

"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. 43.

New York, Friday, October 9, 1923.

Price 2 Cents

I. L. G. W. U. MEMBERS TO BUY UNIC

75,000 Receive Letters This Week—

At the request of the Committee on Banking, the General Office of the International early this week forwarded a circular statement to all of our members in Greater New York calling upon them to buy individual shares in the big banking venture undertaken by our International Union recently with the aid of all the locals in New York. The Committee on Banking, after it had allotted certain quantities of stock to our locals and to the other labor organizations which are cooperating with the International in carrying out the project for an International Union Bank, has set aside a number of shares which it plans to sell among the individual members of the Union.

The circular reads as follows:

Dear Member:
We take great pleasure in informing you that the International Union Bank will open for business about the first day of December.

It will be prominently located on the corner of 21st Street and Fifth Avenue, and will be fitted out and furnished as a first-class bank.

The International Union Bank is your bank. It has been organized and will be conducted by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, and practically all of its locals in this City, with the participation of a number of other labor organizations. It is a cooperative labor enterprise, and the large profits which the ordinary business bank distributes among its stockholders will go to our depositors, our unions and our members. Our bank will open business with a paid-in capital of \$500,000, all of which will be owned by our unions and our members.

It will accept saving deposits and check accounts and will have the best facilities of transmitting money to Russia, Poland, Roumania and other countries in Europe, and to insure quick deliveries at small expense.

To help us make a success of our great undertaking, you are urgently

requested to cooperate with us along the following lines:

(1) You may buy stock in the bank from all the offices of the Union. A share of stock will be sold for \$500. Each share will bring \$5 per year as dividends from the first profits. Additional profits will be divided between the stockholders and depositors. The deposit of shares to be sold to individual members is limited, and sales will be made in order in which application for subscriptions are received. If you wish to buy stock, please sign and return the attached slip at once. You may buy from one to five shares.

(2) You may deposit your savings in the bank. We will pay 4 per cent interest on the savings, but you may figure on a larger return because a substantial part of the bank's profits will be divided among the depositors as extra dividends. If you are a depositor in another savings

SHARES

Gratifying

bank, you can transfer your account to our bank without losing interest. All you have to do is to turn in your bank book to us and we will give you full credit for the amount of your deposit and interest. If you intend to open a savings account deposit in our bank, please state so on the form provided below.

(3) If you have occasion to send money to Europe, be sure to have it done through our bank.

You are cordially invited to come and inspect our bank on the opening day and at all other times. You will always find one of your own union officials in attendance who will make you feel at home. It will be your home because it will be a labor union bank in the full sense of the word.

With fraternal greetings,
INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION.
M. SIGMAN, President.
ABRAHAM BAROFF, Treasurer.

OUR OPENING EXERCISES

Among the artists who will appear at the Open Exercises of the Workers' University and Unity Centers on November 10 will be the well-known dramatic soprano, Mm. Theresa Wolf Raskhis.

Many of our members remember with what enthusiasm she was greeted when she sang at the entertainments given during the strikes last year. Her beautiful voice and her artistic interpretation won for her the plaudits of the many audiences before whom she appeared. At our opening exercises, Mrs. Raskhis will sing several operatic selections and a number of Yiddish folk-songs. We know that our audience will enjoy them.

Tickets can be obtained now at the offices of our local unions. To prevent disappointment, we urge our members to obtain these as soon as possible.

Local 1 Ratifies International Decision by Crushing Majority

Lefts' Attempt to Break Meeting Fails—Levy Endorsed as Manager

A week ago Thursday, October 11, the Cloak Operators of New York, Local 1, held a special meeting at Stuyvesant Casino, which was attended by 890 members. The principal subject on the agenda was the communication of the International Union calling upon the locals to deal drastically with such of their members as belong to the so-called "league," opposition groups with the union.

After the meeting started, the "lefts" made several attempts to disrupt it, but notwithstanding their efforts and after a number of votes had been taken, the decision of the International was ratified by a vote of 437 against 12.

Local 1 is the most important single organization in our International

and the disrupters deemed it of great importance to capture it. Immediately after the meeting opened by Brother Horowitz, the chairman of the executive board of the local, the "lefts" began to test their strength by making one obstruction after another to the regular procedure of the meeting, and by constantly appealing against the chair. When finally, however, they were overwhelmingly defeated in one of their appeals, they tried to break up the meeting, but the majority of the members would not stand for

such foul play, and in the end the order of the International was overwhelmingly ratified.

In addition to this ratification, the meeting discussed the changes in the office staff of the local and by a vote of 295 against 91 confirmed the appointment of Brother Levy as manager of the local in place of Brother Bernard Shane, resigned. A number of trade questions recommended by the executive board were also discussed and ratified by decisive majorities.

Local 9 to be Reorganized for Disobeying International Order

Secretary Baroff Notifies Local to Appear Before G. E. B. Meeting in Chicago

The majority of the present members of the executive board of Local 9, despite their feeble protestations to the contrary, appear to be like clay in the hands of the Communists, who seek, through the "Trade Union Educational League" to control the unions. Their motto is: "Divide and rule,"—and when their plans are interfered with they resort to their usual weapons—mud slinging and slander.

The "left" majority of the executive of Local 9 is so obviously under the spell of this "league" that it dared to recommend to the last membership meeting of the local the rejection of the order of the International, and has left nothing undone to see that the two hundred members who at-

tended that meeting carried out the instructions of the "league" with regard to the decision of the International. By this action the present "left" executive board of Local 9 has placed itself squarely in line with that union-smashing outfit and in open disloyalty to our Union. But the "lefts" are only a tiny minority in the local and the overwhelming majority of the cloak finishers in New York surely do not want their organization to be run at the order of the agents of the Communist party. A group of members of Local 9 at once brought charges against their executive board to the General Executive Board, and acting upon these charges Secretary Baroff in a letter forthwith ordered the executive board of the local to appear before the G. E. B. in Chicago to show cause why it should not be expelled from the International Union.

The hearing of the Local 9 case before the G. E. B. will take place on Friday, October 19. If this local is expelled, it will, of course, not mean that the cloak finishers of New York will be placed outside of the International Union. The local will be reorganized at once, as was the case with Local 1 in 1917, and the cloak finishers will continue to belong to the International as heretofore.

General Executive Board in Session in Chicago

As these lines are being written, the sixth quarterly meeting of the General Executive Board is in full go.

The New York members of the Board left for Chicago on Monday, October 15, and were joined by the western members and President Sigman on Wednesday morning, October 17, at the Hotel Morrison, where the sessions are taking place.

The sixth quarterly meeting of the Board has before it a large volume of work to transact. Secretary Baroff has prepared for the Board an exhaustive financial and general

report which will be considered section by section. President Sigman will give the General Executive Board an account of the stewardship of the International for the last three months, touching principally on the organizing activities of the union and the situation in New York City. All the vice-presidents, particularly those charged with special departmental work in the union, will render separate reports.

We expect to give in next week's issue of this journal a complete and detailed account of the work of the Chicago meeting.

New Locals in East and West

One in Passaic, N. J.; Another in Kenosha, Wis.

The work of the Eastern office of the International is proceeding with healthy regularity, adding almost weekly new locals to the roster of our International. Only last week we reported that locals had been organized in Waterbury, Conn., and in Jamaica, L. I., and that another

is in process of formation in Corona, L. I. This week comes the news that a local of ladies' garment workers, principally chasmakers, was formed in Passaic, N. J., to be known as Local 51, which has been placed under the care of Brother Max Bruck, manager of the Newark office.

Another mixed local of ladies' garment workers has been formed, through the efforts of the Chicago office, of which Vice-president Perlstein is the manager, in the city of Kenosha, Wis. This Local, No. 109, is the first result of the activities of our Western office in Wisconsin.

Topics of the Week

By MAX D. DANISH

MORE LIGHT ON PROHIBITION

THE talk delivered by Governor Pinchot of Pennsylvania last Sunday in Washington on the enforcement of prohibition has created a big sensation. In it Pinchot charged, in as plain language as one could possibly use, that the enforcement of prohibition is a huge farce, that the principal officers in charge of it are themselves responsible "for the flooding of the country with vile, poisonous liquor," and he boldly demanded that the responsibility for carrying out the Volstead law and the Eighteenth Amendment be taken out of their hands and vested squarely in the President.

Governor Pinchot ought to know what he is talking about. Discounting the fact that he may have been inspired by incipient Presidential ambitions, Pinchot has been making prohibition a leading issue in Pennsylvania and has time after time stormed the dens of liquor graft in his native State—obviously without great success. Without mincing words, he declared in his speech that Federal officials were responsible for illegal drink coming into the country, and that enforcement officials were acting as graft collectors.

All of which is not new—and all of which will be neatly pigeonholed if not forgotten in short order. The truth of the matter is that there is too much money in prohibition—much more, as experts declare, than there was in the sale of liquor in license days, both for distiller, agent, go-between, and dispenser. There should be little fear therefore that the Volstead Act or the Eighteenth Amendment are in any danger of being repealed or seriously tampered with. It stands to reason that whatever pays best in America is bound to stay.

Of course, the disgusting and farcical show of enforcement will go on. From time to time the Lixies and the Moes, big and little, will garner in some of the small fry that hang on to the fringe of the booze wave and these will be punished according to the full limit of the law—if they cannot get in time to the politicians. The regular, big, "legitimate," traffic, however, will go on as undisturbed and unmolested as a big, standardized business should in a great, well-ordered commercial land like ours.

THE STORM IN THE PHILIPPINES

DISQUIETING news is daily coming in from the far-away Philippines to the effect that there is danger of an armed uprising in the Islands in retaliation to the high-handed and brutal policy of Governor-General Wood.

These alarming dispatches may amount to no more than a scare invented by the friends of the military Governor in order to cover up a mess made by the Philippine administration, an old scheme played a hundred times before by colonial administrators in other subjugated lands. One thing, nevertheless, is certain—the complete failure of this "man on horseback," General Wood, to ride roughshod over the Filipinos and to crush out every spark of independence in them—a task with which he was charged when the Harding Administration decided to replace the civil American governor under which the Philippines have lived for twenty years, by a military governor.

The Philippines are a long distance from the American mainland—and their problems are not clear to American opinion. What is clear beyond cavil is that, after having been granted a measure of self-government which had proved to be successful, the islanders want to extend this autonomy to independence. And judging by the recent victory which the Independents have won in the elections despite the bitter opposition of the local authorities and the Wood supporters, the Filipinos are not in a mood to give up what they already have without a bitter struggle or abandon their fight for final independence. Chances are that the Philippines might decide to oppose American militarism on the islands by a policy akin to the one adopted by the Non-Resistants in British India, the policy of non-cooperation.

At any rate, the outlook in the Philippines is quite gloomy. It could all, of course, be changed, if the Administration in Washington were to decide to adopt a more liberal attitude in the government of the Philippines and to seek a conciliatory solution of the problem of self-government in the Islands. But to expect such a change of front from an Administration which deliberately sent Wood to Manila to break the spirit of the natives, would be rank and unjustified optimism.

ZION—A VANISHED HOPE?

A SHARP, ringing, unequivocal statement to that effect was made last Sunday night before a great audience at Carnegie Hall by Israel Zangwill, the renowned Jewish novelist and author, in an "airplane survey" of the problem of the Jews throughout the world. In a long address Zangwill dealt with the League of Nations which he described as a "League of Damns," discussed the Klu Klux Klan, the policy of England in Palestine, American Jewry, America's immigration policy, and declared "political Zionism dead and a total fiasco."

Zangwill's speech, broadcasted by radio throughout the United States and to England, has created a tremendous furor. To have made such a bold declaration before an audience composed of delegates to the American Jewish Congress, largely all Zionists, required no mean amount of courage. Zangwill himself has supported the cause of political Zionism from its very early days and for him to renounce it now must have been not a sweet task. But viewing the world as a "powder factory which might take only a single match to set on fire," Zangwill argued that "all the forces of Israel be mobilized against the 'next war' even though we must forego our political hopes in Palestine."

Needless to say, that Zangwill's speech had the effect of a bombshell in the camp of the political Zionists. And the counter-attack was not long

DESIGNERS OF LADIES' GARMENTS ARE IN GREAT DEMAND

A GOOD PROFESSION FOR MEN AND WOMEN!
EASY TO LEARN, PAYS BIG MONEY

Take a Practical Course of Instruction in the Mitchell Schools



In designing Women's, Misses and Children's Wearing Apparel, A course of Instruction in the Mitchell School Means an Immediate Position and Bigger Pay. The Mitchell Schools of Designing, Pattern-making, Grading, Draping and Fitting have been established for over 50 years and have achieved

NEW IDEAS
NEW SYSTEMS
BEST METHODS
BEST RESULTS

Individual instruction. Day and evening classes. Reasonable terms. Write, phone or call for free booklet and full information.

Demonstration Free at Our School

EVENING CLASSES: MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY

MITCHELL DESIGNING SCHOOL

15 WEST 37TH STREET

NEW YORK

Telephone Fitzroy 1674

FRIDAY, OCTOBER TWENTY-SIXTH, 8 P. M.

OPENING OF THE HEALTH EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE UNION HEALTH CENTER

Members of the Health School, as well as members of Relief and Executive Committees of the Locals, Shop Chairmen and Shop Sanitary Committees, are cordially invited.

The equipment of the new Electro-Therapeutic Department will be open for inspection.

UNION HEALTH CENTER

131 East 17th St.

HARRY WANDER, Chairman. GEORGE M. PRICE, M. D., Director.

in forthcoming. A torrent of criticism came pouring down upon Zangwill's head for having made his adroit statement and his views are being denounced as derogatory to the Palestine movement and without foundation in fact and spirit. Nevertheless, the impression of Zangwill's passionate denunciation of the half-hearted and now worthless British mandate in Palestine, the grant of a spurious and unreal "homeland" for the Jews as an act of political opportunism, remains intact and will for long remain indelible. For or against it, there is certainly enough food for thought in Zangwill's speech for those American supporters of the Zionist cause who have in the past been playing with it—if they only have the will and intelligence to understand.

THE AMALGAMATED NOT TO BE "DISSOLVED"

SOME three years ago, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of New York began a fight against the Marks Arnhem firm, a non-union concern, for the unionization of their plant and for the cessation of discriminatory tactics against union men. The firm retaliated by instituting an injunction suit against the Amalgamated, asking for a quarter of a million of dollars as damages, and on top of it, requested the court to "dissolve" the Amalgamated as an "unlawful" organization functioning in violation of existing laws.

The firm got a temporary injunction, and later, on appeal by the Union, the entire matter was referred, on a question of law, to a referee who was to study the question and report back to the court in due time. Obviously the referee took his time about it, as only last week was this report finally rendered—after three years of study. The report finds that the firm is entitled to an injunction, that its claim to \$250,000 damages is unfounded, and that the Amalgamated is a perfectly legal trade union organization operating within the legitimate limits and bounds of such a labor body.

The report, on the whole, vindicates the Amalgamated fully, though, it did not require the report of a referee in a judicial proceeding to establish the fact of its legitimacy in the world of Labor. It is doubtful whether such a charge would be entertained in any court in New York today—reflecting upon the name and character of the principal organization of the men's clothing workers in America. But that suit was instituted in 1920—at the height of the post-war hysteria when every insane absurdity directed against an organization of labor could find a hearing in a judge's chambers.

The permanent injunction is about the only thing that remains of those charges. But injunctions in labor disputes have become so regular that the referee in the Arnhem case would have run decidedly out of tune with prevailing judicial ethics were he to have denied that measure of "relief" to the sorely beset employer.

FROM OUR JOINT BOARDS AND LOCALS

A Message to Baltimore Members

Workers' education has become the slogan in the American labor movement. Education in general has been and still is, to a certain extent, the privilege of a certain class of people. Workers could hardly dream of receiving constructive education.

When the workers began to understand the value of organization in the improvement of their economic conditions, they were met face to face with problems which they thought only professors could solve. But the fact has been established that, since the labor movement assumed a concrete form, life itself has thrust to the fore men and women who, with a little effort on their part for self-education, were able enough to solve these problems. In New York and other cities as well, workers' education has assumed a mass character, each man and woman being eager for constructive workers' education.

Only Baltimore is backward in this respect. Vice-president Fannia M.

Cohn, executive secretary of the Educational Department of our International, has visited Baltimore and proposed that Baltimore make an honest effort for workers' education. As a result of her visit, we have adopted a program of education for our members for this season, of which the first series of lectures will begin on Friday, October 19, and will continue on all subsequent Fridays. The lecturer for this course will be Miss Theresa Wolfson, previously connected with the teaching staff of the Educational Department of the International.

Arrangements for further educational activity for our members are being made for the entire winter season. We hope that our members will grasp the opportunity so liberally offered to them by our International.

Fraternally yours,

CLOAKMAKERS' UNION, LOCAL 4
SAM KAPLAN, Secretary.

The Labor Press for September and October

By BERTHA WALLERSTEIN

The settlement of the recent strike was a striking contrast to the settlement of other big strikes in the last few years, like the steel strike of 1919, the coal strike of last year, and, above all, the railroad strikes of 1922-23. Labor has sensed the difference, and through its press almost unanimously praises Governor Pinchot of Pennsylvania for recognizing that labor is a factor to be dealt with by argument and negotiation, not by force of the injunction and open shop brands. As one labor weekly puts it, coal cannot be dug with injunctions and bayonets and curses. It must be dug by miners, and those miners must have adequate assurance that their labor is rewarded and their union recognized. The American Federationist for October speaks of the "good sense and energy of Governor Gifford Pinchot of Pennsylvania, who stepped into the breach when it was widest, and who brought about an adjustment of the disputes." The union has defended the miners, and it stands intact, in the view of American Labor's organ, and the Harrisburg agreement is a credit to the miners. Labor, of the railroad unions, suggests that the coal strike and the railroad strike of last year could have been settled with Pinchot tactics, and the public would have gained thereby. Pinchot, says this weekly, has substituted agreement for force, and the result is peace instead of war and prosperity instead of depression. Even war-mad France has learned that she cannot dig coal with bayonets, and it looks as if America has learned the same lesson, and will no longer try to treat its own free born miners as France has treated those of a conquered and exhausted nation. The United Mine Workers' Journal rejoices over the 10 per cent increase, and considers the negotiations highly successful. The Machinists Monthly Journal scoffs at the praise given by the bosses' press to the operators, just because they are willing to arbitrate wages. The coal lost would be, says that Journal, to ask the operators to arbitrate prices. Would they be equally willing?

Labor journals are well pleased with the convention of the American Federation of Labor, and quote fully from its resolutions. They review, with the convention, the program that labor has made since it began its struggle, and see hope for the future in the convention's stand for industrial democracy, which they view as the keynote of its resolutions.

Not all labor journals agree with the convention in all of its planks. The New Textile Worker, for instance, favors a labor party, believing that while the workers' real weapon is economic, they still could prevent the present outrages of injunctions and legislation if they had political power. It is absurd for the workers to allow capitalist control of government, as they do at present, and they will not wrest this control from the present bosses until they have their own party. The lobbying method advocated by the convention is inadequate, in the opinion of the New Textile Worker.

The Railroad Trainman believes that the new radical group in Congress is working along the right track, not for revolution, as their enemies claim, but for a constructive policy in the interests of the majority of Americans. But their numbers are still too small to do effective work in the view of the United Mine Workers' Journal. However, the Journal believes that they are trying "to drive Special Privilege out of control of Government and restore it to the people." In this endeavor they are entitled to and should have the whole-hearted support of all honest citizens."

The convention's resolution against the revolutionary groups is in harmony with the labor press. The Weekly News Letter of the A. F. of L. declares that the Trade Union Educational League is merely using amalgamation as a cloak for revolution, that they are the logical successors of the I. W. W. and the One Big Union, and that organized Labor will have none of industrial autocracy with revolution as its leader. The Railroad Worker and the Seaman's Journal quote the editorial in Justice attacking the members of the I. L. G. W. U. in Chicago who were working as agents of the Trade Union Educational League. "The same

The meeting of the Waistmakers' Union, Local 25, on October 11 at Beethoven Hall met with such success and was so well attended that the members felt that old times were returning for Local 25. The manager's report and that of the executive board were approved, as were also the plans of organization. But the members did not stop with the mere approval of the plans—they immediately took circulars which were distributed on the following morning among many of the open shops.

The local urges all those working in open shops to report to it their location so that arrangements may be made for their organization. This can only be done with the cooperation of the members, who are urged to come to the office and talk matters over.

thing applies to the Seaman's Union," says the Seaman's Journal. The Leather Workers' Journal gives a long editorial to the "highwayman in the path of organized Labor," as it calls W. Z. Foster.

The labor press is full of anti-Ku Klux Klan editorials, in line with the A. F. of L. resolutions.

Labor journals take a lively interest in the struggle of the ladies' garment workers in Chicago against the injunction procured against them by Mitchell Bros. The New Majority and the Tailor, both Chicago publications, rejoice that the union got that outrageous injunction modified. Nearly every labor paper mentioned it as one of the most sweeping injunctions issued even in this hey-day of judge-made law.

Judge Gary was mistaken if he thought that the steel industry would retire from the limelight by introducing the eight hour day. For one thing, it is no eight-hour day, says Labor, quoting from the report of Hannon, the head organizer of the steel industry. The Steel Trust has reduced the twelve-hour day to a ten-hour day, and has reduced the wages from \$4.80 to \$4.00. That means that the hourly rate is unchanged. This is contrary to the tradition which Labor has established with so much difficulty that a reduction in hours should not mean a reduction in wages. "Trusted pressure" against the steel workers must be resisted, according to the Locomotive Engineers' Journal, wishing good speed to the A. F. of L. campaign to organize the steel workers. But the public must not forget the steel workers, and must back the organizing campaign with public opinion.

Meanwhile it is clear that Steel will try to get something out of its reluctant concession to public opinion in the matter of the eight-hour day which is not an eight-hour day. The

The arrangements for the get-together of the Waistmakers' Union are almost completed. The artists that we have engaged, while not new to New York, are new to the members of the local, and we are sure that all will enjoy hearing them. Those members who were at the Unity House will surely remember little Ruthie Stromberg and her mother—Ruthie whose dancing was a delight, and Mrs. Stromberg for her lovely voice. Sadie Becker will play the fancy dances—the Troika, the Polka, Valse Minuet and other dances that we have always enjoyed. Mr. Harris will give some of his best humorous recitations, and Mr. Park, a tenor, will sing folk songs.

The members of Local 25 who want to have a good time and meet old and new friends at the same time, should not forget the dance, October 27th at the auditorium of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, 3 West 16th Street.

Iron Age, a bosses' paper, has an editorial, widely quoted in labor journals, showing the need of the foreign worker in steel, and pleading that the immigration law be "modified" so as to give American industry the labor supply it needs. Steel is quite willing to take the consequences of importing foreign labor, and is ready to deal with strikes among foreigners. This is cited by labor editors as a sign that Labor must keep vigilant to guard the immigration law—just as vigilant as Capital is to break it down. Steel, and other "interests," in the opinion of the Stone Cutters' Journal, are only too anxious to get around the law, and get a plentiful supply of cheap labor, with which to break American unionism and force down American living standards.

The Garment Worker rejoices at the successful outcome of its fight against prison-made clothing. Its biggest enemy, the Reliance Shirt Company, agreed not to accept any more prison contracts. Labor papers have been giving the United Garment Workers the advantage of publicity in this campaign, appealing to the members not to buy prison-made shirts, but to demand union-made shirts.

The New Textile Worker reports progress in New England, where the workers in silk mills have won increases, and speaks hopefully of the Norwalk ribbon strike against the two-loom system, wage reduction, and the non-union shop. For seventeen months these mills have been working with one third their normal labor force, says the labor journal, and pickets are still on duty.

Nearly every paper has contributed to the anti-child-labor campaign, many of them printing an article by Grace Abbott, chief of the Children's Bureau, which reports that more than a million children in this free country are wage slaves.

JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

Published every Friday by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Office, 3 West 16th Street, New York, N. Y. Tel.: Chelsea 2148

MORRIS SIGMAN, President. S. YANOFFKY, Editor. A. BAROFF, Secretary-Treasurer ABRAHAM TUVIM, Business Manager

MAX D. DANISH, Managing Editor

Subscription price, paid in advance, \$1.00 per year

Vol. V, No. 43. Friday, October 19, 1923.

Entered as Second Class matter, April 16, 1920, at the Postoffice at New York, N. Y. under the Act of August 24, 1911.

Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage, provided for in Section 1102, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized on January 23, 1918.

Wage Theories and Arguments

No. 1.—INTRODUCTION

(Note: This is the first article of a series on wage arguments and theories used in negotiations and arbitrations. Others will appear in consecutive issues. They are intended to be of practical service to all engaged in wage adjustments.)

You frequently see the statement made that wages are fixed, not by the will of the employer or anyone else, but by the "inevitable economic law of supply and demand."

Look carefully to see who makes the statement. Seldom, indeed, is he a professor of economics or anyone else who has undertaken a real study of "economic law." He is usually an employer or a business writer who does not know any economics except the theory of a hundred years ago. The statement is used to justify low wages, not to justify high ones. The very same writer who talks about "inevitable law" as the cause of low wages will argue that high wages are the result of human control and ought to be reduced by action of the employer. He does not think far enough to see that if wages were really determined by laws of nature, any wages which happened to come into existence, whether high or low, would be inevitable.

Real economists stopped making such statements long ago. There have been many neat little theories to account for the course of wages; each in turn has been given up or changed, as more was learned about the subject. Yet it may be worth while to mention some of them briefly.

THE "IRON LAW"

One of the first was the "iron law" of wages. This held that wages would always remain near the lowest level at which a workman could remain alive. If more than this were paid, the population would increase faster and an excess of workmen would lower the pay again. If less than this were paid, workmen would die off, and the supply of labor being less, wages would rise. And there

you were! A perfect illustration of the "supply and demand" theory. Of course, anyone who looks about him at the present world knows that is not true. Both minimum wage laws and trade agreements have often raised wages far above the bare subsistence level.

THE "WAGE FUND"

There was another known as the "wage fund" theory. This taught that there is always a certain amount of wealth in the world. Some of this wealth is consumed by individuals; the rest is used for new production. If wages rise, that part of the wealth used for consumption grows larger, and this leaves less to be employed in production. If you don't use so much wealth for production, you don't produce so much, and so the total supply falls off. This in turn reduces wages. If wages fall, the opposite course of events increases them again. So that the "fund" out of which wages are paid always tends to remain the same and wages cannot be increased or decreased, in the long run.

This theory long ago was seen to be too simple to account for what really happens. Many other influences have to do with how much is produced and how it is divided. Everyone now knows, for instance, that higher wages often lead to more production.

THE PRODUCTIVITY THEORY

The criticism of the "wage fund" theory led to another—the "marginal productivity" theory. This is too complicated to explain fully. It is based on the idea that an employer will pay more for workmen the more productive they are, just as a farmer will pay more for land which is fertile than for land which is not fertile. The employer keeps on hiring men as long as it is profitable for him to do so. At length he comes to the last man whom it is profitable to hire, the productiveness of labor being what it is. This is the "marginal" man. The wages which this man can command set the general wage level. They are dependent on the supply and

demand for labor at the time he is hired. And the supply and demand at that point depend largely on labor's productiveness.

All such theories involve the idea that the relation between supply and demand has much to do with the price paid for labor. This is undoubtedly true. But modern economists have come to see that so many factors affect the situation that there is no such thing as a "law" which always operates. In the first place, the "labor market" itself does not allow free play between the supply and the demand. In the second place, both supply and demand are themselves affected by other forces, many of which are subject to human control. Money may, for instance, arbitrarily limit the supply of goods, or the demand for labor. An employer representing a combination of capital has a bargaining advantage over an individual workman. And so on, and so on. In such a complex and variable situation, supply and demand is not an absolute "law," but rather an influence or tendency.

PRESENT THEORY

There is probably a little truth in every one of the old wage theories. But no wage theory yet thought of contains nearly all the truth. No simple abstract theory could contain it, in a world full of human uncertainties.

What the best authorities now believe agrees perfectly with the na-

tural attitude of organized labor. It may be stated as follows:

There is at any given moment a limit above which, other things being as they are, wages could not rise. There is also a limit below which they could not fall. But it is impossible for anyone to determine exactly where these limits are. The margin between the upper limit and the lower limit is pretty wide. If the average employer or capitalist had everything his own way, wages would be nearer the lower limit than the upper one. But if workmen organize, educate themselves to the situation, and apply their collective power, wages may be nearer the upper limit than the lower. There is also a possibility of raising the limit from time to time. In fact, a rapid raising of the limit is more a certainty than a possibility. This approach to wage theory is extremely important, yet it is almost universally ignored in discussions of the matter. Genuine collective bargaining, exercised by trade unions, may raise wages. It is a means of applying human effort to the betterment of human conditions. Abstract theories cannot be substituted for it. It works in specific cases, surrounded by actual conditions. All wage theories and arguments worth anything may be applied in such cases, just as mathematics and astronomy are applied by the pilot of a ship in a stormy sea. It is with the thought of explaining the kind of wage theory which has proved useful in the practice of collective bargaining and arbitration that the following articles in this series will be written. (Facts For Workers, October, 1923.)

THE UNION HEALTH CENTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT:

Fifteen General and Special Clinics for Members of the Union Only.

THE DENTAL DEPARTMENT:

Cooperative, Scientific Dentistry at Cost.
Ten Dental Chairs, X-ray, Gas and Conductive Anaesthesia.
Expert Graduate Dental Physicians and Surgeons.
Open for Members of Other Labor Organizations during the daytime only—Evenings reserved for Union Members.

NEW ELECTRIC TREATMENT DEPARTMENT

Now Open.
Treatment by Alpine Sun Lamp—Diathermy—Galvano-Feradic—Skin and Other Diseases.
Charges \$1.00 to \$1.50 per Treatment.

ALSO A COMPLETE X-RAY DEPARTMENT:

X-rays taken of Chest and Other Parts of Body for from \$3.00 to \$5.00.

HARRY WANDER, Chairman.

GEORGE M. PRICE, M. D., Director.

Labor Legislation for Women Workers

The third International Congress of Working Women met recently in Vienna, Austria. The Congress adopted a resolution declaring itself in favor of labor laws for women irrespective of whether or not the same laws applied to men in any country where the organized workers advocate such laws. The Congress, which is composed of delegates from about fifteen countries, expressed itself as believing in the establishment of minimum standards of employment, such as the eight-hour day, by law or by trade union agreement, or by both, according to the needs of the workers and the conditions existing in the respective countries.

The passing of this resolution proves erroneous the statements made by the opponents of women's labor laws that the International Federa-

tion of Working Women opposed such legislation applying only to women.

The text of the resolution is as follows: "Nationally and internationally there should be minimum standards of work such as the eight-hour day, but the method by which such standards are to be obtained, whether by trade union agreement or by law or by both means, should be determined by the organized workers of those countries according to the economic and political conditions in each country. Therefore the International Federation of Working Women declares in favor of labor legislation for women in countries where the organized working women wish to use this method to improve the industrial conditions."—Federal Council Information Service, October 6, 1923.

Union Health Center News

UNION HEALTH CENTER NEWS

The opening of the Union Health School will take place on Friday evening, October 26, at 8 p. m., in the auditorium of the Union Health Center, 191 East 17th Street.

Addresses will be made by Dr. George M. Price, Dr. Iago Galdeston and others.

The first meeting of the Health School will be held on October 30, with Dr. Galdeston speaking on "The Human Machine." On the Friday following, November 2, Dr. Haven Emerson, professor of Public Health at Columbia University will speak on

"Medicine, Its Progress and Limitations." On November 1, Dr. Cramp-ton will begin his Corrective Physical Exercise Course.

On the 26th of October, all those who are interested are invited to visit and inspect the new physio-therapeutic department of the Union Health Center with its new equipment of electrical Alpine lamps, baking and other newly purchased apparatus for nervous and other neurotic diseases. Arrangements have been made for the physical examination of members of the Physical Corrective Exercise Class.

Patronize Our Advertisers

How City Workers Live

By J. CHARLES LAUE

For three years emergency rent laws have been in effect in New York State, yet rents have been boosted amazingly for tenants in spite of the protection of the law. Hearings conducted at the New York City Hall before the State Housing Commission brought out the fact that there is a shortage of dwelling places for \$63,000 persons.

In the three years theaters, garages, high class apartments, banks and hotels were erected by the score and but one house was erected to rent at \$9 a room, within the wage earner's means, and that by a semi-philanthropic institution thirteen miles from City Hall at 198th Street.

Royal S. Copeland, former Health Commissioner and now United States Senator, said, that as the result of overcrowding, danger of disease was rampant; that a contact disease like influenza or typhus would become epidemic if once started. Rents were so high that children did not get enough to eat, and went without under-clothing. In the richest city in the world he pointed out that there were 200,000 undernourished school children.

All testimony showed the necessity of continuing the emergency rent legislation although considerable doubt was expressed in regard to whether the Supreme Court would uphold the law, the legislation of 1920 winning approval by the scant majority of one in the highest court which held then, immediately after

the war, that an emergency did exist that warranted the interference with the landlords' right to profit.

Representatives of the tenants, mostly the wives of workers and salaried employees, attended the hearing and listened with intense absorption to the stories of hardship related by their investigators.

Possibly 1,000 women were thus crowded into the hearing room. Outside were their husbands and sons, 50,000 in number cheering their heads off at the outcome of the final world's series baseball game. The Yanks had won the championship. That attracted far more interest than the bitter story of privation that volunteer women workers, without means themselves, were pouring into the ears of Governor Smith's commission with the hope of getting the continued protection of the law.

It was the first time in the history of the struggle in the big cities between the tenants and the landlord that the sordid story was told of the effort of workers earning between \$15 and \$35 a week to meet rents that averaged from \$50 to \$60 a month. Unbelievable conditions were being tolerated because there were no better houses to move to, for none had been built.

Radical measures were suggested by conservative spokesmen. The State was urged to seize land and build. The United States Senator suggested that the housing board be given power to say "Thou shalt not

build garages," that it should have the power to allocate the people's money now placed in banks and insurance companies and loaned by these institutions to build business palaces and wonderful apartments for the rich. Homes must be built for the workers. It was agreed:

"The rich will suffer as well as the poor, for an epidemic spares no one," remarked Senator Copeland.

"A man who lives on Fifth Avenue or Riverside Drive is not safe if there is an epidemic disease in the community," he said. "While he may think he is safe, the servants in his house may come from these congested districts. The clerks in the stores and in the banks come from these sections, and you can't have any disease in the community anywhere, but every part of the community is in danger."

Homes, rat-infested tenements that had been closed in the days of Jacob Reiss and Theodore Roosevelt, had to be reopened with the permission of the health department, he said, because there was no place to put the people.

"Mothers came to me that had rain coats through the roof to the third floor, and the plumbing was so defective that the debris ran out on the floor," he declared.

And so on. Most eloquent was the testimony of the tenants' own investigators, of social workers, union officials, clergymen and housewives on existing conditions, due to the lack of

new houses to rent at prices the workers can afford.

People that had no means of their own were being herded like cattle with others, it was brought out, forced to live with other families in divided apartments or else being taken in as boarders.

No vacancies to any amount were reported except apartments renting from \$25, \$30, 40 and \$60 a room, all far beyond the ordinary wage-earner's means. Instances of unwarrented rent rises were given to the commission. It was agreed that there was a shortage of 165,000 apartments that it would take ten years to make up unless cheap buildings were forced by State action.

An instance of congestion in West Harlem was given by one volunteer worker, the wife of a postal clerk who gave her services to one of the tenants' organizations. A widow with five children and another woman, her sister, were found living in one room, with no light, no heat, no water, no stove. For this she paid \$7.50. She went out to work. The youngest child was a baby; the eldest, fourteen. Other poor workers lived in a coal bin and paid \$29 a month.

Instances were given in the Bronx, where people put out signs "Bed-rooms to let" and got their boarders to bring their own beds. Thus they got in enough money to pay the landlords of new tax-exempt houses which do not come under the emergency rent laws. Colored people were most heavily penalized. They had to pay twice as much rent as white men. One house was found with ceiling broken, twelve layers of paper on the wall, the rats playing tag in the hall and the cellar flooded with filth and ashes.

Prison-Made Garments

(Its Scope Revealed by National Survey)

Unfair competition of prison labor with free industry has reached alarming proportions during the last twelve months. Organizations of labor and organizations of manufacturers are both considering immediate steps to combat the spread of contract convict labor industries, and other forms of exploitation of prisoners at the expense of free labor and free industry.

The National Committee on Prisons and Prison Labor has completed a study of prison labor conditions which shows the following conditions of convict labor:

Contract system 6,605
Public account system 4,135
Total unfair competition.....10,740
State use system 7,699
Maintenance work (estimated at 40 per cent) 28,800
Road work 12,294
Farms 9,467
Total unfair employment.....52,250
Total of all employed 67,000

The contract system of prison labor has been universally condemned, but it simplifies prison administration, and at the same time offers many opportunities for profit and graft, so that it has maintained a footing in many states. It was driven out in the more progressive states before the war, but the public account system was the subterfuge introduced to get around the law against contractors.

Analysis of the figures shows that although 10,000 prisoners out of the 67,000 prisoners are employed under the public account and contract systems, 5,749 or 83 per cent of this 10,000 are employed in the manufacture of workshirts and overalls.

The concentration of prisoners on workshirts and overalls today is as follows:

	Workshirts - Other shop		
	Overalls	Trades	Total
Public account system	1,432	2,703	4,135
Contract system	4,317	2,228	6,605
Total	5,749	4,991	10,740
State use system	833	6,836	7,699

One concern employs more than 2,000 prisoners on the manufacture of shirts and overalls, and it has contracts with prisons in eight states.

State	Institution	Commodity	No. of Prisoners
Connecticut	State Prison	Shirts	356
Tennessee	State Prison	Aprons	200
Kentucky	State Reformatory	Shirts	251
Wisconsin	State Reformatory	Overalls	167
Wyoming	State Prison	Shirts	188
Oklahoma	State Prison	Shirts	420
Alabama	State Prison	Shirts	600
Delaware	County Workhouse	Shirts	175
Kentucky	State Prison	Shirts	247
Maryland	2 State Prisons	Clothing and	
	2 Houses of Correction	Overalls	588
Virginia	State Prison	Clothing	296
West Virginia	2 State Prisons	Shirts-Overalls	318
Nevada	State Prison	Shirts-Overalls	283
Rhode Island	State Prison	Shirts	250

The above figures include only those prisoners engaged in the manufacture of clothing. There are also 1,500 prisoners engaged in the manufacture of clothing under the public account system, and 2,700 others are employed at shop trades.

The industrial establishments run by prisons include stone quarries, brick and tile works, sheet metal

The following tabulation shows the states that have prison contracts, the commodity manufactured, and the number of prisoners employed:

works, knitting, hosiery and textile mills, shops for making brooms, furniture and auto plates and for turning out printing.

The prisoners receive practically no wages, and the dumping on the open market of the enormous volume of goods manufactured under this system is having a ruinous effect upon conditions in the various industries.

Free Speech Wms in New Kensington and Brocton

Two important victories in the nationwide fight for freedom of speech—at Brocton, Mass., and New Kensington, Pa.—are reported by the American Civil Liberties Union. In both towns the efforts of local officials

to suppress lawful gatherings of their citizens have been nullified through the pressure of public opinion and the intervention of the civil liberties body.

Retreating from his arbitrary pol-

tion of the last few months, D. Burns, Burgess of New Kensington, has issued a permit for a meeting of Italian workers at Cassidi Hall, on October 21, with Carlo Trecca, the editor of the Italian monthly "Il Martello," as principal speaker. It will be the first such gathering to take place there in many months without police interference.

The refusal of Mr. Burns to grant a permit for a similar meeting on September 30, makes the turn of affairs the more significant. A representative of the Civil Liberties Union was to have spoken on the same platform with Trecca at the time. The official change of front, however, makes this unnecessary. The Italians are not the only ones who suffered through official oppression, similar treatment having been accorded earlier to the Polish elements and to joint meetings of several racial groups, including English-speaking citizens.

On one occasion, the Italian workers were obliged to hold a meeting on a private lot on the outskirts of the city, because the authorities prohibited one scheduled to take place publicly in the Alhambra Theatre.

In Brocton the third attempt in two months by the Brocton Public Forum to hold a mass gathering on the O'Donnell playgrounds proved successful, and several thousand Brocton residents listened to Jerome T. Deffunt, chairman of the American Labor Party, speak on constitutional rights and the need for a Labor Party. On Sunday, October 7 Deffunt stood on a piazza facing these public playgrounds and addressed his audience, who were assembled on those grounds.

The success in this instance is the more notable as it was made in the face of an ordinance rushed through the Brocton City Council forbidding the holding of meetings on the O'Donnell playgrounds without a special written permit. No attempt was made to squelch the Deffunt meeting, notwithstanding the fact that it was an open defy of the Brocton officials who have been interfering with labor gatherings.

*Southern prisoners not included.

JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

Published every Friday by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.
Office, 3 West 14th Street, New York, N. Y. Tel.: Chelsea 2145
MORRIS SIGMAN, President. S. YANOFSEY, Editor.
A. BAROFF, Secretary-Treasurer. ABRAHAM TUVIM, Business Manager
MAX D. DANIEL, Managing Editor
Subscription price, paid in advance, \$1.00 per year

Vol. V, No. 43. Friday, October 19, 1923.

Entered as Second Class matter, April 16, 1920, at the Postoffice at New York, N. Y. under the Act of August 24, 1912.

Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage, provided for in Section 1108, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized on January 25, 1919.

EDITORIALS

LOCAL 9 MUTINIES AGAINST THE INTERNATIONAL

At a member meeting of Local 9, the Cloak Finishers' and Tailors' Union of New York, held a week ago Monday, a majority of those present—by a vote of 204 for and 82 against—decided to reject the decision of the International with regard to union members belonging to the various "leagues," that they either give up membership in these subversive organizations or forfeit their standing in the local unions. The 200 members who voted to disobey the order of the International thereby deliberately real themselves out of Local 9 as well as of the International. For they must surely have been aware, through warnings in the columns of our journal, as well as through the direct communication of President Sigman at the instruction of the General Executive Board, that disobedience of this decision meant breaking off with the International.

At this very meeting of Local 9, Vice-president Israel Feinberg reiterated to them the full meaning of this decision and stated the inevitable results to which the rejection of the order of the General Executive Board would lead. Those who voted to reject the decision can therefore not plead ignorance to any degree. There is no doubt that, from the moment they voted to reject the decision of the International, they excommunicated themselves from its midst. The question arises now, What is to be done with Local 9 as a whole? It is a large-sized organization, with a membership of about 8,000, and it is clear beyond contravention that the 200 who declared themselves in rebellion against the International do not represent the many thousands who did not vote. Shall the entire local be expelled and shall its membership as a whole be made to suffer for the act of the few hundred who misrepresented them?

On the bare surface of things, the expulsion of the entire local would appear to be somewhat of an injustice to the thousands of members of Local 9. But is there another way out? True, the few hundred do not represent the local; but the thousands who stayed away from the meetings and who allowed the few hundred to do what they pleased with the organization are, though indirectly and unintentionally, guilty of what has happened. Unbelievable and odd as it may sound, officially Local 9 has declared itself in a state of mutiny against the International. The International has, it would seem, no other way of ridding itself of those who misrepresented Local 9 and who have now given it such an unsavory reputation in the labor world, but to take away its charter, disband it, and reorganize it into a new local from which those union-wrecking elements shall have been expelled.

The time has finally come for a complete cleansing within our ranks. We never believed that these few hundred tumult-makers would dare to take such a step. We calculated that these heroic mouthers would come to a halt at a crucial moment in which their standing as members in the organization was involved. It seems, however, that this tiny minority is incapable of behaving like union men, that they do not give a thought as to how their action might affect the fate of the thousands in whose name they have acted. And it seems equally clear that there is no way of permanently checking these irresponsible but through the revoking of the charter of the local and the organization of a new union.

Of course, there is another way that might accomplish the same purpose. If the large majority of members of Local 9 would immediately take the local over into its hands and would expel all the union-disrupters without exception, they might save the International this task. We fear, however, that it is a little too much to expect from them. Neither are we sure whether this would be entirely legal because, regrettable as it is, the present "left" administration of the local would have no alternative but to wait until next year's election.

The International, however, cannot tolerate this state of affairs any longer. The act committed at the last meeting of Local 9 was not merely an act of disobedience with regard to the members of the local but against the International as a whole. And if the International is to act in the interests of all the members of Local 9, it must act firmly and decisively. Vacillation in this case would be a misfortune for the International as well as for the local. Local 9 would from day to day become more and more demoralized and would by its example demoralize the other locals and our entire labor movement.

It must be clearly understood that all our unions are in their essence voluntary organizations. The real power of every union consists in the self-discipline imposed by the members upon themselves. A union is not a state, not a government which can use force to put into effect adopted laws. The strength of a

labor union consists in the assumption by every member of a duty to carry out a certain line of conduct, and the collective will to abide by these rules constitutes the living force of the union. When an individual member or a local mutinies against accepted decisions, regulations and laws, it strikes out at the very foundation of the labor union's existence. In such an event the union cannot and must not be lenient. Its instinct for self-preservation demands from it vigilant enforcement of its basic laws. If today one local refuses to carry out a decision of the General Executive Board, what is to prevent another local and a third from following its example tomorrow? The immediate result would be the crumbling of the International Union and its speedy extinction, and the elimination of the International would be quickly followed by the breaking up of the locals and the wiping out of that magnificent trade union structure which has been built up at the cost of so much sacrifice and treasure during the last thirty years.

There can be therefore no talk in this case of a mild and vacillating course. Firm and quick action on the part of the International is the only way of retaining its unity and existence as well as the saving of the very local in question.

We know that some nice sentimental persons will raise a cry of brutality and ruthlessness. Persons whose normal share of common sense is outweighed by an abnormal ration of shallow sentimentalism; persons who have not the least idea of union morals and ethics; or persons who know these things very well but who are demagogues and whose aim and purpose it is to bring as much tumult and chaos into the labor movement as possible—all these will rise in a chorus of denunciation against the act of the General Executive Board.

We know it and care mighty little about it. Our General Executive Board has never paid attention to the passing clamor of the street. It has always acted as it deemed it its duty to act and as the welfare of the union as a whole demanded.

We fail to see any reason or ground why the General Executive Board at its next quarterly meeting in Chicago should act otherwise, should Local 9 insist upon the result of the vote adopted last week by a few hundred of its irresponsible members, defying the decision of the International and running counter to the wishes of the great majority of its own members.

LOCAL 22 ON THE ROAD TO HEALTH

True to its decision, The General Executive Board removed from office a majority of the members of the Executive Board of Local 22, and in this manner saved the local from falling into the hands of an outside organized group and a bitter enemy and antagonist of our International and its policies and principles.

These removed executive board members cannot complain that they did not receive an honest and fair trial at the hands of the committee which was appointed to hear their case—Vice-presidents Feinberg, Heller, and Reisberg. At the hearing, these defendants admitted that they belonged to the "Trade Union Educational League"; and they were also forced to admit that most of them had been picked for their office at a meeting of that "league." It was made clear beyond possible doubt that these executive members have been acting under instructions from an alien body—which in itself is sufficient to make them ineligible to their posts.

Nevertheless, the decision of the General Executive Board offered them the alternative of giving up the "league" and finishing up their terms on the executive board, but this they refused to do. The General Executive Board thereupon forthwith removed them from the executive board and ordered new elections to be held in the near future to fill their places. Until this election is held, the remaining executive members of the local who have heretofore been deprived of their rights as members of the board through the manipulations and caucuses of the "league," will continue to function.

Local 22 now has the best opportunity to regain its healthy and normal standing. On the one hand, it is now affiliated with the Joint Board of the Cloak and Dressmakers' Unions of New York, which can become a source of strength for it in times of need; and, on the other, the members of Local 22 can now elect an executive board that will serve them without ulterior motives; which will care for their daily interests, clear-headedly and without any entangling alliances with fanatical union wreckers. The members of Local 22 have already learned their lesson and they will be more careful in the coming elections. They will remember now that a glib tongue does not always go hand in hand with sound reasoning, and that high-blown, windy phrases perform represent mental vacuity and irresponsibility.

The members of Local 22 have surely had enough of these loud mouthers and will make it their business now to elect true and tried union men who will take care that the number of non-union shops in the trade be reduced as fast as possible and that the union become a stronger and a more beneficial factor for the workers—if less pseudo-radical.

GOMPERS AGAIN PRESIDENT OF THE A. F. OF L.

There was never a doubt in any one's mind that Samuel Gompers would be re-elected president of the American Federation of Labor, as, aside from the perennial malcontents who are found mostly outside of the labor movement, there are very few who can seriously impugn the character and ability of Samuel Gompers.

The only argument that might be employed against Gompers is that he is no longer young. Gompers is 73 years old. But any one who would seriously attempt to prove that his age in any way hampers his activity would find himself with a hard task on his hands. There was not an event even in recent years which affected Labor directly or indirectly, to which Gompers

The Menace of Civil War in Germany

By LEON CHASANOWICH

(Special European Correspondence to JUSTICE)

It is well-nigh impossible to attempt a pen-picture of the state of German affairs today. The situation changes not merely from day to day but actually from hour to hour like the paper mark. Nothing is certain here except the uncertainty. Germany's tomorrow is a big question mark to everyone in Germany and all are swayed by fear and hope—a hope that is continually dwindling and a fear that gradually eats deeper into the heart.

The lighthearted illusions spread by the Cuno cabinet during its earlier period have vanished long since. If a spark of hope is smouldering in a German heart, it is not for victory over France but for a less crushing defeat for Germany. The faith in their own strength is gone and the expected aid from England has turned out to be a dream. What remains is not a glimmer of hope in Poincaré's "good nature," but a puny belief that he might realize before it is late that it is folly to drive the German people into the depth of despair and start a conflagration in a neighboring land which is likely to be carried over by a stray wind across the border and destroy vanquished and conqueror.

The signs of a great new holocaust are showing themselves on the horizon of Germany, the fires of a general civil war and of a new national conflict. It is a deathblow to peace and a signal of doom for Europe. The majority of the people who for nine long years have borne and suffered so incredibly much is paralyzed and made passive and apathetic by the prospects of the new danger—while considerable minorities on the Right and on the Left are getting ready and actively preparing themselves for it.

Whether there will really be a civil war in Germany—in the form of a revolution or a counter-revolution—depends primarily on the manner in which the Ruhr conflict will be settled or, better, how soon it will be settled. Germany had too much patience with the former cabinet, an aggregation of light-minded and incapable politicians, but it has too little patience with its present government, a cabinet which—while not composed of men of extraordinary genius—will possess a few very able heads. For nine months Cuno and his so-called associates were allowed to rule and wage the unequal and, from the start hopeless conflict with France which has ruined the mark, but from the Stresemann cabinet the Germans

naïvely expect miracles in a few days. A stone going down-hill gains momentum in its headlong rush, and so the downward course of the German national and financial economy which started on its downhill course many, many months ago is surging to the foothills now with disastrous rapidity. The dissatisfaction is now great and general and upon this wrathful discontent the extreme groups in the assembly are building their fond hopes. Their "hour," each of them believes, has come now or never.

Germany needs not only an accord with her debt but a speedy one too. And it is within the realm of the possible that the French premier is postponing and delaying this rapprochement with the designed purpose of bring on a civil war in Germany in the belief that nothing can give him a better opportunity for the realising of the French militaristic idea of an economically crushed Germany, dismembered and in part annexed, than such a fratricidal clash in the Fatherland.

Meanwhile preparations for the civil war are going on on both wings—the reactionaries and the communists. The black forces have their centre in Bavaria and are strongly entrenched in the agrarian districts. They belong to a number of semi-military patriotic organisations—seemingly independent of one another but in fact closely knit together; they also have strong groups with the Reichswehr, Germany's small Republican army which is gradually being converted under the leadership of its reactionary officers into an army against the Republic. The Communists are in a military sense much weaker than the "Bolsheviks from the Right," but being concentrated in the big cities they are more mobile and can at the proper moment muster more driving force and utilize the strike as a fighting method.

What are the prospects of either of these extreme factions for gaining the upper-hand in Germany at this hour? It would seem that the problem reduces itself largely to the point as to which of these factions is more likely to retain power after it had captured it than anything else. Germany has already had, during the past few years, moments when a comparatively small minority could get hold for a time of the power of government, and such a moment is likely to repeat itself. It is quite possible that when the crash comes, both extreme wings will appear simultaneously on

the historic arena, the Communists in Berlin and Saxony and the extreme nationalists in Bavaria. There may be at one time a sole republic in the former places and a monarchy in the latter. Which group, however, has the better chance of succeeding?

The reply to this is, probably, that neither can succeed if it is to count upon its own resources only. A central Communist government in Germany would be confronted with two dangers: a blockade from the villages, and secession of a number of provinces. The farmers of Germany and the bigger landowners are strongly organized and can in a wink cut off the supply of living necessities from the cities and in short order starve their populations and bring them to a point of submission. The situation in Germany can by no means be compared to Russia. The main reason Russia has had a sharp agrarian problem and the Soviet revolution has satisfied the hunger of the great majority of the Russian peasants for land and has thereby neutralized their antagonism. In Germany, however, the prevalent type of land-holder is the big landlord or the middle farmer. The division of the big estates would only benefit a minority of the land workers, the so-called "midgit" farmers. The farm-hands in Germany are poorly organized and their union has since 1920 dropped in membership from 700,000 to 500,000, and it is practically hopeless to assume that this minority will be able to defeat the great majority of land-holders in Germany.

Of course, it is possible, under certain circumstances, to regulate products by force, but it is quite impossible to force an intelligent and organized class of men to produce, and there is no doubt that the German farmers are intelligent and class-conscious. If Socialism were to conquer by democratic methods in Germany, the will of the majority in the land, the farmers would somehow adapt themselves to a Socialist regime, particularly after they had learned that Socialism does not propose to strike at their living interests but, on the other hand, offers them a number of advantages. Under a Communist military regime, the peasants will doubtless join their militant enemies and will declare a blockade against the city proletariat. And what concerns the unity of Germany, there can be no doubt that the ruling powers in Bavaria and a number of other provinces will disown this "unity" the moment the central

authority in Germany passes into the hands of the Communists. These elements would sell themselves to the devil, they would unite with Germany's worst enemies, they would lie in the dust before Poincaré, if he would help them to destroy the Communists. Should the Communists, therefore, succeed, by a clever manoeuvre, in getting power into their hands, such a coup would only mean the beginning of a cycle of bloody battles of a savage civil war.

The prospects of a counter-revolutionary regime are no more bright. If the workers of Germany are not strong enough to rule their country, they are nevertheless strong enough to make impossible any regime which they hate and oppose. The Kapp "putsch" of March, 1920, has proved that abundantly. It stands to reason that no government can subsist in Germany against the will of its ten million organized workers, for if militarily the counter-revolutionary forces are stronger and better prepared, the working class of Germany has in its hands a weapon that can shatter and粉碎 stronger than bayonets and cannon, the general strike. In a country so highly industrialized as Germany, with a city population far greater than its rural population, a working class, well disciplined and splendidly organized and with considerable revolutionary experience gained in the last few years, will not allow itself to be terrorized by a clique of reactionaries even armed to the teeth.

But when we say that neither the Communists nor the counter-revolutionists, or as they are now commonly called, the "Fascists," have substantial prospects for retaining power in their hands, we do not mean to imply that either of these extreme factions will not attempt to capture power and to hold it as long as they can possibly do so. As stated already, both these groups are very much alive right now and active and both are getting ready with feverish energy for the "decisive moment." Both feel, to an extent, their own weakness and both therefore speculate upon outside assistance—the Communists upon Soviet Russia and the Fascists, from the international reactionary forces.

Such expectations, whether real or imaginary, are logical enough and should be anticipated. Quite different, however, is that other insanely wild proposition which would combine the hatreds of the "left" and the "right" in a common cause for the staving of the present regime. That absurd idea which would combine the forces of Communism with Fascism into a provisional union has already some history in Germany and deserves special treatment in our next letter.

did not respond with the fire and temperament of a young man. He was wherever his presence was needed and his age added neither fear, undue caution nor timidity to his work. The fact is, that Samuel Gompers makes good use of his age and prestige in dealing with things which a younger and a less respected man would not dare to say. Surely no one can command such attention from the press as the old president of the A. F. of L.

It is true, we are not always in agreement with him, and with his acts and policies. It seems to us that he plays up too often as a "savior of democracy." We are of the opinion that he ascribes too much importance to the local Communists and that in fighting against them he is fighting a Don Quixotic battle with the windmills. But we do not expect to find in this world a person with whom we might be completely in accord. The principal thing is that we are firmly convinced that Samuel Gompers is devoted heart and soul to the labor movement and to its striving and ideals; that Samuel Gompers is a power for good in our social life and in the labor movement in particular. And in this sense we congratulate Samuel Gompers upon his forty-second re-election as President of the American Federation of Labor.

What concerns the last Portland convention and all that it has done and left undone, we hope to consider this in a special article in the future.

WE FELICITATE LOCAL 1

Local 1, too, has had a reputation for being a "left" local, like Local 9. We are compelled to admit, however, that the ac-

tion of its members at their last big meeting, which almost unanimously voted to adopt the decision of the General Executive Board, proves conclusively that they do not deserve such an unsavory appellation.

We hope that the members of Local 1 fully appreciate the compelling logic and reason behind this decision of our General Executive Board; that it was not adopted in order to spite any one, or to ruffle any one's feelings, but was inspired solely by the desire to preserve the full effectiveness and unity of our union.

But if there were some among them who voted for concurring in this decision, even though they themselves were not quite in accord with it, their action is even more praiseworthy, for they have acted as true union men and women to whom the welfare of the union is paramount.

The action of Local 1 has also demonstrated that the few disrupters and phrasemongers who have misled many into believing that something is rotten in the local, do not represent its members. Local 1 is sound at heart, and we are happy to record this fact because the New York operators' local is one of the pivotal organizations of our union. The situation resolves itself today into the following:

All of our largest and most important locals in New York have proved their unimpaired loyalty to the International—with the exception of Local 9. But even with regard to this local, we are convinced the local as a whole is loyal to the International except that it finds itself at present in bad hands. The International will now have to adopt drastic and stringent methods of weeding out this disloyal element in the interests of the general membership of the union.



IN THE REALM OF BOOKS



But With the Tides

(Up Stream. By Ludwig Lewishohn. Bond & Liveright. New York 1922.)

By SYLVIA KOPALD

"Policies crumble and opinions and moralities fade. Life, whose meaning must somehow be sought within itself, goes on."

Many months have joined yesterday seven thousand years since the appearance of Up Stream stirred the literary world. And literature, like opinions and moralities, fades. In these days when books and shoes are produced in quantity and Milady of Washington Square, no less than Milady of Fifth Avenue, must bustle to keep up to date, the triumph of the best seller is especially fleeting. Yet the editions of Up Stream continue to roll off the press. In this fact Mr. Lewishohn, who vainly searched the vacuous faces of Queenshaver and of Central City, of Singleton, Leaf & Co. and of the Bartley School for some shadow of questioning, must find encouragement.

I do not know whether Up Stream is of the stuff of greatness, whether long distant generations will thumb its pages. But I do know that it will go on for many years, carrying a message which men will feel and, feeling, comprehend. Or it is of that life whose meaning must somehow be sought within itself. It is experience and understanding and revolt. "An American Chronicle," says Mr. Lewishohn. Rather the American chronicle.

Mr. Lewishohn's story is autobiographical. It is the story of himself and his parents—an immigrant family who leave the treasured smotherings and rich culture of their European home for the new opportunity offered by democratic America. It is a story of how that America accepted them with a beneficent gesture of open welcome only to dump them carelessly upon their own resources and almost destroy them because they could not make the ideals of a crude and shoddy culture entirely their own.

Mr. Lewishohn's tragedy is the tragedy of countless millions. Indeed bitter as were the depths into which

they were pushed, the Lewishohn family never touched that rock bottom upon which so many could have been crushed. For the family had escaped within themselves—knowledge and art and creativeness. Ludwig Lewishohn's soul has known torment but it also has found refuge at last. Moreover he has had vision enough and strength enough to know what and how to fight. The fighter's pain is never as keen as that of the helpless, bewildered sufferer who knows only his suffering, but neither its cause nor its cure.

Those weary masses in the steel mills and coal towns and factories who came to the "golden land" with such eager hopes and such high courage, who sought opportunity and freedom and "education," only to find bitter exploitation and, company towns and Americanization committees, who left the sunlight and green of Europe's farms for the slums and alleys of the "new world," who brought their children and lost them to an alien culture and language, who sowed all the kindly fond desires of Mr. Average Man and reaped spin and disillusion; in these masses lie the materials out of which America's poets will fashion her tragedy and epics, her revolt and transformation.

Mr. Lewishohn's story is not their story in all its particulars. He is too much the man of high talents, perhaps of genius, to be entirely broken by his environment. But he shares enough of their fate and their disillusion, their pain, their protest to make his American Chronicle part of the American Chronicle.

Mr. Lewishohn's childhood in Berlin lingers in his consciousness like the shimmer and light-points of some dim vision. The mellowness of an old culture, the child's discovery of his parents and the families revolving about them, his initiation into responsibility and endeavor, mark the milestones by which he can retrace the passage of his early years. His

father's final business collapse and the relief with which he accepts escape to America from the brand of failure, launch the little family on their great adventure.

Their first taste of America in the little village of St. Marks, Georgia, gives a tawdriness and uniformed society quite different from their resplendent dreams of rich, democratic America. But it gives them also their first and only contact with those frontier survivals—business and good-fellowship and social equality which represents some part of the traditional picture of America.

It is only when they move on to Queenshaver in quest of the staff of modern life—money—that they know the full bitterness of exile. The Lewishohns were Germans, Jews, and cultured folk. Which of Queenshaver's closed native, religious and conventional circles would open to take them in? Ludwig did not learn the extent of his exclusion at once. He went to high school, where his scholarship and talents won him place and recognition. His parents found their joy in his success and in dreams of his future. Prodded partly by his own inner urges, partly by his barred desire to lift his parents out of their isolation and unhappiness, Ludwig prepared himself for college, the academic profession and writing. He soon learned how America frustrates those of her children who are not cut after the general pattern.

Through college with profit and honors. Graduate work at Columbia. A polite note informing him he had not obtained a fellowship. Queenshaver raises some of the money necessary to send his brilliant son through; he earned the rest. As graduation approached he was told that no Jew could hope to reach far in the academic world. So disheartened he could not complete his doctorate, he attempted the job in a publishing house which an understanding professor got for him. The artist in him soon rebelled. He attempted him soon. Sensuously beautiful stories, two honest novels. Praised and refused by the better magazines, suppressed by Anthony Comstock, his ambitions turned to bewilderment and pain. To make a living he did hack work—wrote serials to order. When he finally obtained his place on the teaching staff of a college, at \$1,000 a year, he found some peace. He loved teaching, he loved his subject—German—(although it was English literature he had originally wanted to teach); he even won some measure

of response from the empty standardized American student. And then the war came. He who had been a Jew was now a German. Because he could not give himself to the purposes of the mob, Lewishohn became again a wanderer. Finally he has found a harbor.

Such experience has made Mr. Lewishohn bitter. A student who could not study, a teacher who could not teach, a writer who could not write. He saw how loneliness was slowly eating away his brave parents. He raced feverishly with time to win for them some of the happiness they hungered for. He lost. Cancer killed his mother, and defeat his father. He heard the hollow pretensions of democratic America and felt its brute realities. He placed his American manhood against his German childhood. And although it seems to me that Mr. Lewishohn has committed his early years, has seen no more of the child he was but the one he would like to have been, there is enough truth in the contrast. His sense of betrayal was sharpened by his knowledge that he and his family were honestly ready to become part of the new life—and did. He became a master of English; he wore his Judaism almost unknowingly; a hostile environment made him conscious of it; he went to Protestant and Catholic churches; he absorbed the southern code of chivalry and sex; he became American in everything but the glib love of material success, the shape of his nose and the sound of his name. And so America would not take him in.

No wonder he strikes out so bitterly against American mob-mindedness. No wonder he demands so unequivocally full individual freedom. No wonder he became a Socialist. No wonder his revolt and his pessimism are so profound. No wonder he lays bare his soul with such stark honesty.

But his bitterness keeps him from seeing how surely the good change is coming. He has roared up-stream, but at last he is pulling with the tides. Notes of revolt such as his own are increasing in volume. Because frontier America is gone and because America has become a set economic society, art has been born. The American herd is so noisy only because it nervously feels the passing of the familiar old, and seeks to retain what is gone by shouting "it ain't what it used to be." But the tides have irrevocably turned. The Comstock will soon learn.

Drifting Europe

By EVELYN SHARP

(London Daily Herald Service)

There is a tragic monotony about the state of Europe today. From one week to another little change seems to take place, and nothing can be recorded except a general tendency to approach nearest to that general collapse from which even the improvement in Russia will probably be unable to save us. France becomes a little nearer to a bankruptcy and a little more of a bully, day by day; Germany approaches a little nearer to disintegration and chaos; Italy and Spain become a little more Fascist, and their working-class population a little more helpless and oppressed; Great Britain moves another step towards economic revolution. War weariness is more responsible for our continued appearance of uneasy peace than any increase in brotherly feeling; and underfeeding has done its work so well in most countries that the peoples seem incapable even of rising. It is not an encouraging picture to contemplate from any point of view; from the lesser standpoint of the mere journalist it is a barren and uninspiring picture.

LABOR'S EFFORT

So great is the threat of industrial trouble in the coming winter that a joint meeting of the Trades Union Congress General Council and the Labor Party Executive passed a resolution, last week, calling upon the Premier immediately to summon Parliament, especially in view of the grave situation in Germany, with its corresponding effect upon unemployment here. Mr. Baldwin's reply could, of course, have been foreseen with perfect certainty. The situation is receiving the "continuous attention of His Majesty's Government," but the reassembling of Parliament is considered "not advisable." Certainly, there is no lack of recognition of the gravity of the situation. Mr. J. R. Clynes, Labor M. P., speaking on unemployment and commenting on the increase of 3,347 in the workless figures for last week, strongly criticized the Cabinet's feeble way of approaching the problem, and pointed out that, to keep men doing nothing while paying them \$25,000,000 a week in benefit, was "not statesman-

ship but silliness," and said further that the deepening anger accompanying the growing hunger among the people was a great menace today than the larger figures of unemployment a few years ago. The national campaign on the subject, now proceeding under the auspices of the Labor party, is evidence of the recognition by the workers' leaders of the increasing danger of letting things slide.

A POLICY OF DRIFT

Yet a policy of drift seems to be all that the government is capable of visualizing. Mr. Baldwin's speech to the Empire Premier at the opening meeting of the Imperial Conference was as vague and purposeless as most of his utterances have become since he returned from Paris with no more hopeful news than that he had "restored an atmosphere of confidence between England and France." Who gave him a mandate to do anything of the sort, short of some guarantee that Mr. Poincaré meant to restore an

atmosphere of confidence between France and Germany? The settlement (Continued on Page 9)

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

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

2306 Seventh Avenue
New York City

D'ALESSIO'S ACADEMY

64 W 44th St., N. Y. City
Furnishing, Dressmaking,
Patternmaking, Drapery,
French Dressing, Embroidery,
Fashions, Tailoring,
Sewing, Clothing Design,
Manufacturing and Home
Decorations, Day and Evening
Classes, Trial Lesson
Established, 1921.

BUY

WHITE LILY TEA
COLUMBIA TEA
ZWETOCHNI CHAI
Exclusively

BIG MONEY

In Dictation, Grammar,
Study the Ideal System.
Quickly acquired. None better.
Send for lesson free.
Ideal School of Design
100 Boylston St.,
Boston, Mass.

LABOR THE WORLD OVER

FOREIGN ITEMS

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PROTECTIVE LABOR LEGISLATION DEMANDED.

Trade unions in New South Wales are demanding protective legislation in all industries in the country. Among the demands made are: Protection to adult workers from the growing principle of flooding an industry with juvenile workers; annual holidays for all workers on full pay, so that they may at the expense of the industry recoup their health; better protection for female workers—girls to be protected from doing a man's work for a woman's rate of pay, with a statutory 44-hour week in any industry; not more than 8 hours to constitute a day's work at ordinary rates, with the principle of a universal Saturday half-holiday. Another demand is the establishment of industrial committees with representatives from employers and employees—the latter to be elected by the unions.

FRANCE

PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEM WOBBLING IN EUROPE.

Parliamentary institutions are weakening in Europe and force taking their place, according to Andre Tardieu, a long-time member of the French parliament and one of the outstanding public men of France.

Tardieu points to the insurrections and dictatorships that have saddled themselves upon the people of Europe since 1917 as proof of his contention.

First came the Lenin-Trotsky regime in Russia, then Greece with two revolutions in four years, Bulgaria with two, the overthrow of constitutional government in Italy by the fascist army, and finally the recent military coup d'etat in Spain.

"It is clear," concludes Tardieu, "that if the parliamentary system is to last, it must be reformed and amended."

FIGURES THAT TALK.

According to M. Lasteysie, French Minister of Finance, unemployment has virtually disappeared in France. A comparison made by him between the numbers of unemployed in Great Britain and in her debtor's country was enlightening, showing that in August, 1923, there were in France only 1,375 workless as against 1,228,200 in England.

ENGLAND

WOMEN WORKERS HIT BY BRITISH REPORT.

The claim to sex equality in the civil service is rejected by the government committee which inquired into the pay of state employees.

The committee finds that for work which requires continuity of service, the woman government worker in the early years of her employment "gives less value than a young man of equal capacity and should be paid less." The prospect of marriage also "reduces the value" of the young woman worker to her employer.

The committee applies the commodity theory of human labor power to women workers and opposes "equal pay for the same post" on the ground that due to economic conditions the British civil service has no difficulty in "recruiting educated women of the type required at less rate than men" and bolsters up its medieval position by pointing out that large employers as a rule insist that in work "above routine the average woman worker is worth less than the average man."

The report is generally condemned by organized labor of Great Britain.

BRITISH UNEMPLOYED REACH 1,233,000.

The British ministry of labor states that the number of persons recorded on the live registers of the unemployment exchanges as wholly unemployed is 1,233,000. The figure is but 100,000 less than a year ago. There are also many unemployed who are not on the live registers.

British organized labor charges the government with refusal to apply practical plans for furnishing work for the unemployed. It is claimed that all the schemes so far submitted to the ministry of labor for the provision of work during the coming winter include not more than 300,000 persons, leaving the bulk of the unemployed idle.

CANADA

IMMIGRATION RESTRICTION CONSIDERS.

In Canada a new immigration policy is being slowly evolved, of which the distinguishing feature is that in future greater weight shall be laid on the capacities than upon the numbers of immigrants. Some weeks ago the American Government pointed out the advantages of Selective Immigration, and the newly appointed Minister of Immigration of Canada has just declared that in future greater attention must be paid to the quality of the immigrants. For this reason the Canadian authorities are to devote more consideration than heretofore to the financial position, the physical condition, and the vocational ability of immigrants. Preference is also to be given to the immigration of British subjects.

HOLLAND

REACTION STRONG AGAINST DUTCH UNIONS.

On the same day on which the Dutch trade unions met to consider the various attempts to sabotage the eight-hour-day, the Association of Dutch Employers also held a congress. As an illustration of the reaction which now prevails in Holland, we may quote the following sentences from the president's speech: "The 48-hour week has been abandoned, and many regulations have been issued providing exemption from the 48-hour week. We must increase the number of these. The strict observance of the statutory regulations must cease in every respect."

DOMESTIC ITEMS

SABOTAGING EIGHT-HOUR DAY.

On the 11th of September an extraordinary meeting was held of the executive committee of all the unions affiliated with the Netherlands Federation of Trade Unions (N. V. V.) in order to decide what attitude should be adopted in respect of the efforts of the employers, supported by the Government, to sabotage the 8-hour day established by law.

UNION COAL COMPANY.

The People's Finance Coal Company, owned and operated by union men, has been formed in Denver. The company has bought the non-union Fox mine and is unionizing it. This will give Denver two concerns handling union-mined coal.

GOVERNOR PROBES NEGRO DEPORTATION.

Representatives of Governor Pinchot are investigating the charge that Mayor Cautell violated the constitutional rights of the people in ordering Mexican and Negro workers not residents here for seven years to leave the city.

The ban against the Mexican workers has already been lifted through the protest of the diplomatic representatives of the Mexican government.

COOPERATIVE DAIRY INCREASES SALES.

During July, 1922, the Franklin cooperative creamery of Minneapolis had 146 wagons in operation, sold 3,234,959 bottles of milk, and did a business amounting to \$286,095. During July, 1921, the creamery had but 46 wagons, distributed but 968,495 bottles of milk and did a business amounting to but \$86,940.

The cooperative dairy's annual turnover now amounts to practically \$3,000,000. The dairy furnishes milk to 40,000 homes and gives its patrons the benefit of a 5 per cent patronage rebate.

48-HOUR REFERENDUM.

The 48-hour week referendum initiated by the Maine State Federation of Labor will be held at a special election on October 16.

SPOILS SYSTEM RUNS POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

W. L. Foulke, president of the National Civil Service Reform League, charges post office department officials with the re-establishment of the spoils system and persistent violation of the civil service law by seeking recommendations from members of congress on postmaster and rural carrier appointments.

The charges direct attention to department letters to members of congress submitting names of applicants eligible for appointment and inviting recommendations, with the admonition that under the law "the department is not permitted to consider or file recommendations of a political nature."

Foulke claims that this admonition is merely a "gigantic and multitudinous wink" to members of congress as to how they shall recommend their political partisans.

Drifting Europe

(Continued from page 8)

of the reparations question is what we want from France, not an assurance of her love for us. We are rather tired of her policy of "kicking us downstairs" as an evidence of her friendship.

"There is not even a possibility of paying the American debt unless peaceful conditions are restored in Europe," said General Smuts, after Mr. Baldwin had told the Imperial Conference that our funding of the American debt means seven pence in the pound to the British taxpayer. But Mr. Snowden, the Labor economist, points out that what it really means is flooding America with goods for no return—a policy that will ruin America as well as ourselves and prove no more profitable than all attempts hitherto made to get reparations from Germany have proved to any one. The only solution of our present troubles is no doubt the solution demanded by official Labor—the cancellation of all war debts. But no European government seems yet courageous enough to take this line; and Mr. Balfour's frank statement of such a policy, last year, nearly destroyed the "atmosphere of confidence"

existing between us and the United States. Must there be universal revolution before governments learn the simple truth that nations are members one of another?

MARGARET BONDFIELD

It is a great testimony to the splendid reputation of Miss Margaret Bondfield that one has not heard or read a single word of criticism of her election to the highest official position in the British Labor movement—that of chairman of the General Council of the Trades Union Congress. The appointment has been the signal for a general outburst of congratulation and satisfaction, not only at the evidence thus afforded of the Labor party's belief in sex equality, but still more on account of Miss Bondfield's well-earned personal popularity. The British Labor movement does not contain a more capable, honest, sincere and brilliantly endowed member, man or woman, than this middle-aged woman of perennial youth and witty eloquence, who has risen to her present position by sheer merit and will grace it to perfection. It is a scandal that she should not be in Parliament, but a piece of luck for the world's Labor movement that she should stand for the moment at the head of the British organized work-



EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES

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 6—Continued.

8. There has been a breakdown of foreign exchange and currency. The gold standard has been smashed and paper money vastly expanded. Yet budgets continue unbalanced, tariff barriers are raised and although internal debts are being practically repudiated by payment in worthless paper, the foreign debts remain on the books. (Frank Vanderlip, "What Next in Europe," Chapters 3 and 4; Bass and Moulton, "America and the Balance Sheet of Europe," Chapter 1.)

9. There has been a breakdown of the transportation system. Germany has lost 5,000 locomotives, and 150,000 wagons; French railroads are using a locomotive of 1857; and even in England and America, there is a great shortage of open top and box freight cars. This breakdown is a result both of the tremendous use and slight repair of the railroads during the war and the reparation demands. Railroads are so essential to modern industry that these things have slowed down still further our present sluggish industrial process. (Frank Vanderlip, "What Happened to Europe," Chapter 2.)

10. The results are tragedy written on a world canvas. Famine again (for the first time in many years) strikes Europe. Once again populations find themselves back to the problem of food first posed by Malthus. Rising generations are showing a wide increase of rickets and consumption. And the huge cities which machine industry has separated from the country and the sources of food supply founder in an economic chaos. (Norman Angell, "The Peace Treaty and the Economic Chaos of Europe," Part I; Frank Vanderlip, "What Next in Europe," Part II; Brailsford, "After the Peace," Chapter 3.)

11. Confronted with this chaos, men are beginning to ask certain questions. What is causing this paralysis? We have the resources, we have the machines, we have the workers, we have the industrial equipment and certainly we have the needs. Why cannot we get the goods? Is there something wrong with our whole economic system?

Next week we shall consider Society's New Challenge to the Present System and try to discover the role of the labor movement in the coming re-construction.

LESSON 7.—Can Capitalism Reconstruct Itself?

1. Our preceding lesson left us with a dark picture, indeed, of the post-war world. Naturally, men are beginning to look for causes. What's wrong in present-day society?

2. It may be said that the marked decline of material civilization in Europe has resulted from a long, destructive war, a ruthless blockade, and a merciless peace. Undoubtedly, these are immediate causes. But it may be asked whether the war, the blockade and the peace themselves, are not the results of forces and ways of thinking inseparable from the capitalist system. (H. N. Brailsford, "After the Peace," Introduction.)

Weekly Calendar

WORKERS' UNIVERSITY

Washington Irving High School
Irving Place and 16th St.

(Will Open November 10.)

UNITY CENTERS

The following Unity Centers were opened Monday, September 17th:

East Side Unity Center—P. S. 63—Fourth Street, near First Avenue, Manhattan.

Waimakers' Unity Center—P. S. 40—320 East 20th Street, Manhattan.

Harlem Unity Center—P. S. 171—103d Street, between Madison and Fifth Avenues, Manhattan.

Bronx Unity Center—P. S. 61—Crotona Park East and Charlotte Street, Bronx.

Second Bronx Unity Center—P. S. 42—Washington Avenue and Claremont Parkway, Bronx.

Lower Bronx Unity Center—P. S. 43—Brown Place and 135th Street, Bronx.

Brownsville Unity Center—P. S. 150—Christopher and Sackman Street, Brooklyn.

Williamsburg Unity Center—P. S. 147—Bushwick Avenue and McKibben Street, Brooklyn.

Instruction will be given in English at the above enumerated Unity Centers on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

High School class in English meets at Washington Irving High School, Room 724, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

Organized Labor

Any person who has an opportunity to observe European conditions is struck by the advantages enjoyed by organized labor. Conditions in Europe, as everyone knows, are chaotic. In most countries, there is unemployment, high cost of living and misery to millions of people.

Those with whom one discusses the situation complain bitterly of the hardships which they suffer. The burden of all complaints is that the cost of living is rising very rapidly and it is almost impossible for the great masses to satisfy their legitimate needs. But all agree on this—THAT THE ORGANIZED WORKER SUFFERS LESS BY COMPARISON WITH THOSE WHO ARE NOT ORGANIZED.

While the cost of living has been rising at a dizzying pace in such countries as Germany and Austria, the effect of this on the unorganized, salaried employes has been disastrous. Their salaries are absolutely insufficient to provide rent, food and most necessary clothing for themselves and their families.

But organized workers have been protected by their unions and have been able to go on living fairly comfortably. Of course, their income has not risen as rapidly as that of bank directors, factory owners and specu-

lators. Their wages, of course, have not kept steady pace with the constant increase in the cost of living. But frequent revisions of wage schedules have been insisted upon by the unions, and workers received enough to satisfy their needs and to prevent extreme suffering.

This should not be interpreted to mean that the workers in Europe are as well off as they would like to be. Not by any means. But they have realized how beneficial their organization has been to them, and they know now as they never knew before in what desperate straits they would have been, had they not been organized.

The desperate situation in Europe now is certainly horrible. We hope that it will soon disappear, and will not be repeated anywhere else. But it has taught us a number of lessons, and one of them—perhaps the most important—is that the WORKER MUST ORGANIZE.

And it is perhaps only through constant and intensive campaigns for Labor Education that our ignorant and deceived unorganized fellow-workers can be reached.

We must make them realize what a tremendous weapon is at hand, if they would but understand its importance and how to use it.

"May your efforts be crowned with success."

Yours fraternally,
ISRAEL ROSENBERG,
Organizing Delegate."

SASCHA JACOBSEN'S VIOLIN RECITAL

As announced last week, the Educational Department has made special arrangements with the management of Sascha Jacobson, the distinguished violinist, for his coming recital at Carnegie Hall on Saturday evening, October 27.

Special cards entitling our members to half-rate tickets are to be obtained from the office of the Educational Department, 3 W. 16th Street.

Our members are urged to avail themselves of this opportunity to hear one of the greatest American violinists at a very low cost.

The Holidays Are Over

The Jewish holidays which occurred during the past few weeks prevented a great many of our members from starting with their educational work. Now that these holidays are over, we urge every member to take advantage of the splendid opportunities offered in our Unity Centers.

We urge our members who want to continue their study in English to join the classes at once. Whether you are beginners or advanced, there is a teacher and a class ready for you in each Unity Center.

It isn't necessary to point out to the members of our Union that a knowledge of English is essential to all. We are American citizens. We live in America. English is the language of the country. Not only is the economic and social life carried

on in that language, but our laws and government as well. It is the duty of every American, therefore, to be acquainted with the language of his country.

The Unity Centers have been organized specially to make it easy and possible for our members to learn the language thoroughly. Our members should join these centers immediately and in large numbers.

THE INTERNATIONAL'S CHORUS

The Shubert's Singing Society of Local 11 has been changed to the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union Choir. Rehearsals are held Wednesday and Friday evenings at the Brownsville Labor Lyceum, 219 Sackman Street. All members are invited to join.

A VOICE FROM OUR ENGLISH FELLOW-WORKERS

Our members will be interested to read the following letter which was received from the organizing delegate of the United Ladies' Tailors Trade Union of London, England. This note acknowledges the receipt of our Announcement of Courses for the coming season.

"On a perusal of the booklet issued by your Educational Department, 'Announcement of Courses for the Seventh Season,' it is as you have on the first page—'Knowledge is Power.' It almost makes me feel somewhat envious to have to admit that in London we are so far behind.

"It is quite evident that your department is doing everything possible to infuse the members with that which is so badly needed throughout the universe."

Frank Hodges' Speech at A. F. of L. Convention

Frank Hodges, the secretary of the great Miners' Federation of Great Britain, is one of the outstanding spokesmen of British labor today. Hodges, together with John W. Brown, came to Portland on their way to Mexico, where they are to attend a conference of Central and South American trade unionists for the purpose of interesting the organized workers in these countries in affiliation with the International Federation of Trade Unions. Mr. Hodges' forceful and clear talk speaks for itself.

Mr. President, and Delegates: The fact that I am not a delegate to this American Federation convention has meant that I have had to have the courtesy extended to me to speak here, not only by the President of this convention, but by my colleagues who are fraternal delegates to this convention from Great Britain. I wish to add that this courtesy came from them with the greatest possible generosity. Mr. Walker and Mr. Robinson expressing their desire to have what I had to say with equal candor and freedom as indeed was expressed by your own president.

We have watched with the greatest possible interest not only the demands but the active officers of the trade union movement, the progress of the great American labor movement. Here in this congress are the representatives of a great union which forms part of our own International Miners' Federation. I refer to the American Mine Workers' association, and the record of that organization during the last three or four years marks it out in the eyes of the British trade unionists as one of the greatest trade union organizations on the American continent. We are proud of the fact, we are proud of its achievements, but we are prouder still of the achievements of the trade union movement of America as a whole.

I have read the speeches made by my colleagues yesterday, and I don't propose for a single minute to go over any of the ground that they touched, but I would like to give expression to one conclusion I have arrived at since I have been here, and that is that you have taught the world in America how to maintain the purchasing power of the workers, and therefore you have maintained a standard of living in America for the workers of America higher than the standard of living in any civilized country.

Not that the dollar is, in my mind, the "almighty dollar." Since I have been here I have discovered it to be the most elusive dollar. No sooner have you got it in your hand than it is out again. I venture to say a British pound does not go very far in America.

Although you earn a considerable amount of dollars in wages, it is not the amount of dollars that convinces you that your standard is higher than the standard of living in our country. I have seen, I have witnessed, I have definitely adjudged that, apart from the momentary expression of the dollar, your standard of living is higher than any standard of living I have ever come across for the working class movement.

Not that it does, it seems to me entirely to the fact that you have, in the initial stages of your organization, and in the latter stages, concentrated upon keeping wages at the peak all the time. Wages to you must always be at the maximum, and the very fact that you have been able to keep wages at the maximum has made it possible for you within the confines of your own country to eliminate unemployment to a very great extent, because your people have been able, by the fact that they have the spending power in their pockets, to keep industries going at their maximum capacity while in

England and in Europe generally, because wages have fallen and we have permitted them to fall, unemployment has increased, industries have languished, business has come to a standstill, and the latter stage is infinitely worse than the first.

It is so obvious to us when we come to America, it is so clear in our minds as to how you have succeeded in doing it that we take your lessons back to the old world to complete your splendid example. Since the war we have lost wages in Great Britain to the tune of hundreds of millions of pounds per annum, merely because it was the accepted philosophy that the only way to a recovery in trade, the only way to re-establish ourselves in the markets of the world was to decrease the cost of production down to the minimum point, and particularly through wages.

Although we are a great exporting nation the maximum, the majority and the highest percentage of our products are consumed at home, and as long as we are consuming a majority of our products at home it is clear that if we have low wages in order to sell a minority of our products abroad the general standard of living of all must fall.

Our wives and families, when they go to the store, go with less money; less bread is bought, less clothing is bought, less boots are bought, less books are bought, less a thousand and one things are bought, because we cannot with our decreased purchasing power get the goods. The result is that cotton factories, woolen factories, our agricultural and vegetables products decline.

The standard of living in Great Britain today is a thing of which we are heartily ashamed. It is true we are involved in political international complications which may not affect you, but nevertheless, we shall be resolved after what we have seen here that, despite the capitalistic, political and international conditions of Europe, despite the fact that we are weak and ailing in our original pre-war industries and markets, for the industry that is in being at home are going to be resolved to have the maximum wages possible for our people, and prices must adapt themselves to those wages in order that the standard of living for our people may approximate to your own.

I know you have other difficulties. I read President Gompers' speech yesterday with great interest. A student of American affairs cannot help but feel with you the special difficulty of your problems. You have your problem of distances, you have one town perhaps not knowing or scarcely caring how the other town proceeds; one state perhaps with a marked degree of indifference to the interests of the other states; one nationality showing a marked antagonism to another nationality.

I am convinced of this: That out of the very newness of your movement, out of the great, dynamic force that comes from youth you are destined to build up a labor movement, both industrial and political, in America that will be a model and a pattern for the rest of the world.

I know that you have very definite views about participation in politics. So did the British labor movement fifty years ago hold those views. But it is as inevitable as that the sun will rise tomorrow—it strikes me as much more inevitable in this part of the world than at home, you do get the sun rising periodically here—the sun rising maximum—the trade union movement has expanded itself in the direction of maintaining high wages, low hours, a generally higher standard of hygiene and well being in the factories, the human spirit will be the same in America as in all other parts of the world, it will

come out for fuller and fuller expansion; and in years to come it will take the form of demanding control and authority and power over those institutions which have come into being and which impress and influence men's lives right down to their minutest detail. It is for you with this great possibility to work out this problem. And you do it. Youth will make itself felt in this regard, and youthful America in the trade union and political movement will show the old world what can be accomplished.

Mr. President and Delegates, in this great task I wish you well. You are embarking on sound lines when you give the seal of your approbation to educational work. Without education no labor movement can get very far. I have read the speech of Mr. Miller which is recorded in your proceedings. That speech indicates to me that you have given your benediction to sound, well grounded, democratic education in this country. And when the young people of today become the leaders, in ten, fifteen or twenty years' time, they will all be the better, all the nobler, all the more capable leaders because the men of this congress and other congresses made it possible for them to have a fuller grasp of the elements which make for human knowledge.

I know the American labor movement has been criticized in many countries because it has treated, apparently, with a certain amount of disdain the desire for democratic education; but the fact that you have put the seal of your authority upon the workers' educational association is in itself a complete answer to any of that sort of criticism which now may be floating around the world.

One concluding thought, and it is just this: You here are going through the same battle of ideas as we are in the old country, and, for that matter, as we are in Europe; but as long as there are different mentalities there will always be a clash of ideas. In Europe, as here, the old idea of parliamentary democracy, and democracy generally, is being challenged; it is being challenged by an entirely new theory of government. It is being challenged by the extreme theories developed in Moscow.

These theories are established with the purpose of showing to the world that democracy as popularly understood is played out; that liberty and fraternity are just figments of the imagination and that the British labor movement, as indeed they have said to the German labor movement and the French labor movement: "You are on the wrong track. What is required for the emancipation of the working classes is the Soviet system of government."

Now, we don't regard that change as being something of which we take no account. We invite the apostles of this new theory of government to come out into the open and declare from public platforms how it is that this theory of government can be regarded as something infinitely superior to our ideas of democratic government. We invite them out into the open; we say, "Table your arguments; let the world hear what you have to offer." And the more you invite them on the platform the more obvious it becomes to the ordinary mind that this form of government has nothing to offer or to improve upon our democratic form of government.

I feel sure that the American leader and the American working man is something like the British in this regard: He hates, despises and rejects dictatorship of any character or description. Why, I have often said we are so openminded in the labor movement that we can scarcely tolerate each other's views much less tolerate such a view as this. We treat a man's

views with courtesy and respect, but we immediately react and rebel against that man if he attempts to impose them upon us. That is as between individuals. When it comes to great and fundamental issues of the evolution of a great community of people whose degree of attainment in culture is marked by the free expression of the human spirit, then all that is best and noblest in us revolts against the idea that our opinions are to be taken, readymade, from some superior authority.

It is only, it seems to us, both in the trade union movement and in the political movement when each individual regards himself as a living unit, conscious, full of individual feeling, exercising his own judgment in affairs of both himself and a nation, that he is exercising the prerogative of a man, not when he is accepting the dictatorship of anyone above or below. There is only one danger, not in the clashing of ideas, we can hold our own and show that our system, which implied the freedom of the human spirit, is the best system; but what is to be guarded against is what is described in Europe as "boring from within," the ruining of a movement from the inside.

You cannot quite lay your hand on the guilty person, but his devastating work you can see in the crumbling of the trade union movement. In your trade union movement, whether it be in the local, in the branch, in the district, or in the national, be on your guard against the individual who goes inside the organization, who, by stealth, by cunning, by methods which do not lend themselves to the light of day, endeavoring to break up your organization for the purpose of making you become the intellectual, moral and economic slaves of a system that is hidebound, castrated, developed in an Asiatic mind which bears no relation to our Western conceptions of democratic freedom.



Eyes Examined

with the
Best Modern Instruments

In Dr. Becker's Optical Shop.
Don't be any more cheated by cheap
lies only in Dr. Becker's Eye-
Glasses—They are a true help to
the eye. They improve the vision
and eliminate the eye-strain.
All work under the personal super-
vision of Dr. Becker. Great care
is exercised in examinations and
treatments.

* MANHATTAN
211 EAST BROADWAY
121 SECOND AVE.
Southwest corner 9th St.
111 KANT 2ND ST.
121 SEVENTH AVE.
Between 125th and 126th Sts.
109 LENOX AVE.

BRONX
885 PROSPECT AVE.
263 EAST FORDHAM ROAD.
BROOKLYN
1769 FITZ AVENUE

D'ARNETT & BECKER
OPTOMETRIST OPTICIAN

THE ROGIN
Vegetarian
Restaurant
29 St. Mark's Place
PURE AND WHOLESOME FOOD
NO CANNED FOODS SERVED
Open Day and Evening

The Week In Local 10

By JOSEPH FISH

GENERAL

The quarterly meeting of the General Executive Board of our International is now taking place in Chicago, which necessitates the absence of our general manager, Brother Dubinsky, who is a Vice-president of the International. There are quite a number of important problems to be taken up by the General Executive Board, with all indications that the session will last a considerable length of time. This actually means that Brother Dubinsky will stay away from the office for at least ten or twelve days.

He left for Chicago on Monday and will not be back before at least October 25. In his absence Brother Shenker will take care of the office.

It was also understood that Brother Nagler would be at the office to assist Brother Shenker in his work, but as it happens, Brother Nagler is not in a position to leave the Protective Department, with which office he is connected, and will therefore be here only on Saturday.

Prior to leaving for the meeting of the General Executive Board, Manager Dubinsky had prepared the names and addresses of some five hundred cloak and dress shops, the employers of which are known, according to the records, to do their own cutting.

During the season just past, it will be remembered, there was a plentiful supply of work and the office was more or less confident that the employers of these shops could not get along without cutters during the height of the season. Now, however, quite a number of men have been laid off, which is a very strong indication of a slackening up.

The manager felt, therefore, that the time was ripe for the revisiting of these shops. There is no doubt but that quite a large number of the owners of these five hundred shops will be found to be doing their own cutting.

According to the system instituted in the office, a card for each of these shops has been made out and such notations have been made on the back of them as would indicate the character of the shops. Hence, as soon as the slack season came on, these cards were immediately taken out with a view to a control.

The office, in accordance with the instructions of the manager, is now engaged in the work of filing complaints against some of these shops and batches of these cards will be given to the controllers for investigation.

Controller Hansel will, as usual, follow up the dress shops. In addition to this Hansel is charged with the duty of controlling the waist shops. Since the merging of the dress union locals with the Joint Board, the waist shops have been left to the individual control of Local 10 and 25.

Business Agent Alovio, who has been solely occupied with the control of the independent shops in the miscellaneous trade, has been taken away from this work for a while and will investigate and control the cloak shops which are on record as not employing cutters.

The office confidently expects to secure by this means some work for the men who are now out of the mill due to the slackening up in the trade. In spite of the fact that this work has just been started, a few men have already been placed to work and fines have been imposed upon employers who have been doing their own cutting.

One of the commonest methods adopted by the employers to evade the employment of cutters is the promise to the business agent by a boss that he will hire a cutter. And as soon as the business agent leaves his premises and after he calls up the union to send a cutter to the shop,

he continues cutting.

The office sends a man to the shop but the cutter immediately returns, saying either that the employer stated that he had a cutter or that he does not need one. The office, being aware of this sort of treachery, immediately sends its controller to the shop and invariably finds the boss cutting. The slack season will therefore find the office considerably taken up with this work.

The Constitution Committee, which was recently appointed by the President, has held a number of sessions and has completed its work.

We wish to again remind our members that the meeting next Monday, October 22, will be a special meeting called for the purpose of having the first and second readings of the constitutional amendments, as proposed by the Constitution Committee.

At this special meeting, Brother Philip Kaplowitz, secretary-treasurer of the Joint Board, will address the members present on the International Labor Bank, and Comrade Mario MacDonald, organizer of the American Labor Party, will deliver a talk on the aims and objects of the American Labor party. And the following general meeting, which will be held on Monday, October 29, will be a special meeting for the final reading and adoption of the constitutional amendments, as proposed by the Constitution Committee.

The attention of the members is called to the most important changes recommended by this committee, among which is the elimination of the various divisions that constitute the local at the present time.

Our organization is now subdivided into three branches: (a) Cloak and suits, skirts, raincoats; (b) waists and dresses; (c) miscellaneous, such as underwear, children's dresses, wrappers and kimonos, bathrobes, etc.

Another important change which the committee recommends is in the composition of the Executive Board. At the present time the Executive Board consists of 15 members, 5 from the Cloak and Suit Division, 5 from the Waist and Dress Division, 2 from the Miscellaneous Branch, and one appointed from each division by the President.

It is recommended by the committee that the number of the Executive Board members remain the same, i. e., fifteen, but that ten should be elected from the organization at large, two from the Miscellaneous Branch, and three to be appointed by the president. Of these fifteen the Executive Board is to elect five to serve as delegates to the Joint Board.

There are a number of other changes recommended by the Constitution Committee and these will be printed in the next issue of JUSTICE, after they will have had their first and second readings at the special meeting on Monday, October 22.

CLOAK AND SUIT

Below we submit excerpts from the report of Brother J. Rubin, manager of the Protective Division of the Joint Board for the activities of his office for the period of March 1 to October 1, 1923.

The number of complaints filed during this period and their classification is as follows:

Discontinued manufacturing ..	11
Discharge cases ..	174
Claim of wages ..	61
Unequal distribution of work ..	228
Non-union employees ..	86
Non-union and unregistered contractors ..	159
Paying below the scale ..	48
Discrim. against inside people ..	59
Discrim. against outside people ..	12
Lockouts ..	9
Reduction of wages ..	46

Working illegal hours	25
Abusive treatment of employees ..	17
Non-compliance with terms of adjustment ..	24
Collections for workers of sub-manufacturers ..	2
Miscellaneous ..	10
Working by piece ..	1
Sample tailors working on stock ..	6
Pending cases ..	76
Firm cutting ..	25

Total number of complaints .. 216

Of the 174 discharge cases there were 23 involving cutters, of which 17 were reinstated, 4 not reinstated, and 2 withdrawn.

Of the 61 claims for wages, \$2,067.82 was collected in back pay for the following reasons:

- (1) Not paying agreed price.
- (2) Not paying at holiday rate.
- (3) Not paying the scale.
- (4) Not paying proper rate for overtime.

In the majority or the other complaints filed, adjustments were made favorable to the union.

MISCELLANEOUS

The regular monthly meeting of the Miscellaneous Branch took place on Monday, October 15, in Arlington Hall. In addition to the regular order of business a talk was delivered to the members present by Charles Solomon, Socialist ex-Assemblyman.

In the absence of Manager Dubinsky, acting Manager Shenker reported for the trade. He said that the office was not yet through organizing the trade. Every week unearth another shop, the cutters of which are either not in good standing or are dropped members. As the result of an investigation during the past month one shop was found employing three cutters who, while receiving the minimum scale of wages, were found to be working below the union standards of labor. It came to the attention of the office that the men were working 49 hours a week.

Two other shops were found in which violations of the agreement existed. Complaints with the Association were filed for the institution of

proper standards.

Although the strike in this trade terminated as long ago as March of this year, dropped members and non-union cutters are still being found in these shops. At Monday night's meeting, twenty-two new members were obligated.

Following the report, Comrade Solomon delivered a talk on the meaning of Labor Unions and Trade Unionism. The talk, while along strictly elementary lines, practically summed up the meaning of trade unions and why workers should belong to them. In developing his subject, the speaker touched upon the early forms of labor organizations and recounted their history up to the present time.

In addition to the hearty round of applause which greeted the speaker at the close of the lecture, the chairman also thanked Comrade Solomon on behalf of the organization.

Members of this division should bear in mind that Election Day is a legal holiday. Underwear cutters who are working in Independent and Association shops are to refrain from working the entire day and are to receive pay for same. Children's dress and bath-roby cutters are entitled to half a day off with pay.

The Union will, as usual, station its committees in the various districts for the purpose of preventing cutters from going in to work. Members thus apprehended will be fined by the Executive Board.

YOU ARE INVITED

TO COME AND SEE OUR MODERN, PRACTICAL METHODS OF TEACHING DESIGNING, PATTERN MAKING, COPYING FROM SAMPLES, DRAPIING, GRADING AND FASHION SKETCHING.

ESTABLISHED THIRTY YEARS

THE BERKOWICH ACADEMY

305 Fourth Ave., N. E. Cor. 23d St.

Room 408

L. I. Berkowich - - Salvatore Licari

CUTTERS—ATTENTION!

A special meeting of all members of Cutters' Union, Local 10, will be held on Monday, October 22, 1923, at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place, at 7:30 p. m.

Special Order of Business: First and second readings of constitutional changes, as proposed by the Constitution Committee.

SPEAKERS

Philip Kaplowitz, Treasurer, Joint Board Cloak-makers' Union.
Mario MacDonald, Organizer, American Labor Party.

CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10

Notice of Regular Meetings

SPECIAL GENERAL	Monday, October 22nd
CLOAK AND SUIT	Monday, November 5th
WAIST AND DRESS	Monday, November 12th
MISCELLANEOUS	Monday, November 19th

Meetings Begin at 7:30 P. M.

AT ARLINGTON HALL, 23 St. Marks Place