direct orders of Benito Mussolini, the dictator with the silk hat and black shirt of Italy, sided in this country by the bitterest foes of organized labor;

WHEREAS, the Fascist murder hands, which have destroyed the labor movement in Italy, are now attempting to break up the labor movement in the United States and all that our Italian fellow workers have built up in this country through long years of struggle and sacrifice;

BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the delegates of the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union, assembled Friday, June 22, 1935, at 3 West 18th Street, condemn Mussolini and his gang of nefarious bandits and we promise full cooperation to the Italian workers in their struggle for a united and strong labor movement in Italy;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge the President of the

American Federation of Labor and the entire Executive Council to institute an investigation for the purpose of ascertaining to what extent the diplomatic representatives of Italy are active in this country in organizing the notorious Fascist organization, all facts established in this investigation to be brought to the attention of the American citizens and public opinion;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the American Federation of Labor should instruct all its central bodies throughout the country that a vigorous campaign be inaugurated against the Fascist movement, which is organized for the purpose of becoming strikebreakers and agents of the exploiters and the spoilers;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the New York press.

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

THE MESSENGER
The Only Trade Union Publication for Negro workers in America

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WHITE LILY TEA
COLUMBIA TEA
ZWETOCHNI CHAI
Exclusively

English Labor in Disarmament Drive

By EVELYN SHARP
(London Daily Herald Service)

The big debate on disarmament in the House of Commons occurred very appropriately this week, the end of which will see the no-more-war demonstrations in many countries of the world. The debate was on the Labor party's motion, which called upon the government to take immediate steps to summon an international conference to consider a programme of national safety based on the policy that by disarmament alone can the peace and liberty of small nations be secured. This, being a definite proposition, affirmed the Labor party's belief that disarmament is both practicable and urgent; no mention was made of the League of Nations in this resolution because the party does not consider that the League has yet gained the confidence that alone would make it effective, and because, as Mr. Ramsay MacDonald said in his opening speech, it is supremely important that America should take part in the conference.

The Unionist movement, on the contrary, moved by Mr. Hugh O'Neill, speaker of the Ulster Parliament, suggested that the government should wait for a favorable opportunity and then use its influence through the League. This amendment was talked out, and the Labor motion negatived by 258 votes to 169; but it served to show that from the Labor party alone is to be expected a sincere belief in disarmament, and a definite policy to-

wards that end. The recent increase in air armaments, the "wanton massacre of Singapore," as Ramsay MacDonald called our enormous expenditure on a new naval base in the East—all this shows that there is no reality in the pious desire for peace expressed by the other political parties, and summed up in the Prime Minister's chilling and academic reply, which showed that he and the interests he represents have no sense of the "will of the common people of all countries"—the people, as Mr. Tom Shaw said, who never wait and are quite ready for all that was implied in the Labor motion.

NEED FOR PEACE

Never was there greater need for peace, or for the peace attitude of mind, than at present, when, awaiting the French and Belgian reply to the proposed note to Germany, relations between the Allies cannot be said to be cordial. The Labor party's warning that another war may be sprung upon us as it was sprung upon us in 1914 cannot be said to be without foundation when one reads some of the fulminations of a section of our Tory Press, which is already hinting at a possible trial of strength between us and France. In France, very much the same division of opinion is to be seen between those who urge that the Entente be maintained at any cost and those who take the

line that the Entente is a thing of the past; but the latter elements who wish for a policy that steers between these two extremes and wants neither war between Britain and France nor the complete ruin of Germany, has no expression in the French Chamber as it has in the English Parliament, thanks to the presence there of a strong Labor opposition.

Yet in this country Labor has not yet the power to control off own foreign office, which still lives in the past, as the Lausanne Treaty, signed at last, amply testifies, for, in its surrender to the Turks in all important matters in order to secure the right of entry for warships into the Black Sea (which can be aimed only at Russia) it shows that in Lord Curzon's mind the predominant motive was his dislike of the Soviet Government. The astonishing news that, in spite of the nature of this treaty, the Soviet Government is prepared to sign it, is another proof that, however, distasteful this or any other capitalist agreement may be to the only people's government in Europe, war is still most distasteful. Not for the first time the new Russia is showing the older countries a real will to peace.

THE INDUSTRIAL POSITION

Meanwhile, the trade depression, instead of improving as we were assured by our Tory governors a few months ago it would improve, is get-

ting worse. Even the president of the Board of Trade told the House of Commons a day or two ago that trade prospects are "nothing like so good as they were last December"; while several notable company chairmen have in the course of the last week or two strongly contended that this is due to the French occupation of the Ruhr. The Labor economist and financier, Alderman Emil Davies, L. C. C., is of opinion that a satisfactory settlement of the reparations question might have such a psychological effect that a trade revival would ensue, but short of that, as he told an interviewer, "the outlook is very black indeed." Unemployment, which was 12 per cent, is now stationary, while short time is on the increase, the number drawing benefit from the unemployment insurance increasing last month by 15,500.

The dock strike is over, practically, in all the ports except that of London where it now shows signs of breaking. The refusal of the employers to negotiate except with the union's leaders, Ernest Bevin and Harry Gosling, M. P., places the strike leaders in an awkward position, for they have definitely repudiated the leadership of their old leaders and carried the men so far with them. They cannot go to Dockland, these days, and see the man standing hungrily at street corners, and learn how school dinners have increased by hundreds in the last week or two, without realizing that the grievance—a cut of a shilling a day in wages, based on a disputed fall in the cost of living—which still keeps the men out in defiance of the advice of their tried leaders, must be a very real one.

The Labor Press for July

By BERTHA WALLERSTEIN

For the most part the labor journals in July have been talking about national-wide labor issues rather than about their own particular affairs in their respective industries. There are exceptions, of course. The *Bakers Journal* is still full of the struggle against the Ward Company. The *United Mine Workers Journal* takes a firm tone about the anthracite conference. "The United Mine Workers of America," says the organ of that union, "is committed to the principle of collective bargaining as a means for the proper adjustment of such matters, and the union does not propose to accept anything else as a substitute for that long-established principle." Advance records the gains made in the Shirt Makers' Union, and the progress of the strike of 85 per cent of the clothing workers in Buffalo against the open shop campaign in that city.

Of the nation-wide labor issues, the steel campaign takes the lead. Labor sees no halt sprouting on Gary's head because he has promised to put the eight-hour day into partial operation. The *Union Leader* points out that public opinion has scared the steel magnate into something like decency. A heavy broadside has been fired at the twelve-hour day in steel by religion, public sentiment, engineers, and labor. From the point of view of ethics, decency, efficiency, and justice, the twelve-hour day stands condemned. Public opinion works slowly, but it has finally won a concession from the stronghold of steel. It is as a concession, not as a voluntary policy, that Labor views the introduction of the eight-hour day in steel.

Nor does it consider the concession entirely made to public opinion. For it came, as the *Garment Worker* points out, precisely at the time when the newspapers gave publicity to the campaign to organize the steel workers. "It looks," says that paper, "as if the Steel Trust may have really decided to end the twelve-hour day in

the hope of depriving the steel workers of an argument for unionization." But labor opinion thinks that, if that was Steel's hope, it is doomed to disappointment. Public opinion is too slow a method for the workers, just as indirect influence was too slow for the women before they got the vote. Labor journals are confident that steel workers demand something more effective, and that something is recognition of their union. The work will be slow at first, but it will pay.

Next to steel, coal holds the attention of the labor press. There is frequent, but nowhere extended, comment on the preliminary report of the Coal Commission. The idea of fixing rates by law, or by Presidential ordinance does not appeal to Labor. The *Railroad Trainman* points out that it is positively unconstitutional, according to the Supreme Court's decision on the Kansas law.

Labor also objects to the no strike clause. The *News Letter* of the American Federation of Labor shows that this would inflict a penalty on the miners, but that no similar one could be inflicted on the operators. *Gomper's* statement to this effect appears in a number of union journals. The general labor sentiment is against Government regulation in any degree. The journals remind their readers that the miners wanted a strictly fact-finding commission. Government control, says the *United Mine Workers Journal*, proved a failure during the war, and they are not anxious to make another trial. They are content to argue out the issue with the operators. Perhaps it is because they suspect that Government control is not altogether impartial that the miners prefer to have the Government keep out. The use of the Lever Act against their strike in 1919 would give them some ground to think that, to say nothing of the recent policy of the Administration when it interfered in labor disputes. There is the permanent Wilkerson injunction,

for instance. Labor, of the railroad brotherhoods, does not think that it will prevent strikes, but it certainly has shown that the Administration is no friend to Labor. There would be still more danger to the miners, if coal wages were regulated from Washington, and strikes were forbidden.

The Administration is no friend to Labor. What are Labor's chances of putting friends in power? The labor press is not over jubilant about this. There is general rejoicing in the election of Magnus Johnson. But comment is remarkably scarce on the convention called at Chicago by the Farmer-Labor Party. The *New Majority*, the organ of that party, feels that all its efforts at cooperation with other like-minded groups have failed. The party, it said, made no previous plans because it wanted to talk things over with the Communists in a perfectly friendly mood, and find a common ground. It had no desire to put anything over. Apparently that party wins which does plan to put something over. The *New Majority* frankly admits that the workers' party played politics and played it well. It comments little. There is

no bitter invective, such as one might expect. The party, says its organ, has no wish to dictate to unions or to fight other labor groups—its business is to fight the common enemy of the worker. "It has no time nor inclination for red-baiting. It has no abuse to heap on revolutionaries. It has a constructive job to do. . . . But we cannot wait. Let us go."

On this policy, the *New Majority* parts company with the bulk of the American Federation of Labor press, and some of the other union papers as well. "Radicalism hates American labor," declares *Organized Labor* in California, believing that the reds aim to destroy trade unions. The *Blacksmith's Journal* echoes the sentiment. The *American Federationist* writes on the danger of the reds to Labor. Most bitter of all, the *United Mine Workers' Journal* condemns the attempts of the reds to oust the present leaders of the union.

On the whole, if one may judge labor opinion through the labor press, there is almost no question on which they feel more strongly or write more heatedly than on this question of revolutionaries. It is something to think about.

Winning 44 Hours In Australia

A thrilling story has just come out of Australia. It shows the value of trade-union publicity, and how that publicity reaches even over international boundaries to help the workers.

It comes in the form of a letter from the "Australian Worker" to the Workers' Health Bureau of 729 Broadway, New York City.

All the American labor press has been ringing with the recent victory of the New York union painters—for the 40-hour week, abolition of the bonus system and the establishment of the permanent health board for the supervision of the trade. The victory came largely from the "health facts," which the painters had at their finger tips as a result of having their own health department.

The news of this great gain reach-

ed Australia just when the painters of Sydney were in the midst of arbitration proceedings. The workers had demanded the 44-hour week, as a health measure.

To quote the letter from Australia: "The painters here in Sydney had a case before the arbitration courts on the question of hours. They were urging a reduction from 45 to 44 hours per week on the grounds mainly, that the trade was an unhealthy one. Your bulletin was able to give valuable assistance in their case, with the result that they were able to get their hours reduced from 48 to 44 per week. I have no doubt that future bulletins issued by you will have a no less important bearing on other trades in Australia."

JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

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EDITORIALS

TO THE NEW CLOAK AND DRESS JOINT BOARD

The inevitable has taken place. The Joint Board of the Dress and Waistmakers' Union of New York is no more. It has accomplished all it could do for the dressmakers of New York and in the history of our International it will occupy a place of honor. It will be able to point with pride to a record of having made its affiliated locals stronger and better fit to fight the battles of the workers of hanging town for the dressmakers, during the last conflict in the winter of 1922, a 40-hour and a five-day work-week. It will also be able to show that the locals which it found neglected and in precarious circumstances are now in splendid financial condition, as is evident from the report submitted by Brother Sheinholtz, the secretary of Local 22.

The Dress Joint Board is not leaving the arena with a bowed head or in a state of helplessness, but is, on the contrary, carrying away into history a record of substantial achievements. Nevertheless, the hour for the uniting of this Joint Board with the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union has struck; the interests of the workers demanded it, and the amalgamation has taken place.

That this amalgamation be fruitful of greater results, it would perhaps not be amiss to mention here that the former joint board did not succeed, with all its efforts, in organizing the dress industry of New York in a manner that would yield to the workers the full benefit of organization. There are a large number of shops, true enough, over which the union exercises control, but side by side with these there are a number of others in which the union has no influence whatever. Needless to say, this condition has had a bad influence upon the entire dress industry and upon the workers in particular. Our leading officers have realized, together with the great majority of the members of the dressmakers' union, that if the dress industry is to be organized like the cloak trade, it must be placed under the control of a stronger and bigger organization than the joint board in the dress industry. In a word it must become a part of the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union of New York.

We are calling attention to this important point for the purpose of laying at rest the erroneous notion still entertained by some that either "politics" of any sort or a final realization that craft unions have outlived their sense and purpose and must be supplanted by so-called "industrial" unions, have played a part in the consolidation of these two joint boards. The only moving motive for this amalgamation was the desire to improve as quickly and as thoroughly the economic interests of the dressmakers and the cloakmakers, and the assurance that both parties are bound to win through such an amalgamation has led and was bound to lead to this important reorganization.

Let it not be misunderstood, nevertheless, that the dressmakers have given up, through this change, their organization. Local 22 remains in full force as before and becomes even stronger, having been augmented by the dressmaker members of Local 23, which will be transferred to it. The dress industry thus remains under the control of the dressmakers' union and its elected officers. The only modification consists in that it will now be represented in the newly formed Joint Board of the Cloak and Dressmakers' Unions, which is better situated to take care of the interests of the dress industry in general than was the former Joint Board of the Dressmakers' Union.

We do not believe it necessary to go over again in these columns the various and sundry reasons which prompted the General Executive Board to decide upon amalgamation. Nevertheless, in order to put the quietus on any suspicion that might be attached to the motives of those who proposed and carried out this consolidation, we desire to offset an argument which we occasionally hear to the effect that the affiliation of the dressmakers' locals with the newly created Joint Board might lead to the usurping of the dress industry by the cloakmakers and the eventual swallowing up of the dress locals by the cloak organization.

Such suspicion, unwarranted though it is, might seriously interfere with the plans of complete and thorough amalgamation. As a matter of fact, however, Local 23, in part a dressmaker local, has for years belonged to the Cloak Joint Board, and as yet we have to hear that this Joint Board has in any way or manner ever favored the cloakmakers at the expense of the dressmakers in that local. Quite to the contrary, it has so loyally and faithfully protected the interests of the dressmakers of Local 23, that the latter would not think of ceasing to remain a part of the Cloak Joint Board. It stands to reason, therefore

that, if the cloakmakers have not swallowed and did not desire to swallow the comparatively small number of dressmakers which they have had under the control of the Joint Board for many years, they will not attempt to gulp down the tens of thousands of dressmakers who now become affiliated with them?

We desire to underscore this point as strongly as we can possibly do it. True unity and genuine improvement in both industries can only be had when this feeling of "they" and "we" in the new Joint Board will entirely vanish. It is against this that we deem it our bounden duty to warn both those who have been affiliated with the Cloak Joint Board before and those who are entering it now. Let them bear in mind that the decision of the General Executive Board implies the elimination of both former joint boards and the creation of a new central body under the name, "Joint Board of the Cloak and Dressmakers Unions" formed for the purpose of defending in a like and equal measure the interests of all the workers in all the locals affiliated with it.

THE LESSON OF THE LAST ELECTION IN PHILADELPHIA

The so-called "lefts" in the Cloakmakers' Union of Philadelphia, who for a full year have had complete control of the local union and unchallenged sway in the executive boards of the locals, met with defeat in the last election. This event produced a rather loud gnashing of teeth among a group of persons who are sailing under the name of "Trade Union Educational League." These fellows are now calling out in stentorian tones to avenge the great wrong committed against the Philadelphia "lefts" and are crying for a holy war against the "bureaucrats" who have wrested control from their colleagues.

We should like to ask what has this so-called Trade Union Educational League to do with the election of officers in the Philadelphia Cloakmakers' Union? . . . What is this league which is brazen enough to condemn the members of the Cloakmakers' Union of Philadelphia who by their vote defeated one set of their officers and elected others in their place? Ostensibly to avenge the great wrong committed against the Philadelphia "lefts" and are crying for a holy war against the "bureaucrats" who have wrested control from their colleagues.

The recipe is quite simple. If a labor union will obey the instructions and follow the "education" of this league, it is progressively, revolutionary and in the "vanguard of the labor movement" in America. If, however, the trade union resents the inter-meddling of the league and refuses to be treated as an infant which requires the gratuitous attention of this nurse, such a labor union is declared reactionary and its officers are stamped as bureaucrats. Then the league calls upon the rank and file to war against these "bureaucrats," even though this very rank and file may have been chiefly responsible for the defeat and rebuke administered to these impostors.

Of course, this appeal to the rank and file is palpable fake and demagoguery. As a matter of fact, the league and its adherents have nothing but contempt and scorn for the rank and file of the labor unions. They would have the workers in swaddling clothes for ever and ever, so that they themselves might remain the "dictators" and bosses of the rank and file.

Some day we will return to the antics of this self-appointed nurse of the trade union movement, this "educational" league. We only desire now to point out the principal reason why the so-called "lefts" in the Philadelphia cloak organization have failed in the recent election. Their defeat came about not because they were "infatuated" with convictions and policies which contradicted the convictions and policies of the "right." Far from it. They were defeated by the members because they proved to be men without any convictions or policies—men who have nothing of their own but who stand ready at all times to receive their instructions from a body which is entirely alien to our union and outside of it. By this they have proved their incompetence to lead the union, for leaders of a union must have their own mind and their own opinion. This opinion might at times be wrong and mistaken, but the former "left" leaders in Philadelphia have demonstrated that they were at all times the mere tool of this "educational" league, puppets who dance as the strings are being pulled by still other puppets who dance as the wires order them from across the Atlantic.

The rank and file in Philadelphia has finally realized that their so-called leaders are only mannikins and by their vote have proved that they would not be led by them any longer. The result of the last election is a statement on behalf of the Philadelphia workers that they would not tolerate any dictatorship from the outside, no matter under what name it chooses to mask.

That is why this Trade Union Educational League is so boiling mad about this affair. In the outcome of the Philadelphia elections, it foresees its inevitable end. Our unions are at last recognizing the true form of this Punch and Judy miscreant and they are determined to be led by themselves and not according to the recipe of the all-wise in Moscow and their American tools. We prophesy that within a very short time not a single labor union will be found in our movement that will continue to be misled by the wild and silly pretenses of this "educational" mismer.

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The Sub-Manufacturer and the Jobber

By MORRIS SIGMAN

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

III.

In the two previous articles, we have endeavored to make clear the causes which led to the rise of the sub-manufacturer and the jobber in the cloak industry. We shall now halt for a while and analyze the position which these two factors, now grown to full maturity, occupy in this industry.

The jobber, as a matter of fact, is today the manufacturer in the trade. He controls the raw material, but, instead of making up his work in his own shop and employing a superintendent and a foreman at substantial weekly salaries, he sends out his uncut material to some sub-manufacturers who make up the garments for him. They do for him the work of the foreman and the superintendent and leave nothing undone to produce the garments for him at the cheapest possible prices. This position of being able to choose his sub-manufacturers from a large competitive field gives the jobber-manufacturer the chance to keep up a keen rivalry between these sub-manufacturers. The latter are compelled to come to the jobber to ask for work and it stands to reason that he can play them one against the other and cut prices frequently to his heart's content.

The jobber thus gets his work done for him more cheaply than it would have cost him if made under ordinary market conditions. He accomplishes this both at the expense of the sub-manufacturer and also at the expense of the workers employed by these sub-manufacturers.

This is one of the advantages which his method of doing business has gained for the cloak jobber. Another important advantage consists in the fact that the workers who indirectly make his garments for him are scattered in a number of different shops for the condition of which he has no responsibility whatever. The jobber can at any time engage dozens of shops full of workers and can discharge them at his will without coming into a conflict with the union. This is a very important point and we shall endeavor to make it somewhat clearer.

When a jobber, for instance, engages at the beginning of the season twenty sub-manufacturers employing 50 men each, he indirectly engages one thousand men to do his work. A week to two later, however, ten other sub-manufacturers may come to the same jobber and propose to do his work at a lower price. This jobber will forthwith withdraw his work from

ten of his former sub-manufacturers and 50 cloakmakers will remain without work. In other words, the jobber has discharged as many workers from their jobs and has engaged other workers in their place. Until now such practice has been tolerated even by the union, for it was argued that the jobber and the manufacturer cannot be dictated to as to who they might or might not get to buy their product from.

What has actually happened in this case is that the jobber, by stopping his work in those ten shops, has literally locked out 50 union men. Were he an inside manufacturer and had acted in this manner against his workers, the union would surely not acquiesce in his lockout and no one in general would justify his conduct. Today, however, the jobber is a "free" merchant and no one is supposed to have any grievance against him. The effect of such a practice on the locked-out workers directly and on the general labor conditions in the trade can easily be imagined. It undermines the union standards and brings demoralization among the members of the union. The sub-manufacturers in such a case naturally tell their workers that they cannot obtain any more work from the jobbers because there are other sub-manufacturers who can do the work more cheaply. The workers in these shops do not have to be told twice that they lost their jobs because other union men in other shops have consented to work for lower wages. They come thus to realize that, in order to enable their employers to get work, they must compete with the workers in those shops who succeeded in taking the work away from them.

What I have stated here is the exact truth and it is not exaggerated in the least. There is nothing in the present situation in the cloak trade that would prevent the occurrence of such things. The jobbers and even the sub-manufacturers are surely not sufficiently concerned in the deplorable effects of these practices on the entire trade as long as they get their work done for them at the cheapest possible rate. The union, on the other hand, has not today the required control over the jobber and manufacturer to check the inevitable ruin which is bound to befall the cloak trade if this anarchy continues. The reason for this is that the union has not the required control over the wages of the workers. The union protects only the minimum scale, while the wages over the minimum

are not fixed or regulated.

When a worker is engaged on a new job, he is to get not less than the minimum scale. If he succeeds in getting from his new employer \$30 above the minimum, his price cannot be reduced as long as he works in that shop. If a \$70 per week worker, however loses his job—an account, let us say, of the firm's going out of business or through having been discharged for some cause, and not reinstated, or by giving up the job in a slack season—and he takes on a new job where he is compelled to work for ten or fifteen dollars a week less than in his former shop, the union cannot compel the firm to pay him the wages to which he is entitled according to his ability, as long as his wages are not below the minimum scale.

And now that we have made it clear, the question arises: What must be done to abolish these evils and to put the labor conditions in the cloak industry on a sound and secure foundation?

Already in 1919, when we had our conference with the cloak manufacturers for the introduction of week-work, I attempted to put up some safeguards against the occurrence of the deplorable conditions which are rampant today in the cloak industry. I proposed that a definite clause be inserted in the new agreement that, when a manufacturer engages a new worker or a number of workers, the union and the association together should fix the price for such workers if they are to be paid above the minimum price. The basis for such wage fixation, as I proposed it, should be the existing level of wages above the minimum scale in the shop in question. In other words, as I stated at that time, the fixing of the price of the individual workers is not to be left to the worker and to the boss themselves. Our trade, I argued, is a seasonal trade and, because of that, it frequently occurs that our workers leave their shops at the end of the season and, before each new season, a large number of workers are compelled to take on new jobs. As the height of the season does not occur in our trade at the very outset and, as the demand for work at the beginning of each season is much greater than the demand for workers, it would stand to reason that the manufacturers whose workers had left them at the end of the preceding season would take the opportunity to engage new workers at a much lower price. This would naturally create

sharp competition between both the workers and the manufacturers.

Though my suggestions were not carried out, my guess was right, except that since then the situation in the cloak industry has become far more entangled and far more difficult of solution.

Today we must, in addition to that suggested, adopt many other constructive methods in order to place the industry on a better basis and to make safe tolerable living conditions for the workers and more order in the cloak shops.

Here are several concrete points:

1. It must be firmly settled that the jobber is the manufacturer and we must demand from him full responsibility.

2. We must regulate the shop market wherein the jobber-manufacturer might produce his wares so as to check the practice of scattering his garments all over Greater New York and vicinity which undermines and demoralizes labor conditions.

3. We must hold the jobber and manufacturer responsible for the work done in the shops of their sub-manufacturers and not allow them to make lockouts whenever they see fit—as they do now.

4. We must demand that each jobber and manufacturer engage no more sub-manufacturers than they actually need, and that the Union shall have the right, together with the jobber or manufacturer, to determine how many shops he requires to make up his work, and likewise to see that these shops meet union rules both with regard to size and cleanliness.

5. The Union must demand that the jobber, at all times, divide his work equally among all his shops so that he might not be allowed to utilize to his advantage the workers of one shop against the workers of the other during the slow periods of the seasons. The Union must demand compliance with this regulation also from manufacturers who do inside manufacturing.

6. The Union must demand the right to control the amount of work made for the jobber or manufacturer during a given period of time, the amount shipped by him to his customers and the amount left in his stock rooms; the amount of raw materials purchased by him and the amount sent by him to his sub-manufacturers, as well as the amount kept by him in the sponging shops and in his stock rooms—so as to prevent the growth of additional shops where work might be done under non-union conditions.

These clauses added to our present agreement with some modifications, on which it is not important to dwell right now, are likely to bring a decided improvement in the labor conditions in the shops and more system and order in the trade.

SMALL EMPLOYERS IN REVOLT

The thought of our cloak sub-manufacturers in a strike is rather a startling supposition. The very idea speaks volumes of the folly of these men in having continually helped the bigger manufacturers and jobbers against the efforts of the workers to improve their condition—in the remote hope that for this the manufacturers would be grateful to them and allow them to come in on the spoils.

After having done the "dirty work," and having relieved the jobber from the "yoke" of the union, these sub-manufacturers are now getting in return the full weight of the big man's heel, a fate which they had honestly deserved, we saw.

Now they are up in arms and are loudly declaring that they will close down their shops. By this threat they, of course, only accentuate their deplorable condition. Had they felt and acted like business men, they would surely not have uttered this threat of closing down their shops. The union, indeed, could derive a sense of satisfaction, almost revenge, we should say, from this plight of the contractors. But it does not. Rather, it pities them, for it recognizes their helplessness and their inability to do anything effective even now without the aid of the union.

Despite the unenviable condition of the sub-manufacturers, the union is opposed to this proposed shut down. The union realizes that in this controversy between the sub-manufacturers and the jobbers there are involved to a very large extent its own

interests and the interests of its members. Not the sub-manufacturers with their gesture of a shut-down can solve this jobber problem but only the workers through their union by their own methods and in their own time.

The sub-manufacturers will, therefore, have to be patient until the union is ready to say the word in this matter. The contractors are not in a position to revolt on their own account without the sanction of the union. They surely ought to know it—unless they are ready to give up playing the employer game for good and become rank and file workers. But if they still desire to remain contractors and sub-contractors, they might as well make up their minds that only the union can bring an end to the existing chaos in the cloak industry. Only then, and if the union will become convinced that the sub-manufacturer is absolutely necessary for the trade, will the union see to it that his condition is also made tolerable and that he cease to be the chattel of the manufacturer as heretofore.

The union will do this not because it loves the sub-manufacturer but as a duty to its own members. It will do this in order to relieve its members from the position of being slaves to the wares—the position in which they actually find themselves now. That would be the only incentive the union might have in helping the sub-manufacturer to extricate himself from the swamp—if it should decide, that for the time being it still needs him in the cloak industry.

conference with the association was arranged for Monday, August 6, for the purpose of negotiating the terms of a new agreement. While we have no reason to expect any serious difficulties in renewing our agreement, especially since the trade is quite busy for this period of the year, still the executive board of Local 7 deemed it advisable to prepare for any eventualities. At the last meeting of the executive board a general strike committee was elected. This general strike committee is headed by Vice-president Fred Monosson, manager of Local 7. The executive board also recommended that an assessment be levied on all members of our local for the purpose of creating a strike fund to be considered as a defense fund. The assessment will be \$10.00 for men and \$6.00 for women. A special meeting of our local is called for Wednesday, August 8, at which all these recommendations of the executive board will be discussed. There will be no other important recommendations will be approved by this special meeting.



LABOR THE WORLD OVER

DOMESTIC ITEMS

THOUSANDS OF JOBS OPEN IN ST. LOUIS.

Richard T. Jones, district director of the United States Employment Service of St. Louis, reports that employment is awaiting thousands of workers in the St. Louis district.

FEDERAL CONTROL OF STOCK EXCHANGE TO BE URGED.

Strict federal control of the New York Stock Exchange and similar trading boards in other cities, identical with the close supervision now regulating banks, will be urged upon Congress when it meets in December, according to the People's Legislative Service of Washington, D. C.

FARMERS' RELIEF UP TO HARDING.

The question of obtaining government aid for more than a million wheat growers who are said to be facing bankruptcy as the result of the sudden crash of grain prices will be put up to President Harding on his return to the White House, officials of the American Farm Bureau Federation said in Chicago.

PRINTERS ASK 44-HOUR WEEK.

Four thousand printers are waiting to go on strike in 88 job printing offices in Chicago. The strike has been voted but awaits the arrival of international officers before going into effect. The printers want \$55 a week for a 44-hour week.

NEW YORK FACTORY WORKERS EARN MORE.

A gain was registered in the average weekly earnings of factory workers in the State of New York between May and June. The June average was 21 cents higher than the May average, according to a report made public by Industrial Commissioner Sheinart.

UNIONIZATION OF BANK CLERKS SUGHT.

The unionization of 20,000 clerks and other bank employees in New York is being pushed with the support of the A. F. of L. by Bookkeepers, Stenographers and Accountants Union No. 12646, according to an announcement made by its Secretary Ernest Bohm.

PRINTERS' CONVENTION CONDEMNS ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION.

The New York State Council of the Allied Printing Trades, in Convention at Buffalo, N. Y., adopted the resolution condemning Judge Gary as being instrumental in perpetuating the 12-hour day. Another resolution advocated the revocation of the charter of the Rockefeller Foundation as an "effort to control free education in the public schools of the State."

DAVIS PROMISES MORE RIGID IMMIGRATION LAWS.

Secretary of Labor Davis arriving in London after a tour of the continent revealed that he will have a bill introduced in the next Congress which he indicated will tighten immigration restrictions.

NEW YORK STAGE HANDS WIN 20 PER CENT WAGE INCREASE.

The stage hands' union obtained from the theatrical managers a new wage scale effective September 1, with a general increase of 20 per cent. The new wage scale will stand for two years. Carpenters, property men and electricians will receive a minimum of \$75 a week.

AMERICAN LEGION INVITED TO A. F. OF L. CONVENTION.

Alvin Owsley, national commander of the American Legion, has accepted an invitation to address the National Convention of the A. F. of L. which meets in Portland, Oregon, October 1, 1923.

NEW JERSEY FRANCHISE THREATENED.

Two of the 147 New Jersey municipalities in which trolleys stopped running at midnight on Wednesday of last week were seriously considering action to tear up the rails and cancel the franchise of the Public Service Railway Company unless it attempted to resume further service.

WORKING WEEK DECLINES 36 MINUTES IN TWO YEARS.

The National Bureau of Economic Research which has just completed an investigation for the Business Cycle Committee of President Harding's Conference on Unemployment announced that the length of the working week of the average American employee has declined 36 minutes in the last

CANADIAN PROSPERITY CAUSES INCREASED IMMIGRATION.

Immigration to Canada increased 63 per cent during the first three months of the fiscal year, the Department of Immigration announced. Prosperity of record, crops and improved industrial conditions were responsible for the increase.

COAL COMMISSION ENCOURAGE BUYERS' STRIKE.

Plans to flood New England and other anthracite-using regions with bituminous coal originated with the U. S. Coal Commission, which proposes to start an anthracite buyers' strike as a means of breaking the Atlantic City deadlock.

EIGHT-HOURS BEGINS IMMEDIATELY.

Elimination of the 12-hour day in the steel industry will begin immediately and wages of employees whose hours are reduced from 12 to 8 will be so adjusted as to afford earnings equivalent to a 25 per cent increase in hourly and base rates, directors of the American Iron and Steel Institute decided. The shorter workday will necessitate the employment of 60,000 additional laborers and will add \$45,000,000 to the annual payroll.

FOREIGN ITEMS

SWITZERLAND

SWISS RAILWAYMEN AND THE EIGHT-HOUR DAY.

On June 23 the Swiss Railwaymen's Union held a Congress, at which it considered the proposal of the government to lengthen working hours on the railways, and cut short the workers' holidays. The congress passed a resolution to resist these measures. Even the Catholic Railwaymen's Union is in some localities resolving to offer passive resistance.

SPAIN

SPANISH ACTION AGAINST TRADE UNIONS.

The government of Spain has reversed its conciliatory policy towards labor. A decree has been issued ordering trade unions to submit all their books, minutes, and documents to the authorities. The Federation of Trade Unions is opposing this decree. The government also announces its intention of establishing a system of health, invalidity and maternity insurance for workers. The trade union leaders believe, however, that the legislation is really designed to weaken trade-union influence.

LABOR SHORTAGE AND MILITARISM IN FRANCE.

French employers are finding themselves faced with a considerable shortage of labor, which they are careful to attribute to the decline in their population and their losses in the great war. They omit to add that 800,000 men, who would otherwise be productive workers, are still being kept under arms. To do the work these men could do, they are recruiting large sums of money in erecting dwellings for the immigrants, who are Poles, some of whom come straight from Poland, and others from the Ruhr district.

INDIA

A NEW LABOR PARTY.

The Labor Party and Kisan Party has been formed in Madras. Its first act was to protest against increased taxes on the necessities of life.

The Board of Directors of the G. I. P. Railway in India are about to introduce on their railway staff councils based on the Whitley system.

A long strike of the Ahmedabad Mill hands has at last been terminated—the reduction of wages is to be 15 instead of 20 per cent.

JAPAN

LABOR IN JAPAN.

Some weeks ago the Japanese Government raided the Socialist headquarters, suppressed the radical press, and threw into jail certain persons who had criticized its policy. The police are now turning their attention to labor, and it is expected that many of the prominent labor officials will soon be arrested. On May 27 a lecture to workers, organized by the Kansai Federation, was broken up by the police. More than 10 speakers were seized, and there were hand-to-hand fights between the police and the excited audience.

FACTORY WORKERS IN OSAKA.

The average working day for factories in Osaka is nine hours; women in spinning factories work about ten hours. The shortest hour is that of mechanics, which averages eight and a half a day.

The average income of the male factory workers is nearly double that of the women.

SOUTH AFRICA

COLORED LABOR IN SOUTHWEST AFRICA.

According to Tom Mann, colored labor is supplanting white labor in South Africa, even at skilled work. For instance, 80 per cent of the members of the Bakers' Trade Union are black; and at Johannesburg there were 8,000 unemployed white miners. Colored men are now getting into the engineering trade and are admitted into the Amalgamated Engineering Union.

AUSTRALIA

AUSTRALIAN MINERS' CRISIS.

Australian coal-owners, nearly all of whom are members of a huge combine, known as the Coal Vend, are now proposing a reduction in miners' wages. The Miners' Federation has demanded an inquiry, but this the government has refused to grant. The coal tribunal has already refused to grant the reduction, so that the owners are proceeding to direct action. The coal-owners are hoping to goad the miners into striking, which would have the effect of depleting the union fund.

MUSSOLINI THREATENS ITALIAN PRESS.

The threat of Premier Mussolini to gag the press of Italy is one which he will not dare to put into action, say the three principal opposition newspapers of Italy. The decree is the most startling of all tricks used by the Fascisti to keep in power.

HUNGARY

FASCISM AND FREE SPEECH.

Both in Hungary and Italy, the international Fascist movement is attacking free speech. The suppression for eight days by the Hungarian Government of the Socialist organ "Npszava," has been met by a strike of composers who have refused to bring out any other paper. In Italy, the cabinet has approved a decree giving powers to prefects to take action against newspapers publishing news or statements obnoxious to the government.



EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES

Content of Our Courses

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

OUR EDUCATION AND OUR ORGANIZATION

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

In all fields the effort is being made to break down the artificial barrier between education and life. In workers' education we want every student to feel that his union life is a vital part of his education and his educational life a vital part of his union. We want him to bring his union problems to class and take his reflection and added grasp of facts gained in study back to his shop and the business meeting of the union. Trade-union policy is not alone to be formed in the executive council of the International. The living policy is formed in the daily routine of the shops, in the meetings of locals and shop chairmen and in the union study groups.

OUR ACTIVITIES

During the past two years, the Educational Department expanded its activities to a large extent.

A—COURSES IN THE UNITY CENTERS

There are eight Unity Centers in public schools in different parts of the city where our members live. Registration for these is over 2,800.

In each Unity Center, we carry on various activities; educational, health, and social. Our members meet there from four to five nights a week.

Our International arranges independent courses—in History of the Labor Movement, American and European Trade Unionism, Applied Economics, Applied Psychology, History of Civilization, Literature.

Since most of our members are of foreign birth, it is natural that English should occupy a very important place in our educational plan. In each Unity Center there are classes in English of elementary, intermediate, advanced and high school grade, all organized exclusively for our members. The teachers, about forty, are assigned by the Evening School Department of the Board of Education.

One evening a week in each Unity Center is devoted to Health. For one hour a lecture on health topics which concern the home and factory life of the workers is given by lecturers assigned by the Bureau of Industrial Hygiene of the Board of Health. These lecturers are physicians. The second hour is spent in the gymnasium, where under the supervision of competent physical training teachers, our members receive instruction in gymnastics.

The Excursion of our Students' Council Was Most Impressive

Last Sunday morning a group of our members assembled at 81st Street and Riverside Drive. At about 10 o'clock they boarded the private boat "Lady Fair," chartered by the Students' Council of our Workers' University and Unity Centers, on which a seat was provided for every excursionist.

The crew, under the command of our Arrangements Committee, started up the Hudson to Croton. Before long, the seventy passengers—both men and women—who represented every local of our International Union and who hardly knew each other, soon became acquainted and were sharing each other's delicious sandwiches.

Every new scene that the course of the trip unveiled to them was greeted with joy and laughter which mingled with the sound of the waves. As the boat proceeded up the river, more and more did the beauty of the Hudson unfold itself to the excursionists. The majestic mountains covered in green proudly overlooked the inspiring river which reflected the sun that threw its rays there.

After a four-hour cruise over a calm and silvery river, the excursionists landed at their destination. There they were lured by the beach covered with a white sand, and some of them took a dip.

A few hours later the excursionists were on their way back, stimulated by the freshness of the breeze of a restless river and the beauty of the same river in the twilight lit by a full moon. And the response was

singing, dancing and joking. At one end of the boat a group was dancing to the tune of the violins played by the Arrangements Committee. At the other end a group of members was singing folk songs and opera airs. Some other group was telling stories and jokes that made the audience happy. The Arrangements Committee was ever ready to serve their delicious ice cream and cold soda.

Most inspiring was the quiet manner in which our members enjoyed their trip. Beauty of nature is always enjoyed quietly. It meant a day of rest, relaxation, quiet and sociability for seventy of our members.

Before the excursionists left the boat they decided to resume their hikes during the months of September and October.

Members of our International who wish to join the Workers' University, the Unity Centers or the courses of the Extension Division, should register at once in person, or send in their names to the office of their local unions or the office of the Educational Department, 3 West 19th Street.

STUDENTS OF UNITY CENTERS AND WORKERS' UNIVERSITY WHO HAVE CHANGED RESIDENCE ARE REQUESTED TO SEND NEW ADDRESSES TO OFFICE OF EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.



A Course in Economics and the Labor Movement

By SYLVIA KOPALD

Given at the

UNITY CENTERS

of the

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

Season 1922-1923

LESSON 1—Man, the Basis of Economics.

Introduction: Economics is the study of man's fundamental society activity—making a living. It is concerned primarily with two things: (1) Man's wants and desires; (2) his means for satisfying them. This involves a study of four things.

1. Man and his wants.
2. The production of want satisfactions or goods.
3. The exchange of want satisfactions.
4. The distribution of want satisfactions.

I. The basis of Economics lies in Man—in the facts that

1. Man is an animal who has certain wants.
 - (a) He must get food, clothing, shelter, fuel, or he dies; we call them Man's Primary Wants.
 - (b) As the highest of animals, he wants recreation, education, creative activity, art, science, etc.; we call them Man's Secondary Wants.
2. Man is a social animal.
 - (a) Man works and plays in groups. He is a social animal, as are ants, bees and monkeys and not a solitary animal, as tigers or lions.
 - (b) He obtains the things which he must have in order to live, by social, group activity. This we call Economic Activity.
3. Man is a tool-using animal.
 - (a) Over vast stretches of time the constant fundamental human problem has been how to get food, shelter and clothing.
 - (b) In this search, man has been aided by tools.
 - (c) Tools have been so important that they have been called a third arm or third eye.

II. The tool has developed steadily through the ages.

1. Man has not always had the tremendous tool with which he works today. Only late in the ice ages, for instance, did man develop the bone needle and the spear point. But these were the ancestors of the Wilcox machine and the machine gun.
2. Material culture has two phases: a gradual widening in the sources of supply and a development in the tools of production. Each is related to, and dependent upon, the other.
3. The widening of sources of supply carried man through these various stages of development.
 - (a) Food gathering.
 - (b) Hunting.
 - (c) Fishing.
 - (d) Domestication of animals or pastoral.
 - (e) Domestication of plants or agricultural.
 - (f) Commercial and industrial.
4. The development of the tools of production show two great types of changes:
 - (a) Changes in the materials used: rough stone, polished stone, copper, iron and steel.
 - (b) Changes in energy used to move the tools: human energy, human energy supplemented by animal energy and wind and water power; manufactured energy.

III. This development of the tool shows certain important characteristics.

1. It is cumulative—which means that the amount of new inventions you get at any one period depends upon the amount brought up from the past to that period; e.g., if you have 100 tools to improve you may get 200 inventions; but if you have 1,000 or 10,000, etc., you must get so many more. The amount of inventions grows with time.
2. It is inevitable—which means that, since the amount of new inventions depends upon the amount already at hand, you are bound to get a greater number as the stock of knowledge increases. Most great inventions were discovered at the same time by two or more men working independently.
3. It is social—which means that it belongs to the group. No one man produced it; what individual men do at any time depends upon what the group has done before.

Summary: The cornerstone of economics lies in the fact that man is a social animal who uses tools.

With the Waist and Dress Joint Board

By M. K. MACKOFF, Secretary
(Record of Meeting, August 1, 1923.)

COMMUNICATIONS

Two letters were received from Brother Sigman, president of the International, which read as follows:

"At a meeting held on Thursday, July 25th, between committees of the Cloakmakers' Joint Board, Locals 22 and 89, and also the committee in charge of the amalgamation, representing the International, the phases of the affiliation of these locals of the Cloakmakers' Joint Board have finally been concluded, and the Cloakmakers' Joint Board will begin August 15, of Locals 22 and 89 and also 46, which comes under Local 35 immediately.

"This will also include the dress cutters now with our Joint Board. "Accordingly, Brother Kaplowitz has been instructed to make arrangements for the merging of the business of all these locals with the Cloakmakers' Joint Board.

"You are therefore requested to give Brother Kaplowitz all the cooperation necessary in connection with transferring funds belonging to these several locals to the Cloakmakers' Joint Board and also the transferring of records pertaining to Joint Board matters: securities held for dress manufacturers, wages held for workers of the dress industry, and all other books, records, monies and whatever may be in the possession of your Joint Board to be transferred to the Cloakmakers' Joint Board, during the course of this time."

The second letter addressed to the Joint Board and dated July 28th, reads as follows:

"At the meeting held Thursday, July 26, between committees of the Cloakmakers' Joint Board and Locals 22 and 89 respectively, and also the committee in charge of the amalgamation, representing the International, the following agreement was reached:

"That Locals 22 and 89 are to send in delegates to the Joint Board Cloakmakers' Union, beginning with the meeting on Friday, August 10th. The delegates of Local 22 are to be seated provisionally until such time that the transferring of the dressmakers' of Local 23 to Local 22 will be completed. Then these locals will have their regular elections for the Executive Board and send in permanent delegates to replace these provisional delegates.

"That the General Manager of the Cloakmakers' Joint Board should immediately proceed with the plan of merging the work, of attending to shops of the dress department now controlled by both Joint Boards. This is to be done as soon as possible and to be completed no later than August 15. The Cloakmakers' Joint Board is to begin attending to all matters affecting the merging of the dress trade including all financial arrangements beginning Monday, August 12, and as of that date expenses and payments will be distributed by the Joint Board proportionately among all locals, including the newly affiliated locals.

"Secretary Philip Kaplowitz of the Cloakmakers' Joint Board (which will be known hereafter as the Joint Board of the Cloak and Dressmakers' Union) is instructed by the committee to immediately begin making arrangements with the secretaries of Locals 10, 22 and 89 and with Secretary Mackoff of the Waist and Dressmakers' Joint Board for adjusting all financial matters connected with the affiliation of these locals with the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union."

The Board of Directors expressed their confidence that the officers concerned will lend their full cooperation

in order to bring about the amalgamation without unnecessary delay.

In connection with these communications the attention of the Board was called to the fact that, due to this expected amalgamation, there are a number of questions which are to be asked immediately in order to expedite matters. The Board then took up the matter of the assessment levied by our Joint Board, the amount of money collected on that by the respective locals and deficit, i.e., the expenses incurred in connection with the general strike and after due deliberation it was decided:

1. That those dress locals which are going to affiliate themselves with the Joint Board of Cloak and Dressmakers' Union, should continue to collect the balance of that assessment on the same basis as we had decided in the month of May.

2. That those locals which are going to remain independent shall not be obliged to pay the balance of that assessment to the Joint Board, it being, however, understood that the deficit incurred by our Joint Board on that account should be covered pro rata share by the respective locals.

3. That securities held by our Joint Board should be transferred to the Joint Board Cloak and Dressmakers' Union with the understanding that securities held of embroidery and waist shops should be turned over to the respective locals.

4. Monies in the treasury of our Joint Board, which are known as collected wages for members, should be transferred to the Cloakmakers' Joint Board.

5. In regard to the Unity House, the Board of Directors considered that as our Joint Board is going to dissolve, the locals concerned in the Unity House should make immediate arrangements to see that the interests of the Unity House will be well taken care of.

6. The Board took into consideration the financial standing of Local 25 which is the only local that is going to remain independent. The Board further considered, in view of the close relations between the waist and dressmakers, that it would be advisable to strengthen the organization of the waistmakers. In order to accomplish this, the Board of Directors decided an additional \$5,000 from the Joint Board surplus fund should be donated to that local.

Brother Mackoff advised the Board that he intends to invite the local secretaries to a consultation in regard to the transferring of finances as well as of Joint Board records to the Joint Board Cloakmakers' Union.

This suggestion was well taken, it being understood that all financial arrangements made and reported to the last meeting of the Joint Board should be subject to the approval of the locals concerned.

7. Revolving funds. It was brought out that the locals affiliated with the Joint Board advanced funds amounting to \$23,600. In view of the dissolution, the Board of Directors decided that upon settling the bills due to the Joint Board, the respective locals should be paid out the revolving funds advanced.

8. The Board of Directors then also considered what is going to become of the outlying districts, the labor bureau and the arrangements made with Brother Rothenberg, our attorney. It was the consensus of opinion of the Board of Directors that this should be referred to the Cloakmakers' Union.

In regard to the final adjustment of

all financial transactions and transfer of monies as well as of records to the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union, a discussion brought out that in view of Brother Sigman's letter that all business will be transacted by the Joint Board of Cloakmakers beginning August 13, the secretary's office should be open till that day. The secretary was instructed to make arrangements that the auditor of the International make a complete final audit.

A committee consisting of Brothers Berlin, Halperin and Stein were appointed in conjunction with the secretary to arrange the special Joint Board meeting after the 15th of August as soon as the auditor of the International will be ready to make the audit and the secretary will be able to make his final report to the Joint Board.

The report of the Board of Directors was upon motion taken upon verbatim. After each and every recommendation was carefully discussed, all the recommendations were approved with the exception of paragraphs three and five in regard to the amalgamation. After a long discussion, paragraph three was changed as follows:

That all monies which are kept in the Joint Board treasury as collected wages should be transferred to the respective locals of the members for whom the money has been collected.

As for paragraph five in regard to the recommendation of Local 45, upon motion it was decided that this recommendation should be taken up at the final meeting of the Joint Board.

As for the part of the report of the Board of Directors pertaining to the report submitted by Brother Hochman, when this was read, the delegates displayed evidence of their interest in connection with the amalgamation and how it was going to be brought about. Brother Hochman was requested to report any further developments since the Board of Directors met. In reply, Brother Hochman reported that when he called upon Brother Feinberg he was advised that their plans are as follows:

1. To combine the outlying district, i.e., wherever cloakmakers as well as our Joint Board have districts, arrangements will be made to combine them.

2. Each and every district will have a district manager.

3. To the main office, there will be a representative for an Independent Department, Association Department and Jobbers' Department.

Brother Feinberg offered him. Brother Hochman stated, the office of manager of the Independent Department. In regard to the Organization Department Brother Hochman stated that Brother Feinberg told him that according to the prevailing system of the Cloakmakers' Joint Board they have no special organization department but each and every business agent is charged with the duty of organizing non-union shops in his or her district.

Brother Hochman further stated that he advised Brother Feinberg that this is not our conception of how organization work should be done. Among other arguments he advanced, he stated that in the case of dressmakers, a great majority of whom are girls who are constantly coming in and going out of the industry, organization drives periodically are absolutely imperative in order to keep pace with the outgoing members as well as with the incoming shops. On the other hand, Brother Hochman argued that with the cloakmakers this is not the case. Though they, too, have a great number of unorganized shops, the men in that industry do not leave as fast as the girls.

In conclusion Brother Hochman stated that the final development is that he was offered a position as organizer of the Cloakmakers' Joint Board. Nothing definite resulted from

INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR

By H. SCHOOLMAN

This Week Twelve Years Ago

A committee of four wives of striking cloakmakers of Cleveland went to visit the wife of a strikebreaker named Ferris, working for the Rushmore Cloth Company, to ask her to persuade her husband not to cash any longer.

This committee of women was met by two armed guards who informed them that they had to go to the back of the house in order to see Mrs. Ferris. As the women approached the back porch, Mrs. Ferris poured a kettle of boiling water on them and the guards began to empty their guns over the defenseless women. Mrs. L. Davis was the first to fall bleeding and she was followed immediately by Mrs. Rebecca Rosenfeld. Mrs. Ida Rosenberg received two bullets in the side and was taken in a doting condition to a hospital. Mrs. Rose Waldman received a bullet in the leg.

Local 17 declared a strike against the firm of Drus Brothers because the firm insisted upon employing a non-union cutter.

Ida Snyder, Mienle Snyder, Rose Berlin and Mary Wolk were arrested as pickets in front of the shop of Rosenwasser & Co., 826 Broadway. The Waist and Dressmakers' Union declared a strike in that shop because the firm refused to employ union members and made an attempt to operate an open shop.

that but he expects to get together with Mr. Feinberg again in order to take up matters.

In connection with the report made by Brother Hochman, Sister Wolk was informed that the Joint Board Local 22 at its last executive board meeting on Tuesday, July 21st, considered the various phases of the amalgamation. In view of the fact that they were informed that the dressmakers of Local 23 are not being transferred as yet to Local 22 and that the conception of the representatives of the Cloakmakers' Joint Board about the dress department differs greatly from their own views, they were greatly concerned lest the interests of the dressmakers might not be taken care of. They therefore decided that before the amalgamation takes place suitable arrangements should be made for the welfare of the dressmakers and accordingly the executive board appointed a special committee to see Brother Sigman on the proposition. On the following day the committee had a long talk with Brother Sigman and they made known to him the wishes of Local 22, laying much stress on the fact that if the dress department is not established to take care of the interests of the dressmakers, much friction will arise among the members.

Brother Sigman differed with the stand of the committee and an understanding was reached that they should see him again the next day and he also promised to attend their membership meeting which is called for Thursday, August 2.

The report of Brother Hochman and the statement made by Sister Wolk brought about a lively discussion in which it was brought out that due to the expected amalgamation, the organization work is being neglected and as from the outlook of things the present season is not going to last long, it is absolutely urgent to organize as many open shops as it is at all possible.

A motion to instruct the manager to make arrangements to launch an organization campaign was carried.

The Week In Local 10

By JOSEPH FISH

GENERAL

There have been a number of inquiries from members of our organization as to the Union Health Center, its scope of activity and functions. We are therefore going to briefly outline the purpose and aims of this institution.

The Union Health Center, which is located at 131 East 17th Street, was organized some three and a half years ago by seven locals of the International, Local 10 included. The Health Center grew out of a series of dental and medical clinics which were conducted by the Joint Board of Sanitary Control, an organization composed of manufacturers' associations as well as unions.

Today the Union Health Center has no connection whatsoever with the Joint Board of Sanitary Control and is actually the health department of our International, and as such fulfills a number of functions. The work of this institution is carried on by a board of directors, consisting of representatives from each of the locals affiliated, and is under the direct supervision of Dr. George M. Price.

The medical department of this institution consists of a general diagnostic clinic, which is open every day from 12 to 2 p. m. and from 5 to 7 p. m., with the exception of Friday and Sunday. The work of this clinic is carried on by a number of competent physicians. General physical examinations are given to those workers who do not know specifically what ails them.

Aside from this general clinic, there are special clinics held on different days of the week with specialists in charge of them, so that the most expert service is assured to the workers at a nominal fee of \$1.00. The following are the special clinics which are conducted by the Union Health Center:

Eye Clinic—This department, which is in charge of specialists, holds sessions on Monday and Wednesday from 5:30 to 7 p. m. to examine those who have trouble with their eyes.

Nose and Throat—This department is in charge of nose and throat specialists, and sessions are held on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, from 5:30 to 7 p. m., to take care of those who complain of trouble with their nose or throat.

Castro-Intestinal Clinic—It has its sessions on Monday from 5:30 to 7:30 p. m., and on Saturday from 12:30 to 2 p. m. This clinic is in charge of specialists on stomach or intestinal troubles.

Gynecological Clinic—A special clinic with women physicians in charge has been arranged for the women members of the International as well as the wives of our members. This department treats diseases common to women. Its clinics are held on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, from 12 noon to 1:30 p. m., and on Monday and Thursday, from 5:30 to 7:30 p. m.

Surgical Clinic—Sessions are held on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, from 11:30 a. m. to 1 p. m. This department takes care of surgical treatments as well as minor surgical operations.

Skin Clinic—The skin clinic has its sessions on Saturday from 11:30 a. m. to 1 p. m.

Neurological Clinic—Which treats nervous diseases, is held on Wednesday from 5:30 to 7 p. m.

Orthopedic Clinic—Treats deformities and its sessions are held on Tuesday and Thursday, from 5:30 to 7 p. m.

Physiotherapeutic Clinic—Has its sessions on Monday, Thursday and

Saturday, from 2:30 to 7 p. m., and gives electrical, baking and massage treatments.

There are also special appointments made for X-ray work and special electrical baking and massaging.

The work in every clinic has been arranged to suit the time and convenience of our members and every possible treatment for every possible disease has been arranged for by the board of directors of the Union Health Center and its director, Dr. George M. Price.

In addition to these clinics the medical department also houses a drug store, which is completely equipped to serve our members and all prescriptions will be filled by a competent pharmacist. Prescriptions are filled at a minimum fee of 25 and 35 cents, with the exception of those prescriptions that necessitate extremely expensive drugs, where the price must, of necessity, be increased.

The Union Health Center also houses the dental department, which consists of ten fully equipped dental rooms in charge of expert dentists and dental hygienists. The aim of this department is to give competent and expert services at minimum rates. It is open every day from 10 a. m. to 8 p. m., with the exception of Friday. This department is in charge of Dr. Max Price, under whose able supervision this department has grown considerably, indicating how successful and popular it is with the members of the International.

In addition to the above named clinics, the Union Health Center has carried on an extensive health educational program. It consists of health classes and lectures held every Tuesday and Friday night at the Union Health Center. The courses given are Anatomy, Physiology, Shop Hygiene, Personal Hygiene, Sex Hygiene, etc. Lectures are also given in Yiddish and English on important health subjects, which are illustrated by motion pictures and lantern slides. They are given by competent physicians and public health specialists.

The Union Health Center, as already mentioned above, has been organized by local unions of the International for the purpose of giving our members the best possible service at the least possible cost, as the members fully realize that the Union Health Center is not in business for profit but to serve our members. We are confident that the members will take full advantage of the services offered to them by this institution, conducted under the able management of Dr. George M. Price and its board of directors.

CLOAK AND SUIT

Although last Monday night was a very hot one, the attendance at the meeting, we believe, was a record-breaking one for this time of the year. Our members are beginning to realize the necessity of attending to the business of the organization and are turning out in large numbers at each meeting of the organization, be it sectional or general, as evidenced at the last cloak and suit meeting.

The meeting, although a brief one, attended to the necessary routine work of the organization, and also listened to the report of the manager, which covered the violations committed by the cutters in the shop of D. Klipstein, and the strike conducted by the Joint Board against the shop of Charles Meisel. Both of these cases have been previously reported in JUSTICE and will therefore not be repeated in this issue.

General Manager Dubinsky touched also upon the situation confronting the union regarding the intended stop-

page of the American Association against the jobbers, but was unable for the present to give any definite stand that the union will take on this proposition, as the leaders of the organization have not as yet come to any definite conclusion in the matter.

In conjunction with the D. Klipstein shop, however, we do want to mention the fact that the men in this shop were fined for teaching two non-union boys the cutting business, and when the recommendation of the executive board was read off, an amendment was offered that the organization prefer charges against the shop chairman of the D. Klipstein shop for permitting this violation to go.

Brother Philip Ansel, president of Local 10, explained to the mover of this amendment that the organization cannot prefer charges against the shop chairman of this shop due to the fact that in the evidence submitted to the executive board the name of the shop chairman as well as his knowledge of this violation do not appear. Brother Ansel therefore advised the mover of this amendment that, if he has knowledge of such a violation committed by the shop chairman, he should personally prefer charges against him to the Grievance Committee of the Joint Board.

We do hope that this article will be read by some of our shop chairmen and that they will make due note of it, so that violations of this sort do not occur in their shops.

While speaking of non-union boys, Brother Dubinsky laid great stress on this point, explaining to the members that not only are these cutters committing violations against the members of the union, but they are also committing a crime against the very same boys to whom they teach the trade.

We have written in the columns of JUSTICE a number of times warning our members against teaching the trade to non-union boys. The general theory has been that the only possible chance for a non-union boy to learn the business is in a small shop, where there is only one cutter employed, who, naturally, fearing the loss of his position, generally "covered" the boy; whereas in reality, judging from the experiences that the office has encountered for the past number of months, it is in the large shops where most of these violations do occur, especially so in a number of protective houses, where it

is so much more difficult for the office to secure the evidence than it is in an independent shop.

There are a number of cases under advisement in the office where non-union men are being "covered" in some of these shops, and it is surprising to find that these non-union boys are "covered" by a number of cutters, either four or five, and sometimes more, until finally one of these cutters is either discharged or revols himself, and comes down to the office and divulges the information.

We hope that this will serve as a warning to our members, that although they may "cover up" a boy for a certain length of time, it will eventually come to the attention of the office, and very severe action will be taken against them by the organization.



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CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10

Notice of Regular Meetings

WAIST AND DRESS.....Monday, August 13th
MISCELLANEOUS.....Monday, August 20th
GENERAL.....Monday, August 27th

Meetings Begin at 7:30 P. M.

AT ARLINGTON HALL, 23 St. Marks Place