

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

JUSTICE

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

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

Vol. VI, No. 2

New York, Friday, January 4, 1924.

Price 2 Cents

The New Year

The New Year! What a bewitching word! For who of us is not craving for the new? Who is not eager for a change?

The old, the familiar, even if it is good and desirable, tires us. It is never interesting, it does not wake, does not thrill, does not appeal to our fantasy. It does not stir our blood and leaves us indifferent.

The human kind generally seeks something new, something different. Our hearts throb as we hear of something new occurring somewhere, of something different being created, of men leaving old paths and seeking or finding new ones.

Each new phenomenon stirs us, arrests our attention, and how disappointed we feel when what seemed new to us we discover to be old and timeworn! Only the new, the young, the promising, gives life its taste, its meaning and its reason.

And it is this great thirst for the new that creates the new—and therein lies the secret of human progress. How, indeed, would men and their world look today were this overpowering demand absent, if what "was good enough for father and grandfather" would be "good enough for me"?

How could human advance have been possible if not for the feeling, for the spur, that things can and must improve both in content and form? And the reason why our progress seems so slow nevertheless is because most human beings are so constituted that, while their hearts yearn for something new, side by side with this desire they harbor a feeling of fear, of timidity, which would keep them within old limits rather than take the "jump in the dark."

Fortunately not all men are built like this. There are men—and women—in whom this adverse streak for the new is stronger than the fear for the unknown, who dare to tread upon new unexplored paths even if death be the penalty. It is these—few in number though they be—that are the real creators of progress. While the timid always remain in the rearward and at best follow the van of progress, they who have the vision and the daring have made history for the rest of mankind in the run of countless ages.

Yet, not all that is new is progressive, and this gives the conservatively disposed person some justification for his timidity and his backwardness. But the menace from the spurious new that might lead us away from progress is negligible. It cannot endure. Only the truly new, that gives mankind higher and greater values, will survive and remain.

That's why each New Year raises in the heart of every man a fountain of new hopes. A new year is coming, a cycle of 365 days,—what may it not hold in store for us? And it is not hope alone—for nearly all of us are actively thinking of how to make this coming year new, and how to turn a new page in the course of its running.

How otherwise can it be? Who indeed among us is content with what is? Who of us has not made grave blunders and who of us fails to realize that he has erred at least in some degree? Who of us can with clear conscience say that he has done all he could to help push along the wheel of advancement? Who can say that he has left nothing undone to make his own life, the life of his near ones and of his friends fuller, more agreeable and more beautiful than before? How many of us can rightly claim that in the 365 days that have passed they have gained in knowledge and experience which they lacked before?

Unfortunately not many of us, though most of us talk ourselves into the belief that it is not their own fault but that the harsh, unfavorable conditions of the past year are to be blamed for it, as if the mere change from 3 to 4—from 1923 to 1924—is likely to work the miracle if we are not ready ourselves to pour a new meaning and a new substance into it!

Before 1924 can bring to us that new for which we yearn so much we must renew ourselves. To crave for the new and not to lift a finger to attain it will help matters very little. The new demands that we seek it with all our heart and nerve. The new demands that the man who would bring it about strive for it with clean hands, with a pure heart, and a chastened soul. The new demands that men purge their hearts of all that is evil and petty, if they are to make this twelvemonth a year that would raise high and proudly the torch of free thought and free action among their kind.

The human family has it within its grasp, within its hand, if it only will.

Readers will find additional news items on page two of this issue.

International Bank Opens This Morning

Leading Figures in New York's Labor Movement Will Deliver Addresses—International Members Invited to Visit Bank Saturday Morning From Ten o'Clock and Later

This Saturday, January 5, the International Union Bank will open its doors for business at 5th Avenue and 21st Street, south-east corner. The opening of this bank brings to a successful termination the striving of our International Union to found another institution for its members that would be of immediate benefit for them and act as a forerunner of further greater cooperative activities.

This bank is justly called "The Bank of the Internationals," as, together with our own Internationals, three other international unions and several other labor organizations, among them the "Forward Association," have joined to form and launch it. The members of all these organi-

zations have been cordially invited to attend the opening ceremonies of the bank.

All the above mentioned organizations, the furriers, the capmakers, and the fancy leather goods workers, will keep their funds in the International Union Bank. By the time the doors of the bank will open for business on January 5 the capital stock of the institution, \$500,000, will have been fully subscribed and paid for.

The International Union Bank is completely equipped with every facility for handling banking in every one of its branches and will serve the interests of the workers fully in this capacity. It is expected that the opening ceremonies will be attended by the best known men and women in the labor movement of New York.

EVENTS OF 1923



UNITED EFFORT PREVENTED WAGES FROM FALLING.



By Courtesy of the American Federationist

Local 22 to Elect 20 Executive Board Members Next Week

Next Tuesday, January 8, there will be elections in the Dressmakers' Union of New York, Local 22, for 20 members of the Executive Board in place of the 19 removed by order of the General Executive Board and of one who resigned.

The voting will take place all day Tuesday from 9 in the morning until 7 in the evening in the following places:

Joint Board office, 130 East 25th Street.

Local office, 16 West 21st Street. Harlem office, 165 E. 125th Street. Bronx office, 1258 Boston Road. Downtown office, 33 Second Avenue.

Brooklyn office, 105 Montrose Avenue.

Brownsville office, 217 Sackman Street.

Between the hours of 5 and 7 in the evening, the dressmakers will also be able to vote in the public schools on 20th Street and 24th Street in New York City.

The affiliation of the dressmakers who formerly belonged to Local 22 with Local 22 has certainly brought new life and activity into the organization. Never before in the history of the Dressmakers' Union have so many men and women expressed their desire to run for office. The members of the organization will in-

deed have enough material to select from. At the meeting of the Objection Committee last Saturday, all those who were nominated appeared, and only four of them were objected to, for just and sufficient reasons. The following is a list of those who have accepted nomination as members of the Executive Board:

Isadore Ackerman, Dave Becker, Morris Bass, Samuel Borenstein, Isadore Bushkin, Isaac Kanell, Jacob Cooper, Harry Efrussi, Samuel Etkin, Simon Farber, Sonia Farber, Isadore Farbach, Max Fine, Meyer Fine, Hyman Greenberg, Morris Horowitz, Jacob Kani, Sarah Kaplan, Benjamin Katz, Aaron Klein, Meyer Kravitz, Julius Liebowitz, Harry Linjel, Alther Liss, Harry Weiglass, Charles Margolies, Nathan Margolies, Joe Rabinow, Harry Roth, Isadore Sherman, Helen Schlechter, Frank Sherman, Jacob Silverman, Rose Solkin, Anna Sosnowsky, Fannia Swengler and Dave Weisberg.

Of this list, only 20 will be elected, those receiving a plurality of votes in order mentioned. Members of Local 22 are called upon to take part in the voting in as large numbers as possible and repudiate the attacks and the slander of all those who would, through misrepresentation and unfounded stories, try to hamper these elections.

Local 9 to Discuss G. E. B. Reform Program

President Sigman to Lead Off

Next Monday, January 7, the Cloak Finishers' Union, Local 9, will have a special meeting-conference, composed of representatives of each cloak shop in the city, to discuss the new program of demands formulated by the General Executive Board of the International. The meeting will be held in the Labor Temple on 14th

Street and Second Avenue, right after work hours.

The fourth point on the program, the one covering the wage scale in the industry, will receive most attention at this meeting. President Sigman and Manager Hyman of the local will direct the discussion, and all the members of the local will have an opportunity to freely take part in it.

First Meeting of Connecticut District Council

The newly formed District Council in Connecticut, which has as its purpose the coordination of organization activity among the Connecticut locals of the International, will hold its first meeting on Friday, January 4, 1924, at 8:00 p. m., in the Hotel Volk, New Haven, Conn.

Delegates are to be present from all the Connecticut locals, which include

Locals 33, 34 and 137, of Bridgeport, Local 138 of Colchester, Locals 30 and 127 of Stamford, Local 141 of South Norwalk, and Local 43 of Waterbury. Those locals who have not as yet elected their delegates to the Council are asked to communicate with Mr. Bernard Schuch, the organizer for the Connecticut district, at 847 Main Street, Bridgeport, Conn.

Unity Centers Will Reopen Monday, Jan. 7

Our Unity Centers which were closed for the last two weeks will be reopened on Monday, January 7th, and the courses which are arranged there by our Educational Department will be resumed.

Miss Sylvia Kopald will continue her course on "Economics and the Labor Movement" in the Lower Bronx Unity Center, P. S. 43, Room 305, Brown Place and 159th Street, and on Tuesday in the Bronx Unity Center, P. S. 61, Room 511, Crotona Park East and Charlotte Street.

Miss Margaret Daniels will complete her course on "Trade Unionism

in the United States" in the Harlem Unity Center, P. S. 171, Room 406, 193d Street near Fifth Avenue.

Mr. A. L. Wilbert will continue his course on "Modern Economic Institutions" at the East Side Unity Center, P. S. 63, Room 404, Fourth Street near First Avenue.

The courses above enumerated have been most successful, and it is at the request of the classes that we are continuing them, and we hope that our members who attend these courses will return to them, as it is only by continuous study that they will gain most.

on "Modern Tendencies in Social Criticism." David J. Sapozov will continue with his course on "American Labor in Modern Civilization" at 2:30. Sunday, January 6, at 10:30 Dr. H. A. Overstreet will continue "Foundations of Modern Civilization" and at 11:30 Dr. H. J. Carmichael will start a course on European History.

Waist Makers Planning Citywide Campaign

Special Meeting on January 10

On Thursday, January 10, the waistmakers of New York, Local 25, will hold a special meeting in Beethoven Hall, 210 East 5th Street, to plan the coming organizing drive in their trade, a campaign which it is hoped will, when carried out, rebuild the local and put it on a sound basis.

In the last few years the waist trade has undergone a great change, a large number of waist shops having become dress shops. Together with the decline of the waist trade came the decline of Local 25, and when later Locals 22 and 60 became affiliated with the Cloak Joint Board, Local 25 was left alone to cope against the open shops in the industry.

But things are now taking a differ-

ent turn. Waists are again getting into vogue, and a number of new shops are beginning to make them. There is also a tendency in the industry to combine the waist and dress shops together, and a large group of shops in the city are already making waists and dresses on the same premises.

The opinion among the more active workers in the trade is growing that now is high time to start vigorous organizing work with prospects of excellent success. The International has promised to help the dressmakers in this drive against the open shops. All New York waistmakers are therefore urgently requested to come to the meeting on Thursday, January 10, and help make a good beginning in this direction.

Gompers Asks American Labor to Help Safeguard Mexican Labor and Freedom

Representatives of American trade unions and members of unions engaged in transport work at border ports have been asked by President Samuel Gompers of the A. F. L. to assist in the detection of gun-running and smuggling of illicit supplies to the forces of the rebellion under De la Huerta in Mexico.

"I have asked the men of our movement," President Gompers stated, "to be vigilant and to observe and report violations of international law which forbid the export of munitions of war to those in rebellion against a friendly government. We have seen in Mexico a great trade union movement grow and establish itself, bringing more freedom to the people, raising their standards of life and living, and best of all, giving them hope and inspiration. The avowed purpose of the rebel De la Huerta, tool of reaction, is to crush the labor movement, to enforce compulsory labor by denying the right of workmen to leave their work, to give back the public land to great concessionaires, to set

Mexico back a decade or more into darkness.

"Under President Obregon Mexico has had peace, her farmers have tilled their soil and raised crops, the wage earners have been at work, earning wages, living peacefully, educating their children. Mexico never before saw such a time of peace, freedom and progress. The action of the De la Huerta rebellion in shooting trade union presidents as their first act in practically every city of importance in which they have operated, is an unimpeachable indication of the character and purpose of that despicable movement.

"If American trade unionists, abiding by the laws of their own country, can serve to support the cause that has the backing of the organized labor movement of Mexico, that is founded upon the ideals and principles of freedom and democracy, they will serve. It has been our proud privilege to have given much service to that cause in the past. We support with all our strength the cause that is now menaced by the violence of unprincipled reaction in Mexico."

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WORKERS' UNIVERSITY REOPENS THIS SATURDAY

The classes in our Workers' University will meet in the Washington Irving High School, Room 629, Saturday, January 5, at 1:30 p. m. Dr. Herbert W. Smith will start his course

What Cooperative Banking Means

By ALBERT F. COYLE

Executive Secretary, All American Cooperative Commission; Acting Editor, Locomotive Engineers' Journal.

How does a cooperative bank differ from any other kind of a bank? What does it stand for? Isn't there a danger that the I. L. G. W. U. and other needle trades unions will become so infatuated with the mere handling and making of money that they will forget the primary purpose of progressive trade unionism,—the control and conduct of industry itself rather than merely the control of credit which industry itself has created? These are vital questions, and many intelligent members of your organization will be asking them as you open your International Labor Bank. If the cooperative bank is no different than any other kind of banking labor unions had better be rid of it entirely. But it is different, so fundamentally different in spirit and purpose from ordinary private profit banking that the two cannot long exist side by side.

Furthermore, progressive trade unionism must take its choice between controlling credit for industrial power or being controlled by credit in the unscrupulous hands of labor's enemies. For credit is the life blood of every industry, whether it be garment making, textile manufacturing, coal mining or railroading. The hand that writes the bank draft literally rules the world. Equally important to your trade union is the fact that the bankers who now control credit have the power to make or unmake industrial prosperity at will, by curtailing or extending their credit power. They can determine what men shall work and what men shall starve, what industries shall succeed and what industries shall fail,—even what nations shall be free and what nations shall be enslaved.

In brief, banking is the key to modern economic power. Cooperative banking means the democratic control of that power for the public welfare instead of for private profit.

SERVICE THE GOAL OF COOPERATIVE BANKS

This is why cooperative banks are fundamentally different from existing banks. They exist for service, not profit. They insist that the earnings of the banking business belong to the

depositors who furnish the money on which banking credits are based. They assert that the banking business must be under democratic instead of monopolistic control, and that therefore the stock of a bank should be distributed among thousands of workers and farmers, who will voluntarily limit the dividends to be paid on their stock, in order to insure the supremacy of the service motive in co-operative banking.

The banks of this country do not exist to aid the workers and farmers, although most of their deposits come from these two classes. The last report of the United States Comptroller of the Currency shows that of the nearly sixty billion dollars comprising our banking resources, the bankers put in only \$1 out of \$14; the workers and farmers—the producing classes, put in the other \$14. Worse than this, the bankers take your money and use it in all too many cases to aid the speculators, the middlemen, and the big business combinations, rather than to promote the welfare of the producers, who are most entitled to credit. For instance, the big bankers deny credit almost completely to the farmers of the Northwest when they want to move their crops, or else compel them to borrow at ruinous interest rates; while they lend the wheat gamblers in Chicago call money at 3 per cent in order to speculate in "phantom wheat" on the Chicago wheat pit.

THE SAFETY OF COOPERATIVE BANKING

Banking is actually the safest business in the world, and cooperative banking is the safest of all kinds of banking.

There is no need for any honestly conducted bank to fail. For the banker takes no risk. He lends only on good security. In all the history of national banking in America there have been but 620 failures, and 49 of these were restored to solvency and continued on a sound basis. The Comptroller's report shows that most of these failures were due to the greed for big profits by taking speculative risks, or else to "fraudulent management." In other words, banks

fail because they are "sold out" from the inside, because they take the people's money and gamble with it in order to make big profits fast.

The cooperative bank is run on a different basis. Its profits are strictly limited to eight or ten per cent. Its directors are, therefore, not interested in speculative investments. They use the people's money for productive and socially useful purposes, and are content with a fairly reasonable return. Hence, cooperative banks are the safest kind of banks in which the workers can deposit their money.

This is proved by cooperative banking in Europe. The 35,000 cooperative banks in Germany with a business exceeding \$1,000,000,000 per year, had never lost a single penny in more than sixty years of business, prior to the World War. The cooperative banks of Italy lost less than one lire in a million until Mussolini's bandits robbed and plundered and burned them with impunity. In other countries also losses by cooperative banks are practically unknown because they are operated for the greatest service instead of for the maximum profit.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF COOPERATIVE BANKING

The United States has been the last of the great countries of the world to develop cooperative banking. Even Japan surpasses us in this movement. A few months ago I stood in the great Cooperative Wholesale Society Bank in Manchester, the fifth largest bank in the British empire, doing a business of \$2,500,000,000 per year, and learned that practically every trade union and cooperative society in the United Kingdom had an account in this bank. In addition the bank handles more than 20,000 private accounts with many millions of dollars deposited by working people.

On the continent of Europe there are some 65,000 workers' and farmers' banks, the offspring of the credit unions founded by Raiffeisen and Schulze-Delitzsch in 1848. In Italy, Russia, Finland, Denmark, Czechoslovakia and even in distressed Germany, cooperative banking today counts its resources by billions of dollars, in some cases practically controlling the credit of a whole nation. Or take the great Commonwealth Bank of Austria, founded by the people in 1913 to prevent exploitation by the big bankers. Its deposits now exceed \$300,000,000 and its profits for last year reached \$2,500,000. It has branches in all the larger cities of the

for the workers of that shop. We hope that the good work done by Brother Goodman until now will be kept up in the future.

WORCESTER NEWS

The educational activities of the Cloak and Dressmakers' Union, Local 75, with I. Spägel as chairman and Miss Loretta De Lisle as secretary, started with a meeting at A. O. H. Hall, Worcester, was a wonderful success.

Robert Fechner, a member of the general executive board of the International Association of Machinists, delivered a lecture on Trade Unions. Solos were given by A. Beren-

baum of Boston and Miss Betty Astarkoff recited.

THE FUTURE OF COOPERATIVE BANKING

We have just started cooperative banking in America. The first commercial cooperative bank to open for business, the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers Cooperative National Bank of Cleveland, is only three years old, yet the resources of this one bank already exceed \$25,000,000, and the Brotherhood has expanded its cooperative banking interests into six other cities. It is scarcely necessary for me to recount the development of cooperative banking by other unions, including the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, the Order of Railway Telegraphers, the Mine Workers and groups of railway workers and city labor councils in a dozen different cities.

Cooperative banking is here to stay. It is bound to succeed because its principle is right. It is bringing back to the people a power that was taken from them when the private bankers of the Middle Ages created a monopoly of credit. Because the cooperative bank is dedicated to service rather than mere profit-making, it is safer and sounder than the private profit banks. It makes no risky speculations. It extorts no usurious interest. It grows by sharing its prosperity with its depositors and customers.

These are the reasons why cooperative banking has come to stay, why it is gradually going to displace other methods of banking, and why the chain of cooperative banks stretching across the country means a new day for the farmers, the workers and the small business men. It will also mean new power and dignity for the labor union, enabling it to play an increasingly important roll in the struggle for industrial democracy. In a word, cooperative banking is the key to economic power for the producing classes.

BUY
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Exclusively

Boston News

By OBSERVER

During the past week Local 49 received a reply from President Sigman, in answer to an invitation extended to him by the Executive Board, that he would arrive in Boston on the 26th of January to participate in the conference with our employers, which by called for the purpose of renewing the agreement which expires February 15, 1924.

Upon receipt of said communication from President Sigman, arrangements were at once made for a conference with the Massachusetts Dress Manufacturers' Association for Wednesday evening, January 2, at the Hotel Avery. This last named association takes in almost all the dress contractors in Boston. The inside manufacturers have no association, but Local 49 thought it advisable to call all the independent employers to a conference Thursday, January 3, at 10 a. m., at which the demands of the Union will be presented to them.

The main demand of the Union is for a reduction in hours from forty-five to forty per week. As a consequence of this reduction in hours, there will also be a demand for corresponding increase in the basic minimum rates for piece workers, which

at present are 95 cents per hour for operators and 60 cents an hour for finishers. No increase in wages will be asked for week workers. Local 49 is purposely calling this conference at a time when there is much work in the industry, so as to pave the way for a peaceful and prosperous spring season. We expect that these conferences with our employers will bring the desired results, and that peace and harmony will prevail. However, the Union is leaving nothing undone, so that should our efforts in behalf of peace be thwarted by any of the manufacturers, our members will be ready to meet the situation in the proper manner. The wait and dressmakers have always given a good account of themselves in every emergency. The Executive Board of Local 49 is making arrangements for a special meeting of the Union in the next few days at which the result of our negotiations with the employers will be announced.

WATERPROOF GARMENT WORKERS

Brother B. Goodman, shop chairman of the Columbia Coat Company, was presented with a fountain pen for the good and loyal work done by him

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The Art of Reading

(From the Notebook of a Journalist)

By L. M.

A French academician, the noted literary critic Emile Faguet, wrote a book entitled "The Art of Reading," in which he offers advice as to how to read books and to extract from them the fullest measure of spiritual joy obtainable from the reading of a literary masterpiece. His point is that reading a book does not mean mere mechanical absorption of words, after the fashion of Petruskhin in Gogol's celebrated story, but in the ingestion of the mood, thoughts and sentiments which have swayed the author in its creation.

Of course, this is a truism which requires no proof. Faguet, however, is of the opinion that the art of reading is something which can be acquired, and that every person who can read can be taught to master the intricacies of real reading. It is on this subject that, in one of the literary cafe-rendezvous, I have witnessed a heated debate between two literati, one of whom considers himself a spiritual "aristocrat" while the other prides himself upon being a "democrat." The first denied in its entirety the thesis of the French publicist. He argued that, just as a person without an eye for art cannot be taught painting or as one without a musical ear cannot be converted into a musician, so cannot a person who has not the innate feeling and the gift for understanding literature be made into a consummate reader of the written art.

The "democrat" earnestly rejoined that the theory of "born gifts" has long been worn out and dead, that the "secret" processes of the making of art have long since been disclosed and that several German savants have written scientific treatises in which they analyze poetry and expose the laws in accordance with which it produces its effect. The old-time belief in the "spark of God" in the soul of a poet, he said, is mere claptrap.

Their audience, largely young literati, who, not unnaturally because of their avocations—or shall we say talent?—believe themselves to be on the outer side of common humanity, of course, could not agree with the radical opinion of the democrat that "genius" is something which most any one can acquire, for if that were the case, would not they themselves lose all caste and nobility? On the other hand, they were ready to agree that most every one can become a critical reader and that no special gifts were required for that. One of them remarked that a well-known novelist had stated in one of his books that a certain amount of genius is required even for . . . loving. The romancing which is carried on in all lands and climates and at all times between men and women does not deserve the name of "love." True love, so wrote that author, is found only among people who are blessed with the genius of loving. True love is therefore so infrequent because genius is rare.

This remark seemed to have found favor with the "aristocrat" who thought that it coincided with his idea that reading required special gifts and that special gifts could not be acquired. Then the debate turned in the direction of: What is genius? And is it the rule in such debates, the more they talked the more they became involved and wandered far afield from what they originally set out to define. When the debate was about to peter out, after everyone had shot his last bit of powder, an old man who had sat quietly and listened to the debate asked to be allowed to say a few words:

"I am not a writer," he said, "I am the patient, as it were, rather than

the physician in this case. I think that, while none of you has given a clear definition of the word 'genius' or 'talent,' the term is not fiction. Genius is a reality. I say that even though nothing that I have read about genius, in works supposed to be illuminating and clear-headed, has made me any wiser. Yet it would be silly to deny its existence. In each branch of the arts there are works of genius and works of talent. This is one of the truths that one accepts without requiring any evidence. You, perhaps, know that in schools of art professors treat with due gravity the problem of beauty and that various theories have been evolved on this subject. Yet most every ordinary person sees and understands for himself the difference between beauty and ugliness. Is it not so?

"Let us adopt as an axiom, friends, that there is genius, but in my opinion genius must be divided into two categories, active and passive. The first creates works of art, while the other enjoys them. In this case the poet, the writer, are the active talent, while the reader, who has the ability

to enjoy to the fullest extent the work of art, is the passive genius.

"And now we come to the point of this debate. As regards the active genius, I am fully in accord with the opinion of our aristocrat that this is a gift of God, that only the chosen can create. It requires a combination of many physical and spiritual endowments to mold genius. But I am equally as firmly convinced that most all of us are blessed by nature, in a larger or smaller degree, with the 'passive' genius of understanding. Of course, I make exception for those whose five natural senses are somewhat defective.

"But even active genius requires the labor and the pang of development. To be sure active talent wants much more of that than the passive. If you read history, you know that the active genius, if it is to survive, must be endowed also with a power of resistance that will overcome all obstacles before it and let it blossom forth. The history of literature and the arts, the biographies of artists and poets are replete with the stories of struggle, failures and success; while the passive talent can only flourish under clear bright skies, and as a rule cannot withstand any cold, withering quickly away in inclement weather. To put it in plain words, thousands of ordinary human beings have an innate desire to enjoy art, but life with

its rigors invariably extinguishes in them every spark in that direction. "You surely have observed that youth is the greatest worshiper of art. Every cultured person in his or her younger days is a passionate reader of books. 'They do not read, they swallow,' is the common comment about young folks. Yet, together with the younger years, this hunger for books usually disappears among the majority of people. If you will you may call it the dying out of this passive human genius.

"And what does it prove? Simply that the gift for reading is strong among carefree youth because it knows not yet of the heavy hand of life. Once man is lifted out of these happy-go-lucky years, this gift begins to wither and frequently not a trace of it is left.

"As long as the process of living is so strenuous that it absorbs all human effort and ability, there is little hope that the gift for reading may survive among our masses or even cultured people. Only those who possess it in extraordinary quantity can weather the icy winds of life and retain it. That is why the advice of the French academician to foster and develop this gift for reading, to stimulate and energize it, so that one may retain it for life, is counsel worth while considering."

Financial Report of The Unity House for Season of 1923

Executive Boards of Locals 23, 25, 35, 66.

Greetings:

At the request of the Unity House Committee, we have made an audit of the books and records of the

Unity House at Forest Park, Pa. for the season, 1923, and herewith submit the report of this audit.

Respectfully submitted,
F. NATHAN WOLF,
General Auditor.

BALANCE SHEET		Forest Park, Pa.	
September 29, 1923.			
ASSETS			
Fixed Assets:			
Land, Buildings and Equipment (cost value)	\$ 85,000.00		
Equipment purchased	11,457.98		
Advances and Replacements	5,803.54		
Total Fixed Assets		\$102,261.52	
Inventories		965.43	
Current Assets:			
Cash—Monroe Co. Bank	\$ 44.44		
Cash—E. Stroudsburg Bk. 10,449.30	10,493.74		
War Savings Stamps	250.00		
Accounts Receivable	170.70		
Loans Receivable	60.00		
Total Current Assets		10,974.44	
Deferred Charges to Expense:			
Legal Expense	706.85		
Insurance Unexpired	36.66		
Total Deferred Charges to Expense		743.51	
Total Assets			\$114,944.90
LIABILITIES, FUNDS AND SURPLUS			
First Mortgage Payable	\$ 29,600.00		
Second Mortgage Payable	10,000.00		
Current Liabilities:			
Interest accrued on First Mortgage	1,325.90		
Interest accrued on Money due Local No. 22	1,699.10		
Due to Local No. 25	16,125.01		
Total Current Liabilities		18,149.11	
Funds:			
Reserves		377.08	
Depreciation of Purchased Equip't	7,913.52		
Depreciation of Original Equipment	37,500.00		
Total Reserves		45,413.52	
Shares		851.00	
Total Liabilities and Funds			\$103,790.71
Surplus—Entire Existence			11,154.19
Total Liabilities, Funds and Surplus			\$114,944.90

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A Voice from Camden

By A GIRL STRIKER

For some time past I have felt that a few words from one who has been on the battlefield in the Camden industrial war may be of interest to our many readers.

You will note that I have called this strike a war, and justly so I believe, for none ever fought in our World War with more odds against them than have the little band of strikers at the Reliable Cloak Co., in Camden, New Jersey. None ever fought for a more just cause, a greater principle, or with a stronger determination than have we.

My thoughts today carry me back to last May, eight long months ago. The work in Philadelphia being over for the season, I, needing work, answered an advertisement in one of the Philadelphia papers: "Help wanted at the Reliable Cloak Co., 210 Kaighn Avenue. Steady work and good pay." My two cousins and I answered the advertisement, were at once employed and immediately started to work. We soon realized we were in one of those good old-fashioned sweatshops that a few years ago made the clothing industry a menace to human life.

After working there a few weeks, conditions became intolerable. We received from \$7.20 to \$15.00 per week, and found there were many other girls who had been deceived by the advertisement, steady work and good pay, which should have read, long hours, all work and little pay.

Finally things grew so bad that we all had to resort to the only weapon the worker has, that of the strike. The International Ladies' Garment Workers, ever on the alert to guard and protect the industry which they had spent so many years of labor and

such loss of life to built up, at once came to our rescue.

Mr. Halperin assigned Ada Rosenfeld and Louis Merolla to conduct affairs. After a few weeks on the field Ada Rosenfeld, due to other work, had to leave us, leaving the entire situation in the hands of Louis Merolla. To try and tell you what it has meant to us to have a leader such as Mr. Merolla has been, would be almost impossible.

From very early in the morning until midnight he has toiled. Since the beginning he has realized that a fearless captain was needed and such we have found him to be. From the very beginning we have had to fight not only the firm and scabs but the entire police force of Camden, which have proved to be very splendid helpers for the firm. We have been openly assaulted and dragged on the streets by these so-called "law upholders." We have been thrown into jail, on trumped-up charges or no charges at all. Every unfair conceivable method imaginable has been resorted to to break the spirit of the strikers, but every one has remained firm and steadfast and promised to do so until the end.

Of course I think every one of us feels the thanks we owe to the International for the splendid support you have given us both morally and financially, without which we never could have been able to carry on this great battle. And I say great because it has indeed been great not as to number, but it has made history in the labor movement and has set a precedent in Camden, New Jersey, that other workers may follow.

We have appeared many times before a police judge in Camden, some

of our girl strikers in their early teens, just starting out to face life's battle, whose heads hardly reach above the desk of the Judge, bravely acknowledging before the world they are fighting for a cause that is just.

We have twice had to appear before Vice-chancellor Ingersoll at Atlantic City to answer framed-up contempt charges, as the aim of the Reliable Cloak Co. run by Joseph Leff and Simon Rosenbaum is to send some of these workers, who have dared to

do nothing but try and uphold the standard of American living, to jail. We are therefore hoping that Judge Ingersoll, when going over the evidence, will recall to his mind the Biblical story of how David to uphold Justice slew the Giant, and thereby realize that these girls in their struggle are merely trying to slay that which is a menace to all mankind, sweatshops, low wages, intolerable conditions and, like the story of old, see the Justice in our fight for Right.

Rand School Notes

This evening at 8:40 p. m., Professor Leo Saidis, formerly of the University of Alabama, will begin a lecture course on "Main Currents in Recent English Literature" at the Rand School, 7 East 15th Street. He will deal with such authors as Stevenson, Hardy, Meredith, Whitman, Shaw, Wells and Galsworthy.

On Saturday, January 5, at 1:30 p. m., Scott Nearing will lecture to his Current Events Class on the subject "Are Hard Times Returning?" At 3:15 p. m., at the "Camaraderie," Mr. Theodore Schroeder will discuss "A Psychoanalyst Looking In on a Fundamentalist and a Modernist."

On Tuesday evening, January 8, at 9:00 p. m., Margaret Daniels is beginning a twelve-lecture course on "Social Psychology," at the Rand School, while on Wednesday, January 9, Alexander A. Goldenweiser, will begin two new courses, one on "Theories of Cultural Progress," at 7:30, one on "Psychoanalysis After Freud," at 8:40 p. m.

H. Rogoff will lecture on "American Civilization" this Sunday, 12 o'clock at Clinton Hall, 151 Clinton Street, Room No. 47.

At 5:40 p. m., January 9, Morris Hillquit will begin a four-lecture course entitled "New Problems for Radicals" at the Rand School.

INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR

By H. SCHOOLMAN

This Week Twelve Years Ago

Daniel and I. Gladstone and one Cominsky, who were found to have acted as strikebreakers in Cleveland, are banished from the International local in Hartford, Conn., where they made an attempt to obtain employment with the firm of Davidson & Watt.

Meyer London begins a series of ten lectures on trade unionism for cloak and dressmakers in the Rand School.

Harris & Blank, the owners of the Triangle Waist Shop, are discharged by a jury from responsibility for the 147 lives lost in the great fire which consumed their factory a year before. The jury disregarded the fact that the doors of the Triangle shop were closed during working hours and that the workers could not save their lives on that account when the fire broke out.

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JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

Published every Friday by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Office, 3 West 164th Street, New York, N. Y.

MORRIS SIGMAN, President. S. YANOFSEKY, Editor. A. BAROFF, Secretary-Treasurer. H. A. SCHOOLMAN, Business Manager.

MAX D. DANIEL, Managing Editor

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EDITORIALS

TO THE OPENING OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION BANK

If one were to hazard a prophecy only a few years ago that in 1924 our labor movement in the garment trades—the poorest and least secure section of the labor movement in America—would launch a bank of its own with a capital stock of a half million dollars, he would, to put it charitably, have been regarded at least as a fool. Indeed, how could workers dare think of a bank of their own as a going financial concern if they did not know the first thing about such matters?

It reminds the writer of a letter which he received a few years ago from the late Voltaire de Clair, in which she wrote: "What do we, who undertake to build a new world upon entirely new foundations from the present one, know of the world of finance and its complex machinery? Should not we gain a thorough understanding of the present order in all its details before we are ready to exchange it for a new order?" It is clear that if Miss de Clair, in her day one of the ablest and most gifted writers and speakers in the labor movement, confessed to complete ignorance in these matters, the masses of the workers knew still less about the complicated workings of modern commerce, credit and finance.

And now, only a few years later, the United States is covered with a network of labor banks in which workers are directors, presidents and financiers. These banks are doing good business and, what is most remarkable, the women's garment workers of New York finally have their bank too, and not a trace of nervousness and not a shadow of misgiving is felt anywhere about its future success. The opening of this bank, important as it is, is considered by all of us as merely one of the many other signal achievements in our movement.

Another reason why only a few years ago we could not even admit of the thought of a labor bank was the state of utter insecurity in which our unions, even the strongest of them, then found themselves. Our trade unions, like the members of whom they consisted, maintained a hand-to-mouth existence and the income from the dues paid by the members hardly sufficed to cover the mere expense of maintaining them. These pauper labor organizations which trembled at the blowing of the first wind naturally could not dream that in 1924 they would have their own bank with a starting capital of a half-million dollars.

The third reason why such a prophecy would have rightly been regarded then as arrant nonsense was the general spiritual physiognomy of our movement in those days. Small and poor as it had been, it nevertheless devoted itself to beautiful, nebulous fantasies rather than earthly realities. Let it be stated here that these iridescent dreams were highly vital to that early period and without them our movement could not have withstood the harsh experience it had to undergo. We are not entirely sure that some of that early idealism would not have been a good thing for our labor movement even today. It appears to us that our movement has become a good deal too material and of the earth, too earthly. At any rate, in the atmosphere of a decade or two ago such a plan as the founding of a labor bank would have been regarded as a desecration of principles and as treason to the basic tenets of the labor movement.

These historic hindrances to the formation of such an institution as a labor bank in our midst have disappeared because our labor movement has in the course of the last few years come into maturity. It has grown and the former insecurity of its existence has vanished entirely. The American labor movement in general has become one of the strongest and biggest institutions in the land and its bitterest enemies have by now given up the thought of destroying it. Together with its coming of age, its chronic poverty has also disappeared. The labor movement is truly rich today, in human material, in active workers, in prestige and influence and in money resources. Its weight is recognized not only when it struggles with capital, but in the realm of every other social activity. Every forward-looking and progressive movement must look to labor for its support and its content. It must seek to find its roots in the labor movement if it is to make any headway at all. The labor question is not any longer a question exclusively of the workers and of the workers. The labor question is the social question of today.

Of course, as its power grew, so grew its responsibility. The dreams of its infantile period have vanished. And the phraseology which sounded so alluring in the early days has now lost its charm. Today the labor movement demands more than phrases. It is beginning to reckon with reality and is striving for the better and the higher gifts that life may offer.

Today it is clear to all of us that the founding of a labor bank is not a thing in contravention to the principles of the labor

movement, but that it is a step ahead on the way to freeing the workers from the yoke of capital. This widespread bank movement among the powerful labor unions of America is as if the labor movement were saying to the capitalist: Not only have we grown strong in the factory and are able to exert control over the processes of production, but we can play as strong and fine a hand in that realm which has heretofore been considered all your own, the province of credit and finance!

Therein lies the deeper meaning of our bank movement, and to every thinking worker the opening of a labor bank owned by the unions for the unions and through the unions should be glad tidings. It is above all it is the surest index of the maturity and the strength of the labor movement and a sure herald that the time is not very far off when those who work, whether by hand or brain, will be the masters of their lives; that the time of exploitation, profiteering and coupon-clipping is approaching its end.

It is, therefore, the duty of every union member, man or woman, to help make our labor bank a sound success. The few dollars that they have succeeded in saving must be kept in their own bank. If they have money enough to buy a share of stock or two, they must do it without hesitancy. If they know of any one who is looking for an honest and safe bank in which to place his money, they must advise him to deposit it in their bank. For true as it is that the existence of our union does not depend upon this bank venture, there is no doubt that the success of this bank will make our unions even stronger and more solid. The labor bank is one of the means to add strength, resources and stability to our movement. It is not a by-product, but one of the links in our great chain, a link which is interwoven and closely bound up with all that passes under the title of our labor movement.

TO ALL THE MEMBERS OF LOCAL 22

We take it that each of you is devoted heart and soul to your local, the Dressmakers' Union of New York. We are convinced that you would all want to see your union in full control of the dress industry of New York. But let it be stated here in unmistakable terms that the majority of you have done very little or perhaps nothing to make it so strong and influential. Moreover, some in your local, misled and deluded, have done all in their power to make your organization weak and helpless and the majority of you have remained indifferent to this state of affairs.

Were it not for the International which stepped into the breach, our local would have been all but destroyed. The International has done all it could to reverse your local's becoming a tool in the hands of outside bodies. It has infused a new element of strength into Local 22 by merging with it all the dressmakers who formerly belonged to Local 23. The International has also carried out the plan of joining your union with the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union of New York.

Your union is now on the road to complete recovery. But in order that it might become a power for good for the workers in the industry, you too must help. The International Union only helps those unions who will help themselves, and there is no doubt that you can aid in making your local a factor to be reckoned with in the trade. To do this you must become interested in your organization, in all that transpires within it and give up the role of a passive onlooker from the outside.

Next week there will be elections for members of the Executive Board in your local in place of those who have made themselves impossible as leaders of your union. Those members were unequipped by the International because they openly declared that a certain body which styles itself the Trade Union Educational League is to be more important than their own union. When the alternative was presented to them to withdraw from the league or from the union, they chose the latter course. And persons to whom their trade union is not the most important organization industrially are surely not fit to be its leaders.

Now you will have to elect others in their place. It is of the utmost importance therefore that you all participate in these elections no matter whom you might elect to vote for. It is your duty as a member to come to vote; secondly, to take the trouble to investigate whom you are voting for; vote with deliberation and only for those in whose ability, loyalty and earnestness as the future leaders of your local you have no doubt.

The past should be a good lesson for all of you. You saw how much harm a mere handful of persons has done to your union, and you must not let this experience recur. We say, again, your union has now the best opportunity of becoming a powerful labor body if it remains under the control of truly able men and women undividedly devoted to it. Take part in these elections and vote for the best candidates your union offers. Permit no charlatans and demagogues, who have only their own sordid purposes in view, to pull wool over your eyes. Act in accordance with your own common sense as befits mature and thinking persons.

UNITED HEBREW TRADES 35 YEARS OLD

The history of the Jewish labor movement in America is the history of the United Hebrew Trades. It is an undeniable fact that the United Hebrew Trades were at the cradle of the movement of the Jewish workers in this country; they nursed and raised it and brought it to its present state of strength, and to this day are the very soul of the Jewish labor movement.

It must be stated here that, while today this name "United Hebrew Trades" expresses its contents well, as it is a delegated body composed of existing Jewish trade unions, it never fitted it rather poorly at the time it was organized. For the truth

For A Bit of Snow

By A. LEBEDIGER

As I write these lines, snow is not yet in sight. There may be snow on the ground before these lines are off the press, but today I am snow-hungry, and my soul is just craving for a flurry of the white, cool, refreshing specks.

I am yearning for some snow! I miss the whiteness, the purity of it. The big city is wrapped in a sombre mass today and is casting a grey layer over my soul. Small wonder it craves the contrast of the snow.

Oh, for a bit of snow! . . . In this great metropolis snow is the only occasional cover of purity we get, from 'way above, from the sky. Snow is useless, yet I wish for it; rain, showers are useful, rain is bread—but who, pray, can live on bread alone?—For one, I want something of the useless to feed the eye upon in the place of the useful to feed the stomach.

To me snow is poetry, even though it is futile, utterly unnecessary, and short-lived in this city. I am tired of the enervating warmth, tired of the skies which hang so silly overhead, neither wintry nor summery, and too idle to burst out in a whirlwind of snow.

Oh, yes, snow is a sort of weather revolution, a change, and who in these bland environs would not crave, for at least, a weather upheaval? I like the downy, little messengers from above that fall to the cold, uninviting ground with so much disdain and courage. . . I like to feel them striking my face; they soothe, refreshen and invigorate.

Why is not Winter coming? . . . Where is it, and why does it tarry? Is it still asleep in the icy vastnesses of the Northlands and would not leave its carvings?

Winter is Nature's strongest word, Nature's firmest foot forward—that's why I like it. I am tired of carrying the remains of a dead Summer on my shoulders, I feel its decaying odor, and I am hungry for a young Winter, lively, active and health-giving, for a Winter with frosts, cold, snows, a dominant, bossy ruler that brooks no meddling or interference with its regime.

Every morning as I rise I steal a first glance through my window.

It is either cloudy, or drizzling indifferently, and the air is laden with unusual sultriness for the time of the year. And I murmur to myself: "There is no snow yet." I am sorry for the winter months that pass away snowless, I feel the pain of a Winter that must come and yet does not appear. It is the pain of creation that cannot come into being, the pain of a childless mother.

Would that the snow would fall, at least, for my little son who has been praying, in his own way, for some snow that would make him belly-whopping down the street, the event

of the year for which he has been waiting so long.

I console him and promise him visions of snow's inevitable coming. Oh, how we shall coast and sled when the snow finally comes!—but in my heart I am losing faith. New Year's Day is already on the threshold, and a horrible suspicion is lurking within me that snow may not come this year at all.

Perhaps America has been changing so much politically, humanely, in later days—so why not climatically as well? If America is ready to close its doors to immigrants entirely, why may not the American skies close their gates to the snows?

If America is all but ready to introduce passports for "aliens" within its confines, is it likely that Winter too is waiting for its passport—Is Winter an "alien"?

These thoughts occur to me as I wait and wait for the snow that is yet to come.

Women Workers Before Coolidge

By MARY COFF

The readers of JUSTICE would surely like to know something about my experience in Washington, where I went on December 12 to represent the International on the committee of women workers to see President Coolidge.

Many members of our International have been asking why it was necessary to send me as a delegate. They wondered what it was all about. It would seem that we are so absorbed with the immediate problems of our own organization that we fail to get an opportunity to acquaint ourselves with the larger things that happen immediately outside of our ranks. We fail, for instance, to realize that even in our own industry, in the making of women's garments, we are offered keen competition by the tens of thousands of unorganized men and women who directly or indirectly threaten the standards we have established after so much fighting—the shorter workday, the higher pay and the measure of control of work conditions in the shop.

In a recent number of this journal it was reported that a delegation representing women in industry was summoned by the American Federation of Labor and the legislative committee of the National Women's Trade Union League to come to Wash-

ington to protest against the so-called "equal rights" myth which the National Women's Party is sponsoring as an amendment to the United States Constitution. This amendment was introduced by Senator Curtis of Kansas and it was this statesman that we visited before we saw President Coolidge. The Senator admitted, after some of the delegates had questioned the object of this amendment and the motive that prompted its introduction, that he was not aware that it would endanger protective legislation for women. We then presented the worthy Senator with a very attractive folder containing five expert legal opinions on this matter. We also left with him a resolution passed by the last convention of the American Federation of Labor. At the close of the hearing, Senator Curtis admitted that the reason for introducing this resolution, as far as he was concerned, was simply because "he had promised"; but, he added, if the amendment might in any way affect the protective laws of women in industry thus far obtained, he would not push the matter any farther.

From the office of the Kansas Senator we proceeded to the White House to see President Coolidge. The reception accorded us was a very cordial one. There were about ten delegates on the committee, representing organized women workers, and Anna Neary, Elizabeth Christman, Sara Conboy, Ethel Smith and myself spoke

for the delegation. Three of the delegates presented our point of view to the President. As it stands at present, the amendment reads as follows:

"Men and women shall have equal rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

The wording, in the opinion of experts, is so ambiguous that such an amendment may be construed to mean anything at all. We told President Coolidge that we were opposed to such a measure because there is not in the amendment any delimitation as to the field of "equality" these ladies were seeking. Was it political, economic or social? We stressed the point that the women of the National Women's Party had no right to speak for the thousands and millions of women working for a living, and that only those who make the sacrifice and partake in this struggle to improve their conditions of work and life know their needs and have earned the right to speak for them. We frankly told him that we suspected that this equal rights amendment advocated by the National Women's Party will directly or indirectly destroy the 48-hour law in Massachusetts and the 49-hour law for women in New York City.

Prior to that, we were told by one of the Senators that lawyers do not seem to agree that such an amendment will endanger protective legislation for women. In answer to that, we handed to every one of the gentlemen we saw on this question the legal opinion of the five Constitutional experts which Miss Ethel Smith of the Women's Trade Union League of Washington had obtained.

of the matter is that at that time there were no Jewish unions to make up such a delegated body—these unions had first to be built. The Hebrew Trades at that time was an organization in name only, with a few young idealists who represented nothing save a great desire to build and organize trade unions.

It took indescribable pains and endless labor to bring that child into being! And what a weak infant it was! For years its life was not much thought of, and all efforts notwithstanding, the common belief was that it could not survive. But its parents would not have it die and kept it alive by continued sacrifice and superhuman effort. Today this child is an active, hustling being, and those responsible for it have cause to rejoice in their signal achievement.

Thirty-five years of the United Hebrew Trades is truly a measure of what the Jewish labor movement has accomplished for the Jewish immigrants in America. Our younger people can hardly form a true notion of what the immigrant of 35 years ago had to endure and of what burdens he had to carry upon his weak shoulders. Hard and unpleasant as is the life of the worker today, it cannot begin to compare with the life of the workers three decades and a half ago. Who of the workers in those days could have dreamed of more than a crust of bread, of more than the barest necessities of living? The horrible conditions in the shops, the long hours, and the meagre pay drove many a man and woman to an early grave, and those who survived it were in truth giants in body and spirit.

Then along came these few enthusiasts, themselves the victims of a grueling economic system, and raised the banner of struggle against this inhuman form of exploitation of man by man. It seemed so futile, so impossible that this handful of idealists could achieve anything against such overwhelming odds. But the obstacles, the persecutions, and the handicaps rather than dampening their ardor only spurred them on to greater sacrifice and—final triumph. Vanished is the sweat shop, and the worker who dared not raise his head under the fearful lash of the employer has now won the right to self-respect and to a measure of control of working conditions in the shop. Our workers today are working not more than 48 or 44 hours a week instead of the 70 or 80 hours of that period; they are properly clothed, they live no more in dark, unventilated pest-holes which used to pass for human dwellings, and their children have a better opportunity to fight for "a place in the sun" in this world of ours.

All this, to a great degree, is the achievement of the United Hebrew Trades whose thirty-fifth anniversary is now being celebrated.

And every one, man or woman, who by his effort, moral or material, contributed to this remarkable accomplishment—no matter where fate has cast them now and what place in life they may occupy today—we congratulate most sincerely and we say to them: We do not know what you are doing today, but you may surely feel happy and proud of what you have done in the past.

The President seemed very much impressed by the delegation and in reply made a few very interesting remarks. He said that one of the claims made by the delegation of the National Women's Party which visited him was that they thought that under the present legislative status of women, many of them could not obtain licenses to become taxicab drivers. He suavely remarked that it did not impress him as an argument of great importance. However, he told us that the bill for the amendment will come up before Congress and the Judiciary Committee of the Senate and the House, and that it is before the committees that this matter will have to be fought out, that those who are in position will be called upon to put their point of view before the members of the Judiciary Committee.

We also had a brief session with Senator Morris of Nebraska. He too admitted that, while he did not believe that the proposed amendment would destroy the legislation to safeguard women in industry, he had not given the entire matter much thought when promised to examine the legal opinions and the resolution of the American Federation of Labor at his leisure.

We hoped to see some of the "Progressives," but found that some of them had cleverly dodged us while others were busy in committee work and could not be seen. On the whole the trip was very instructive and interesting. It was my first experience in Washington and it was naturally colored by some pleasant impressions of the city itself and a few depressions created after brief interviews with some of our statement.

Normalcy Again

The Labor Press for December

The tumult and the shouting dies. Labor's annual convention is over. Having made their New Year resolutions, the unions are settling down to the routine business of living. Consequently, where the November labor press was a hum of discussion upon the Portland Convention, the December journals reflect the appearance of normalcy again. The industrial conflict looms large once more; internal affairs draw a good share of journal space, and the doings of the world outside fill many of the columns.

Some echoes from the Portland Convention still sound in the pages of the press. The anti-child labor agitation continues as many of the journals have the expressed determination of the International Brotherhood that "Child Labor Must Go." The American Federation carries a long discussion by President Gompers on how labor should meet the super-power development. In his opinion, we must concentrate not so much upon questions of ownership as upon control and administration. The fight against the "Communists in the Union" goes on merrily as the Shoe Workers' Journal reprints President Gompers' convention address and the action against Dunne. The Seamen's Journal reprints the executive council's report on amalgamation "as much as American ships have been literally flooded with the kind of propaganda referred to." And so on.

But these are only echoes. The burden of the song in the December labor press reveals the advent of normalcy again through frequent notes upon the industrial struggle, internal affairs, and world affairs.

The Industrial Struggle

As revealed by its press, organized labor is still waging its bitter fight on every front. Strikes and lockouts, the courts, law, company unions, and even the elementary right to unionize demand their shares of labor's fighting strength. Labor's opponent is not, but his weapons are many.

The Bakers' Journal still carries its battle cry: "All Ward Products One Hundred Per Cent Union Made." The life and death conference that company's attempt to run open-shop shows no sign of abatement. The employers' side presents a new development with the announced merger of the Ward Company into the United Bakeries Corporation. This will undoubtedly mean an increased strength for the Ward forces not only by augmenting the resources at their disposal but by making it more difficult for those of us who would boycott the products of this company to do so. Before the merger, many of the unions notified their members of the bakers' fight, leaving it to them to decide whether they wanted to buy the products of such an anti-union company. The carpenters, miners, machinists, electrical workers, engineers, glass workers and many others took such action. Do people workers want to aid the Ward Company in any way?

The Typographical Journal discusses the drastic lockout with which its members in Springfield, Ohio, have been faced since October 1. The Crowell Company, which is fighting the union, in an attempt to force a "yellow dog" contract upon the men, publishes the Woman's Home Companion, the American Magazine, Farm and Fireside, the Mentor, and holds a controlling interest in Collier's Weekly. The composers have received "many assurances that the 'half' magazine will not be purchased until an adjustment has been made with the typographical union."

The same union has been fighting a two-months' strike in Asheville, N. C., and announces the presentation of demands for considerable wage increases in New York.

In the Courts

The lithesome pastime of blocking labor by the injunction continues as active as ever. Judge Morrow of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals enjoins the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and of Railroad Trainmen from unionizing the employees of the Pacific Electric Railway Company of Los Angeles, reports the Locomotive Engineers' Journal and the Railroad Trainman. The learned judge decided that "yellow dog contracts" are sacred even though Section 697 of the California Penal Code makes it unlawful for employers to compel agreement from their workers not to join a labor union.

On the other hand the issues of Organized Labor are judicially celebrated at the building trades unions' splendid court victory over the American Plan. "Employers throughout the country have been warned by the United States Department of Justice that the so-called 'American Plan' is illegal."

In Congress

Both Labor, the organ of the sixteen Associated Railroad Labor Organizations, and the various journals of the unions are full of the campaign in progress against the notorious Ech-Cummins Act. According to the Railway Clerk "all the railroad unions are preparing for a hard fight in the 68th Congress on railroad legislation." The Railroad Telegrapher reports the "Progressive Conference" of railroad executives called to consider a program for winning a workers' victory in the undoubted fight on the railroad laws gathering over the coming Congress. The railroad employers have been shooting with a broadside propaganda for many months. They have established the National Transportation Institution and other institutions of the same sort for this especial purpose. And little wonder. The Ech-Cummins law has been very good to them. It has required the Interstate Commerce Commission to set rates guaranteeing the roads a 5% per cent profit rate on an inflated valuation. The Labor Board has handed down decisions that forced wage decreases and destroyed working conditions. The workers have been unable to force the roads to live up to decisions unfavorable to the owners. Little wonder they want to keep the law on the books.

As the railroad journals point out, the employers have decidedly the easier task in the fight. They need merely remain on the defensive, surviving particularly to prevent the House committees for the open Congress. But their opponents, fighting though they are with restricted resources, are determined to force the issue. The workers will concentrate their energies upon the Railroad Board and the labor sections of the act; the farmers are aiming their blow at the freight rate-making provisions, and the progressives are attacking questions of valuation and other general features of the act.

On the Outposts

The workers are still forced to struggle for the elementary right to unionize. This basic conflict now presents two aspects: A struggle against the company union and a struggle for the labor union. The outstanding event in the many-sided battle against the company union comes in an announcement made by

the Railway Clerk. Its union is launching a court attack on the company unions of the Pennsylvania Railroad as a test case. "To see whether the laws of the United States can be enforced impartially against a powerful railroad organization." The suit has been filed "by our System Board of Adjustment against the Pennsylvania Railroad, seeking to enjoin the railroad from doing business with its so-called 'employees representatives' and requiring it to recognize our System Board," as required by the Railroad Board.

On the other side of the same front such "brain workers" as the teachers and the newsmen are pushing organization. The American Federation of Teachers Bulletin describes its plans and accomplishments and the Typographical Journal announces that the New York News-writers' Union has put in its "first application for a union charter from the American Federation of Labor." Heywood Brown of the World is president of this new union and Arthur Warner of the Nation its secretary. To guard the news reporters against blacklisting employers they are debarred from holding office and membership names remain secret.

Internal Affairs

Within the unions labor is embarking upon a constructive program that brims with activity. This activity seems to flow into three main channels: Unemployment funds, banking, and workers' education. The Locomotive Engineers' Journal carries an interesting article by Leo Wolman on "Taking the Insecurity Out of Industry." Mr. Wolman describes the unemployment insurance plan launched in Cleveland by the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union and Chicago's treatment of the Almagamated Clothing Workers. Both of these plans seek to make unemployment a charge upon the industry itself, without calling in government aid in any way. The Headgear Worker announces the submission of a similar "Unemployment Fund Plan" to the referendum vote of the membership. And Labor Age devotes its entire issue to a discussion of the new unemployment insurance plans under the cry "It's Time to Get Prepared for 'Out of Work'."

Labor Banking

Labor banking continues in its remarkable development. Three new banks are opening. Many journals beside Justice announce the scheduled opening of our new bank on January 5th, e. g., the American Federation of Labor Weekly News Service, Organized Labor, and the Locomotive Engineers' Journal. The railroad men have opened the first labor bank in Virginia through the Potomac Trust Company. The Railway Clerk feels that it "will be a proud day when on December 15th our bank will open in its own home in the Brotherhood of Railway Clerk's beautiful new building." The bank carries from the temporary quarters it took on October 6th resources two and a half times greater than those with which it began. When our International opens the doors of its new bank, organized labor will possess twenty-three banking institutions.

As the labor bank establishes itself it is meeting a novel form of opposition. The Railroad Telegrapher, under the provocative title "Censoring the Radio," discusses the refusal of a station in Minneapolis to broadcast a talk on "Cooperative Banking" offered by the Transportation Brotherhood's National Bank of that city. When we recall that the striking newspaper pressmen also were refused permission to broadcast their story on the same radio which the employers and international officials were freely using, we note capital makes another social development exclusively its own. Will labor have

to develop its own radio stations, too?

Workers' Education

The education system which the workers are developing for themselves draws ever more attention from the labor press. Of the fifty-six journals which your reviewer read for this digest fully one-third devoted some of their space to discussions of workers' education. "At present," the American Federationist reminds us, "the movement for adult education is being developed by labor through an organization established especially for that purpose. The Workers' Education Bureau, endorsed by the American Federation of Labor and in the direction of which the A. F. of L. participates directly, is extending its work rapidly." The Locomotive Engineers' Journal feels that, "Although workers' education in this country is still in its infancy, it has established certain ideals which the public schools might do well to emulate."

And the World

World affairs receive a large share of attention. Mexico, Russia, England, the Amsterdam Federation, trade union, especially German trade union affairs, figure in the December issues. The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service prints a telegram from the Mexican Federation of Labor, announcing that organization's absolute support of Obregon. The organized workers are forming armed squads to combat the Huerta forces and ask the support of the Pan-American Federation of Labor. President Coolidge and Secretary Chester Wright, in the name of Pan-American labor, grant that support heartily. Of the many pages devoted to Europe only those treating German trade unionism can be treated here. For space crowds and to the trade union journals the conditions confronting the German unions seem to loom most largely. Journal after journal takes up in its own way the same appeal that our International has made repeatedly through the columns of Justice: Help the dying German unions.

"Dying" is not too strong a word. The picture of Germany's workers as the journals point it is sheer tragedy. The New Majority and The Locomotive Engineers' Journal carry signed articles on "Germany's Agony," as the former calls it. "As far as the condition of the plain people is concerned (omitting the famous social classes which were created in 1919, 1920 and 1921), Russia never saw anything to equal what the German people are going through now." And unions are composed of plain people. The reaction of this agony upon the unions is made clear by the Bakers' Journal. With the present condition of transportation it takes three weeks for dues to reach national headquarters. In these weeks the collections literally "evaporate." For instance, dues collected in October 1st arrived at headquarters October 21st. On October 1st the mark stood at 350 million to the dollar; on October 21st it stood at 12,000 million to the dollar. And unemployment steadily increases. Thus, while the fight is hardest, the unions have had to cut down their journals from six and eight pages to two, appearing irregularly. Every dispensable worker—and often the worker is dispensable—has had to be discharged. The employers clamor for the ten-hour—and longer—day and agitate against the works committees. Sans work, sans propaganda, sans unions, the workers look on. The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor has issued an appeal to the trade union movement and its sympathizers to give financial aid to the German workers.

Thus ends another calendar year for Labor.

—BY JOURNALIST.



FOREIGN ITEMS

FRANCE

POLITICS AND TRADE BALANCE.

Import and export statistics have both been published in France for the first 10 months of the year 1923. Both imports and exports have risen considerably, and the figures for October, 1923, are higher than any of the other months. This prosperity is mainly attributed to the disappearance of German competition in both the foreign and home markets.

EMPLOYERS FIGHT WAGE INCREASES BY INDIRECT MEANS.

As in other countries with depreciated currencies, so also in France, the trade unions are trying to make collective agreements in which wages are automatically adjusted to the rise of the index figure. In order that the index figure may be unprejudiced, mixed committees have been appointed for the purpose of computing it after taking due account of the varying prices in different localities. The employers do not like the restrictions thus imposed upon them, and they are now approaching the authorities with a proposal that the index figure shall be fixed by "official experts." This means, of course, that they want to oust the workers' representatives from the commissions, and to put in nominees chosen from among the higher ranks of the officials. They are afraid of the statistics; their one anxiety, therefore, is to get rid of the workers' control, in order that they may manipulate the index figures to their heart's content.

POLAND

THE SUCCESS OF THE POLISH STRIKES.

The strikes of the miners and textile workers of Poland have ended in their obtaining a rate of wages which is well above the index figure for the cost of living.

The railwaymen's strike was not so easily settled; it gave rise to a general conflict between the government and workers and the eventual proclamation of a general strike. The policy of the government was to mobilize the strikers and call them up for military service. This decree proving a failure, the strikers were placed under martial law and threatened with the death penalty. Both these decrees were, of course, unconstitutional; so that the Polish Federation of Trade Unions, regarding the Government action as a menace to the rights of workers to combine and to strike, resolved to call a general strike in protest. Supported in this decision by the political party, it proclaimed a general strike on November 6th, using as its war-cry the words: "Down with the mobilization of the railwaymen, down with martial law!" The strike was universal throughout the whole of Poland with the exception of Lodz and Upper Silesia, where the Nationalist Labor Movement is still very strong.

The government now decided to use force to crush the strike, although the strikers were about a million strong. On the second day of the strike, therefore, police and troops fired on assemblies of workers in several towns. In the oil district of Borslaw, at Tarnow and at Cracow, some 20 workers were killed and over 100 wounded. In Cracow the attacked workers defended themselves, and took a number of guns and 2 armed motor-cars; a regular battle broke out in the streets between the workers and the soldiery. Alarmed by this state of things, the Government gave way, promising the representatives of the Polish Federation of Trade Unions and the Labor Party to withdraw the orders for the mobilization of the workers and the proclamation of martial law; all the strikers among the railwaymen are to be reinstated, except those against whom proceedings are taken for acts of sabotage. The economic demands of the railwaymen are also to be satisfied within the next few days.

The strike ended in the victory of the workers, and the Government is not likely to forget the fact. But neither will the workers forget that the Government failed to keep its promise to abstain from using force against the workers and the trade union movement.

ROUMANIA

THE TWO WINGS OF THE ROUMANIAN TRADE UNION MOVEMENT.

The Trade Union Congress held at Klausenburg September last resulted in a cleavage in the Roumanian trade union movement, the Communists forming a separate federation. The iron and metal-workers, the miners and smelters, the dockers, printing operatives, building workers, and book-binders have affiliated with Amsterdam, while the wood-workers, leather-workers, clothing workers, and civil servants have joined Moscow. The food workers will also in all probability join Moscow. Various local branches have seceded from the national unions affiliated with Moscow and have joined the national federation affiliated with Amsterdam.

YUGO-SLAVIA

THE YUGO-SLAVIAN TRADE UNION MOVEMENT.

At a meeting held at Brod from the 24th to the 26th of November, it was unanimously resolved to amalgamate the two metal-workers' unions which adopt the Amsterdam platform. The metal-workers' movement suffered much through the failure of the railwaymen's strike last year, but this amalgamation will, it is hoped, lay sound foundations for unfettered progress in the future. Various representatives of the metal-workers' movement in other countries attended the meeting, among whom was Igo, the secretary of the International Metal-Workers' Federation.

The miners employed in the State mines of Bosnia have concluded a new tariff agreement, by which they secure an eight-hour day, inclusive of winding time. Working hours in galleries where there is danger of flooding or of explosions of gas are limited to 6, or even 4. The rates for overtime work are 50 per cent and those for Sunday work are 100 per cent higher than for ordinary work. There has also been an all-round increase of wages.

DOMESTIC ITEMS

MANY KILLED IN INDUSTRY.

There were 192 industrial deaths in November, reports the New York State Labor Department. The largest number occurred in the building trades, with transportation ranking second. More than one-third of the 163 victims, whose ages were given, were 50 or over. Only seven were less than 20.

PACKERS' WAR PROFITS DON'T SATISFY THEM.

Several meat packing companies, including Armour, Morris, Wilson and Swift, have joined hands in a suit for \$7,000,000 on the United States treasury. The suit is filed in the United States court of claims, and is based on the government's alleged failure to buy meat which the packers claim was produced under purchase contracts with the War Department after the signing of the armistice.

The government denies the existence of such a contract, and has filed with the court a counter claim for \$2,000,000 excessive profits on sales to the government.

ACCIDENTS INCREASE.

Accidents, both fatal and non-fatal, are increasing at an alarming rate in Pennsylvania industry, and Dr. Royal Meeker, head of the state department of labor and industry, is urging citizens to awaken to this holocaust.

"There were 512 fatal accidents in industry in this state in 1922," Dr. Meeker said. "There were 59,234 fatal and non-fatal accidents last year. In 11 months of this year we had 80,269, a percentage increase of 35.51 in 11 months of this year, as compared with 12 months of last year."

EXPOSE ANTI-UNIONISTS.

The California building trades council has issued a pamphlet containing Federal Judge Deoling's decision against the so-called "American" plan permit system. A parallel is drawn between the announced principles of the "American" planners and their acts which have been declared illegal by a federal court.

The pamphlet shows how the promoters of the "American" plan printed a high-sounding preamble as a means of extracting funds from the unwary, but afterwards adopted their illegal policy. These unwary contributors were unwilling parties to the "American" plan conspirators.

WORKERS ARE ENJOINED FROM STATING FACTS.

In an injunction issued by Judge Porterfield, musicians and moving picture operators in Kansas City, Mo., are enjoined from standing "adjacent to the theater" and informing the public that a theater in this city is unfair to organized labor.

The court provides against the workers conveying the information in other forms by prohibiting any statement "to the same effect." The theater management is attempting to lower wages.

TEACHERS RESENT TEST BY DOCTORS.

The 25,000 public school teachers in New York City object to the appointment of four physicians who will constitute an examining board for their benefit.

Members of the board of education say these physicians will remedy prevalent nervousness and throat trouble among teachers. The latter declare that illness of this character can be traced to the city's false economy, which is responsible for overwork and improper physical conditions.

"If the purpose of the board of education is merely to save money through the imposition of more stringent regulations, followed by a possible check-up system, then we express our emphatic dissent," says the Teachers' Union in a public statement.

"If the purpose is to provide additional machinery for disciplining teachers, we insist on being a party to the consideration of measures to be taken."

If the board of education is to develop a scientific plan for studying conditions relating to illness of teachers, the teachers want to be represented in any investigations to be undertaken.

ALASKAN FISH PROBE IS URGED IN HOUSE.

Publicity of scandalous working conditions in the Alaskan fisheries has resulted in a demand for an investigation. The resolution was presented in the House by Delegate Sutherland of the territory of Alaska.

Mr. Sutherland called attention in his resolution to grand jury action in Valdez and Ketchikan, Alaska, which had "condemned the practices of many concerns engaged in catching and canning salmon in the territory of Alaska."

"Charging that the Alaska fish reserves had been 'dishonestly administered,'" Mr. Sutherland proposed that the probe committee investigate and report relative to "any monopolization or attempted monopolization" of the fishing industry in Alaska.

Working conditions that have been exposed show that narcotics are shipped from Pacific coast cities to the northern territory, as are those afflicted with communicable diseases. Contracts that these workers sign provide for food "that is usually given to Chinese laborers." This permits the contractors to feed employees on rice. American food is for sale at the contractor's commissary.

GUNMEN IN STRIKE.

Gunmen are used against striking electrical workers employed by the Northwestern Electric Company, of Portland, Oregon. The company has refused to arbitrate, and organized labor and sympathizers are aroused at the despicable efforts to establish the anti-union shop. The state conciliation board is holding hearings to acquit the public with the facts.



EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES



"Workers' Education," Organ of the W. E. B.

The Workers' Education Bureau of America with which our Union is affiliated, issues a quarterly magazine, consisting of 16 pages.

This magazine deals with current questions in the Workers' Education movement in this country and has from time to time short accounts of this movement abroad. In this current issue there are a few interesting editorial notes on "The Object of Workers' Education," "The Example of Boston Trade Union College," "Workers' College Curriculum," "Teacher Training," "Small Classes," "Need of Atmosphere in Workers' Classes," etc. There is a report by Spencer Miller, Jr., on the Portland Convention of the A. F. of L., at which the Bureau was recognized more prominently than ever by the American labor movement.

There is an interesting article by Dr. E. C. Lindeman on "A Proposal for the Training of Teachers for Workers' Classes" and a comment on the teacher training proposed by Professor James Harvey Robinson.

Mr. H. L. Brunson, field secretary of the Workers' Education Bureau, has written an interesting article.

Dr. Richard W. Hogue, director, Department of Education, Pennsylvania Federation of Labor, has written for this issue and from his article we learn that the Federation has organized its own educational department and is making a strenuous effort to establish educational activities for its affiliated organizations throughout the state. We wish them success in this, and we hope that the example of the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor of which the president, Brother James

Maurer, is also president of the W. E. B., will be followed up by labor organizations in other states.

From Mr. R. V. Holwell, educational director of the Colorado State Federation of Labor, we learn in his article on "The Aim of Workers' Education in Colorado" that the Pennsylvania State Federation of Labor is not alone in its effort and that there is at least one other state in the far West that is sufficiently interested in workers' education to establish its own educational department.

There is a notice from the Executive Committee of the W. E. B. giving reasons for postponing its next convention which was scheduled to be held in April. On the same page there is an announcement of summer courses to be given at Brookwood. Three types of courses are planned for Brookwood for the summer of 1924, one for teachers, one for labor officials and one of a general nature for those active in the labor movement, whether officials or not. We wish Brookwood good luck in its new venture.

The page ends with an appeal from Germany from H. Weiman, secretary of the Central Educational Committee of the Social Democratic Party of Germany. In his appeal Mr. Weiman suggests student exchange.

The associate members of the W. E. B. receive this quarterly free. It can be obtained from the Bureau, 475 West 24th Street, at 15c a copy. We advise our members to join the Bureau and the literature with which they will be supplied will keep them in touch with the developments of workers' education in this country as well as abroad.

Arthur Gleason Dies

The untimely death of Arthur Gleason this week was a distinct shock to his numerous friends and admirers in the labor and literary world. He died in the Emergency Hospital in Washington, D. C., after a three days' illness.

Mr. Gleason was known in America as one of the best authorities on the English Labor Movement. He foretold that English Labor would come into its own politically at a time when no one would take it seriously. He was a personal friend of many of the leaders of the English Labor Movement, among them Ramsay MacDonald, Sidney Webb and others.

His writings can be divided into three groups, poetry, war volumes and social and labor problems. His book on "What the Workers Want," written in collaboration with Paul Kellogg, and "British Labor in the War" are well known to students of labor problems.

He was associated with the Bureau of Industrial Research, and during

**"THE WRITER AND THE READER," A LECTURE
BY SH. NIEGER, FRI-
DAY, JANUARY
18, IN PHILA.**

Sh. Nieger has prepared an interesting lecture on "The Writer and the Reader" which he will give in Yiddish for the Joint Educational Committee of our local unions in Philadelphia, on Friday evening, January 18th, at 1035 Spruce Street.

Admission is free to the members of the I. L. G. W. U.

that time wrote the pamphlet "Workers' Education, American and Foreign Experiments," which without doubt has advanced the cause of workers' education.

In his three articles on the "Jews in American Colleges" which appeared in Hearst's International in 1923, he tried to show the American public the contribution that the Jew has made to the development of the arts and sciences in this country, as well as in other fields. These articles were considered the most sympathetic that appeared on this question.

Our members will especially regret Mr. Gleason's untimely death. They lost in him a friend who was at all times ready to assist them in the development of the activities of our Educational Department. He was on the Advisory Committee of our faculty, and lectured for us on the English Labor Movement.

Mr. Gleason is survived by his wife, Mrs. Helen Gleason, and his aged mother. We extend to them our deep sympathy.

DR. N. B. FAGIN WILL LECTURE IN BALTIMORE

The Educational Department arranged with Dr. N. B. Fagin to continue his course in Yiddish on "How to Understand the History of America." The remaining three lectures will be given on Tuesday evenings, January 8, 22, and February 5, at 201 Aisquith Street.

Admission is free to the members of the I. L. G. W. U.

Weekly Calendar

WORKERS' UNIVERSITY Washington Irving High School Irving Place and 16th St.

Room 529

Saturday, January 5

1:30 p. m. H. W. Smith—Social Forces in Contemporary Literature—Modern Tendencies in Social Criticism.

2:30 p. m. David J. Sapos—American Labor in Modern Civilization.

Sunday, January 6

10:30 a. m. H. A. Overstreet—Foundations of Modern Civilization.

11:30 a. m. H. J. Carman—European History. This course will deal with the general subject of the underlying forces which have shaped Europe to its present condition.

UNITY CENTERS

Monday, January 7

Harlem Unity Center—P. S. 171

103d Street near Fifth Avenue, Room 406

8:30 p. m. Margaret Daniels—Trade Unionism in the United States.

Lower Bronx Unity Center—P. S. 43

Brown Place and 135th Street, Room 305

8:30 p. m. Sylvia Kopald—Economics and the Labor Movement.

Tuesday, January 8

Bronx Unity Center—P. S. 61

Crotona Park East and Charlotte Street, Room 511

8:45 p. m. Sylvia Kopald—Economics and the Labor Movement.

Wednesday, January 9

East Side Unity Center—P. S. 63

4th Street near 1st Avenue, Room 404

9:00 p. m. A. L. Wilbert—Modern Economic Institutions. English is taught for beginners, intermediate and advanced students, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.

EXTENSION DIVISION

RUSSIAN

Friday, January 4

Russian-Polish Branch—315 E. 10th Street

8:00 p. m. David Z. Krinkin—Social History of Russia.

YIDDISH

Saturday, January 5 and 12

Local 9—228 Second Avenue

1:00 p. m. Max Levin—Modern Economic Institutions.

Sunday, January 6

Club Rooms—Local 1—1581 Washington Avenue, Bronx

10:30 a. m. Max Levin—The American Labor Movement.

Clinton Hall—151 Clinton Street, Room 47

12:00 M. H. Rogoff—American Civilization.

ENGLISH

Sunday, January 6

Local 49—219 Sackman Street, Brooklyn

11:00 a. m. Alexander Fichandler—Social Psychology.

Thursday, January 10

Local 17—Reefer Makers' Educational Center

142 Second Avenue

6:00 to 8:00 p. m. Mr. Goldberg will instruct in the English language.

Friday, January 4 and 11

Local 49—219 Sackman Street, Brooklyn.

8:00 p. m. Rehearsal I. L. G. W. U. Chorus. Members of the International are invited.

OUT-OF-TOWN EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

BALTIMORE

YIDDISH

Tuesday, January 8 and 22

Office of Joint Board, 201 Aisquith Street.

8:00 p. m. N. B. Fagin—How to Understand the Social and Economic History of the United States.

BOSTON

Monday, January 7

Office of Local 49—913 Washington Street.

6:00 p. m. David Vaughn—Social Psychology.

Wednesday, January 9

Office of Local 7—21 Essex Street.

6:00 p. m. Niles Carpenter—Employment Exchanges.

CLEVELAND

Monday, January 7

Office of Joint Board, 203 Superior Building.

8:00 p. m. H. A. Atkins—Applied Psychology.

PHILADELPHIA

Friday, January 4

1035 Spruce Street.

7:45 p. m. Alexander Fichandler—Social Psychology.

Friday, January 11

7:45 p. m. Lecture to be announced.

YIDDISH

Friday, January 18

7:45 p. m. Sh. Nieger—The Writer and the Leaders.

ALL LECTURES IN ENGLISH UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED.

The Week In Local 10

By JOSEPH FISH

As was stated in these columns last week, the full complement of the Executive Board will be given in this week's issue. It is needless to give the names of the elected members of the Executive Board, as we are sure that they are known to the majority of our members, having already been published. We will, therefore, give the names of the three additional members of the Executive Board who were appointed by the President at the installation meeting on December 22: William Schwartz, Milton Civin and Sam Sokol.

At the appointment of these brothers, Brother Philip Ancel introduced Brother William Schwartz to the membership as a member who has not served on the Executive Board or any other committee previously, but who, in his belief, is a capable and intelligent young man and will serve well as a member of the Executive Board.

Milton Civin is known to a number of cutters and is at present the shop chairman in one of our biggest shops, which employs as many as forty or fifty men, and is taking very good care that the union rules and regulations are lived up to there. The last appointee is Brother Sam Sokol, who is already known to our members, having served on the Executive Board once before.

We believe that these brothers will bear out the recommendation of our President and will be an asset to our Executive Board, and that the organization will be proud of having them as Executive Board members.

At the last installation, President Philip Ancel also appointed three members to serve as the Examination Committee for this year. Brother Meyer Katz, who served on this committee last year, was reappointed by the President. The other two members are Abe Casper and Max Silverstein.

When these names were placed before the membership for ratification, Brothers Victor Neufeld and Harris Hacken objected to the appointment of Brother Max Silverstein as a member of the Examination Committee. The members present then concurred in the appointment of Meyer Katz and Abe Casper, and the two members who objected to the selection of Max Silverstein, as well as the latter, were instructed to appear before the Executive Board on Thursday night, December 27.

They all appeared before the Board, and from the statements submitted by the brothers, the Executive Board felt that the objections against Brother Silverstein could not be sustained, and that the President is therefore at liberty to ap-

point either Brother Max Silverstein or any other man, if he so desires.

A perplexing question presents itself to us, and to the cutters of A. Portifolio. Aside from its perplexity, the question in itself is also very important, and both the organization and the cutters would appreciate having it answered.

Several weeks ago it was reported in these columns that Portifolio's cutters secured an increase in wages. In the same report a statement was contained to the effect that the cutters' average earnings were not commensurate with the standards of living. Somehow or other a copy of the paper containing the report reached the hands of either one of the firm or of one of the officers of the firm.

During the course of a visit to the shop by the manager of the organization, the firm called attention to the article and claimed that according to the treatment that was accorded to the workers by them, particularly with respect to the cutters, the statement contained in the report was not justified. We, of course, were only too glad to correct any statements made, which were not in strict accordance with the facts in the case.

An incident occurred in this shop, however, to which our attention was directed by the cutters, which, to put it mildly, caused us some surprise. This firm had made it a practice since their establishment to call in to work all their cutters the week of Christmas whether they had work or not, and made it a point that the men should have a full week's work. In addition, according to the firm's practice, the cutters were always treated to a Christmas gift.

Apparently the firm is rapidly growing. They have decided, therefore, in order not to retard this growth, to make an additional saving by doing away with an old tradition which existed for many years. During the week of Christmas just past, the firm, for the first time, did not call in the cutters to work and discontinued the practice of distributing gifts.

Not feeling certain as to whether it was a step on the part of the firm towards continuing their growth, the cutters came to the office of the union and sought an explanation to this question: Is the reason for the action of the firm that they were growing richer and were greedy for more money, or that they could not afford to continue the practice any longer because they were growing poorer? Or, they asked us, is the action of the firm due to their anxiety to even up on the matter of the increase recently granted to them? We wonder also!!!

The attention of the cutters is called to the fact that shops which were closed on New Year's Day are responsible to them for a full week's wages. The members are therefore advised that, in the event that their shops were closed and they did not receive a full week's pay, they are not to accept their wages but to report the

same to the organization, which will insist upon the collection of the day's pay.

This notice is especially directed to the cloak cutters who are employed in Protective shops. The majority of the employers who are members of this organization kept their shops closed, having an idea they would not have to pay.

From 1910 to 1924

(Continued from page 11)

money. I haven't starved yet. God will show me a way!"

Morris spoke with decision. He turned on his heels away from Levy, toward the bedroom.

Levy placed a firm hand over Morris's right shoulder.

"Don't forget, Morris, your job won't wait for you forever."

Morris braced himself erect and walked into the bedroom. He heard Levy say "Good day" and close the hallway door behind him.

"No Gittel, take your medicine. The doctor will soon be here and he'll blame me if you haven't obeyed his orders."

Morris appeared now as if he had been transformed since his conversation with Levy. His tone was soft, the expression on his face and softened and he gazed fondly at his wife in the kitchen.

Gittel gave way to a coughing fit and, recovering, motioned to Morris to sit at her bedside.

"What did that man want of you?" Gittel spoke in a hoarse voice that was scarcely audible.

"He wanted me to go back into the shop. I told him I couldn't work in a shop that was like a battlefield. I couldn't bear it to have a dying man curse me."

"And maybe they'd hurt you," Gittel suggested as Morris paused. If I had not got sick we would not have used up our savings so soon."

"Anyhow, God will provide," Gittel concluded.

"Three months out of work already," Morris continued. "But we mustn't be discouraged. The strike may be over soon. Anyhow, some body told me that the union is collecting money for needy strikers, and if I join they may help us."

"No, Sammy, working hard!"

"Yes, it's a good day. It's ever better than we expected." Sammy spoke without looking up. He was busy behind the counter, counting stocks of currency, piled up in different denominations.

"Well, that's what I call busy. He hasn't even got time to take money. What do you say to such a business, Mr. Levy?"

At the mention of Mr. Levy, Sam-

my looked up.

"What, you, Morris?" Sammy gasped as he beheld a gray-bearded man winking genially at a still older looking man.

"Yes, Sammy, it's old Morris. You remember I once told you I'd be a boss. Well, I am a boss. I'm your boss. I own stock in our bank and I want to deposit my savings."

"You—you say 'our bank'!" Sammy's face was a portrayal of bewilderment.

"Yes, Sammy," Morris answered genially. "Lots of people who thought they hated the union became good union men in the 1910 strike."

"Well, you're busy. After you take my money, my boss, Mr. Levy, wants to open a check account."

"Yes, put in Levy. 'Business is business. If I can get better terms from the International Union Bank, why should I do business elsewhere?'"

The End.

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REGULAR MEETING.....Monday, January 14, 1924

MISCELLANEOUS MEETING...Monday, January 21, 1924

REGULAR MEETING.....Monday, January 28, 1924

Meetings Begin at 7:30 P. M.

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