

"My righteous-
ness I hold fast,
and will not let
it go."

—Job 27.6

JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN

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INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

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

Vol. VI, No. 9.

Friday, February 22, 1924.

Price 2 Cents

When MacDonald Spoke

Whoever read MacDonald's first speech in Parliament, his program-speech, cannot escape a palpable feeling of the march of the revolution, of the coming of a new world order.

Nevertheless, the word "revolution" was not even mentioned in that speech.

Never before in British history was such a speech by a prime minister listened to in the House of Commons. The greatest orators of England had delivered their orations there—to mention only such names as Disraeli, Gladstone, Parnell, Balfour, Chamberlain, Asquith and Lloyd George. Their speeches reverberated across the House as beautiful fireworks. Their phrases intoxicated and touched the heart. They employed metaphors which charmed. Nevertheless, these were all speeches to which the British Parliament had been accustomed for many ages. If the new Prime Minister were to deliver such an eloquent speech, it would have been regarded in the House as an ordinary opening speech and it would not have created much of an impression.

MacDonald's speech, however, made a deep, overwhelming effect because it was the simplest that Parliament and England had ever heard.

In every word of MacDonald's speech, one felt that it was the working man that spoke—not the highly stationed intellectual, not the passionate stump-speaker, not the writer or platform orator, but the ordinary worker as he speaks in the street, in his shop and at his union meeting.

Quiet and simple were MacDonald's words, but what a consciousness of pride and strength there breathed in them! Neither were his words of the empty meaningless kind which create a stir as they are uttered but which are forgotten after the first careful examination. No, they were weighty, meaty words, words which announced to the world the birth of a new driving force of Labor.

They talked of the Russian revolution as a workers' revolution. How untrue that is!

The workers had little to say at the time the Russian revolution was carried out, and have still less to say now. It is a handful of intellectuals who are talking for the Russian workers, who act for them,—and, as you listen to their speeches, as you read their writings, you feel that they are very clever constructors of phrases, that they are experienced and shrewd writers. But you do not feel in their words the pulse, the heart-beat of the workers.

In MacDonald's simple speech, one hears no one but the English worker. Without artifice and winged words, he speaks of him and of his daily interests, of his needs, and of the scars of a worker's life which hurt most.

He speaks of unemployment, of the impoverished condition of the British workers, of their bad homes, of how to increase employment in the country, and how to get higher wages for the farm workers; he speaks of the farmer and how he is to be aided to get more out of his little piece of land; he speaks of cooperation,—of such simple matter-of-fact conditions, yet things that are of the utmost importance in life; yes, things that make up life itself.

And just as clearly and simply MacDonald speaks of the higher, the more delicate matters, what are called "foreign affairs,"—matters which heretofore people only talked of in whispers or by winking,—the old, pernicious game of diplomacy.

The English worker, in the person of MacDonald, spurns all these diplomatic artifices. He recognizes the difficulties that face him, but he has enough faith in his strength and in the justice of his cause. So without delay he set out to work and he is confidently hoping to obtain very substantial results in the near future.

That was a great historic speech which announced to the world that the worker, heretofore inarticulate, the underdog, had found his tongue.

When MacDonald spoke, the British worker talked as no one had ever heard him speak before.

S. Y.

Secretary Baroff Issues 1924 Convention Call

Secretary Baroff Issues Call For Seventeenth Convention—Next Convention Will Mark Twenty-five Years of Life of Our International—Preparatory Work Already Begun

Secretary Abraham Baroff has forwarded to all the locals and joint boards of the International a call for the next convention of our International Union which will be held in Boston, Mass., beginning Monday, May 5, 1924.

In the course of the next four weeks, all our locals will be holding special elections for convention delegates, and by April 15, full returns from the locals will be known.

The call reads as follows: To all the Joint Boards and Locals Affiliated with the I. L. G. W. U. GREETING:

Once again we are on the eve of a convention, of the biennial meeting of representatives of our organizations assembled to receive the report of the General Executive Board of your International upon its activities for the past two years, to legislate into law new laws of conduct for our workers, and to decide upon industrial moves calculated to improve our conditions and to make our influence in our industry stronger.

This coming convention, the seventeenth in number, will be a historic gathering for our union. It will mark the twenty-fifth year of its existence, a quarter of a century come to an end

in an environment of incessant struggle and unbroken achievement. Twenty-five years ago, neither friend nor enemy could have conceived that the workers in the ladies' garment industry of this country could build up for themselves such a magnificent fighting machine as our International. It was an unconquerable idealism combined with the driving necessity of lifting our trades and our working conditions that made this wonderful transformation possible, and that have given us a union and conditions of labor second to none in any industry in America.

It is so much more important, therefore, that every local affiliated with our International Union make the utmost effort to be represented at this convention by its full quota of delegates. Do not let any motives of false economy influence you in sending less representatives than you are entitled to. The whole labor world is looking at us and when the call is given, we should be on the spot in full numbers. The convention will be held this year in the city of Boston, Mass., beginning Monday, May 5, 1924.

Fraternally yours,
ABRAHAM BAROFF,
General Secretary-Treasurer.

General Strike of Dressmakers in Boston

On Tuesday, February 19, at 10 o'clock in the morning, a general strike was declared in the dress shops of Boston. The strike was ordered with the full sanction of the International Union.

The strike was preceded by conferences with local dress employers, and some of these meetings had been attended by President Sigman and Secretary Baroff who came specially from New York in an effort to avert a strike and reach a settlement in an amicable way. But when on Monday last, at a meeting of shop chairmen and chairwomen, a final report had been made by the conference committee that the dress manufacturers would not listen to the voice of reason and fairness, the motion favoring an immediate strike was accepted by acclamation. On the following morning strike circulars calling the women and men in

the dress trade of Boston to leave their shops were distributed broadcast and at the appointed hour the dress factories became empty.

Already, in advance of the strike, a few dress manufacturers applied to a local court for an injunction against Vice-president Fred Monosson and Israel Lewin, the manager of the Dress and Waistmakers' Union, Local 49. These efforts at intimidation, however, have not interfered with calling the workers on strike at the appointed hour. A hearing on these injunctions will take place in a few days. The strike is affecting all dress shops in Boston.

Vice-president Fred Monosson is the chairman of the strike committee. Meyer Frank is chairman of the picket committee and Sister Sarah Hurwitz is chairlady of the organization committee.

All Union and Trade News on Page Two

Have You Already Opened an Account in the International Union Bank? If You Are a Depositor in Any Other Bank, You Have Only to Bring Your Bankbook to Our Bank. We Will Do the Rest.

ON THE EVE OF A GENERAL DRESS STRIKE IN CHICAGO

All Preparations Made—Cloakmakers Will Help Picket Shops—All Strike Committees Appointed—Vice-President Perlstein Is Chairman of General Strike Committee.

President Morris Sigman returned from Chicago last week where he spent a very busy few days examining the situation in the local dress trade. He had meetings and conferences with workers and employers, but has heard nothing definite as a result.

The report brought by President Sigman from Chicago is not at all cheerful. The dressmakers work there under very bad conditions and get miserable pay. The dress manu-

facturers would not hear of any improvements in the shops and have brought the industry down to a very low level.

As a result, the workers are on the eve of a general strike. The union has made all preparations and, as these lines are being read, the strike may already have been in full swing, unless the manufacturers may at the eleventh hour reconsider their game and adopt a different course.

Vice-president Perlstein, together with the Chicago Joint Board, is at present making final arrangements for the strike. Last Friday, the Joint Board devoted itself exclusively to the dress strike and to the general strike committee. This strike committee consists of delegates of Locals 100, 81 and 18, and a committee of the Joint Board. The strike committee divided itself into the following sub-committees: Two picket committees, one for

the downtown district and one for the northwest side; a settlement committee to settle with the employers at the headquarters of the strike committee; an organization committee to organize the workers after they leave the shops; a hall committee to provide halls and to take care of the strikers during the strike; a program and entertainment committee to provide amusement for the strikers during the course of the strike; two law committees to watch that the rights of our strikers are protected during the strike.

The strike headquarters will be at Atlantic Hotel. Vice-president Perlstein is the chairman of the general strike committee. Brother Seher, the chairman of the Joint Board, and Brother Bialis, its manager, are its vice-chairmen.

Labor Will Stage Big Affairs for German Trade Unions

The conference meeting which took place last Monday evening at Beethoven Hall to raise funds for the German labor movement bore eloquent testimony that the appeal of the American Federation of Labor to help save the German trade unions has not fallen on barren soil.

Every labor body in New York, big and small, was represented at this conference which worked out plans for a series of big affairs, among these a tag-day in every section of the city for Saturday, May 3. Several unions have sent checks appropriated by them for immediate transmission to Germany. The two principal speakers at the meeting were Samuel Gompers and Morris Hillquit.

Two letters from Berlin were read at the meeting, one from the president of the German Trade Union Federation, and another from the General Executive Board of that Federation. Both letters are addressed to American Federation of Labor and both express fraternal appreciation of the aid expected from the organized workers of America. They thank Gompers for having initiated the relief movement, and mention the fact they have already received \$14,000, though much bigger sums are now beginning to come in, as was later reported at the conference. These letters also point out that this fraternal help will not only aid the German workers in their present hour of great need but will also bring the German and the American labor movements closer together.

President Morris Sigman of the I. L. G. W. U. presented at this meeting a check for \$5,000; Louis Langer gave a check of \$500 for the Cloak and Dress Joint Board, and the delegates of the furriers handed in a check for \$1,100 for their organization. Many other organizations handed in smaller sums, while others reported that their members had been taxed for the German workers and this tax is now being collected.

In addition to the Tag Day, the Relief Committee will arrange to have a big affair in a Broadway house. Central bodies were instructed to obtain as much as possible from their branches, and arrangements made to

get in touch with all miners' unions in Pennsylvania and Ohio to make collections in all these districts. The chairman of the Relief Committee are Hugh Frayne, John Sullivan and James Holland, its secretaries are M. Feinstein, John Coughlin and Lucy Robbins, and its treasurer is Mr. Morris Bernan.

A question had been put to President Gompers from the audience whether his appeal be interpreted as collecting money to fight Bolshevism in Germany. Gompers replied that such an interpretation would be utterly wrong and that those who would put such wild constructions upon it are only interested in obstructing the relief work for German labor.

A COURSE ON THE LABOR MOVEMENT FOR CHAIRMEN AND EXECUTIVE MEMBERS OF LOCAL 62

A course on the "Aims and Problems of the I. L. G. W. U." will soon be given for the shop chairmen and executive members of the Whisk Goods Workers' Union, Local 62; dates to be announced.

It is gratifying to know that our local unions begin to appreciate the need of arranging special courses for the shop chairmen, at a time and place to suit their convenience. The importance of this tendency cannot be overestimated. We hope that the shop chairmen and executive members of Local 62 will appreciate this opportunity and will all attend this course.

Announcements

The conference held in Washington last week on women in industry will be reported in full in our next week's issue. Our readers will find elsewhere in this issue the report of the conference on prison labor.

This issue will reach our readers two days late owing to the illness of the managing editor.

Chairmen of Protective Shops, Attention

The Protective Division Office of the Joint Board of the Cloak and Dress Makers' Union recently forwarded to all the chairmen in the Protective cloak shops letters asking for information regarding prices paid to each and every worker in these shops. With the letter were enclosed printed lists so easily arranged as to enable the chairmen to comply with the request without delay.

Brother Joseph Rubin, manager of

the Protective Division, requests us now to remind the shop chairmen to fill out these printed lists without any loss of time and to bring them to the office of the Joint Board. The Union needs a full record of prices paid to workers in the Protective shops. Bear in mind that very soon we shall have to begin discussions with all our employers regarding the renewal of our collective trade agreements.

New York Joint Board Installed for 1924

Feinberg and Langer Re-elected Without Opposition—Stankewich Elected President for 1924.

A week ago, Friday, the installation of the new Joint Board of the Cloak and Dressmakers' Unions of New York took place in the Auditorium of the International Building.

It happened that both President Sigman and Secretary Baroff were away from New York City that evening. President Sigman was in Chicago, while Secretary Baroff was attending a conference in Washington. The task of installing the new Board therefore fell upon Vice-president Breslaw, the manager of the Pressers' Union, Local 35.

The meeting had two sessions. The first one was presided over by the old chairman, Brother Louis Pinkovsky, who recently was elected manager of Local 23. Owing to the assumption of these new duties by Brother Pinkovsky, a new chairman had to be elected, and Brother John Standewich, for many years a delegate to the Joint Board from Local 17, was elected to preside over the Joint Board for 1924.

After the new chairman had taken over the gavel from Brother Pinkovsky, nominations for the office of

general manager and of recording secretary of the Joint Board were ordered and Israel Feinberg and Louis Langer were nominated and unanimously re-elected to these respective offices. The fact that Brother Feinberg's nominators and seconders were delegates from his own Local 1, men who only a year ago bitterly fought him because they failed to grasp the true state of conditions in our industry and Union,—was greeted with hearty applause by the entire Joint Board.

The election of a financial secretary, in place of Philip Kapilewitz, at present cashier of the International Union Bank, was put over to a second meeting of the Board. The speech-making had consumed so much of the evening that even the election of all of the standing committees had to be postponed for another week.

Talks were delivered by Vice-presidents Feinberg, Heller, Wander, Dubinsky, Halperin, Seidman, and Leftin, and by Yanovsky, editor of "Germankeit," Harry Lang, labor editor of the "Forward," and Philip Kapilewitz.

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FROM OUR JOINT BOARDS AND LOCALS

Our Constructive Program

By ISRAEL FEINBERG

It would not be amiss, I believe, for me to give my views to our readers concerning the questions which our Union is at present endeavoring to solve.

Before going any further, I first of all desire to emphasize the thought that it is high time to abandon the old method of oversteering things to ourselves and to the outside world with regard to matters that concern our workers and our organization. In my opinion, this method has done us harm instead of good.

And now to the subject before us: In the last few months we have been discussing in our midst quite thoroughly the demands which we intend to present to our employers. In my judgment our members have laid uneven stress in this discussion upon one or two points while neglecting or ignoring the others which deserve just as much consideration. It is difficult to say what this onenessness is due to; it is true we have been passing through very hard times in the shops, and this may have caused pessimism and despair among some of our workers. Yet, our men are experienced enough to know that low spirits and loss of courage have never helped anyone and that in order to improve conditions we must brace up and judge matters with a clear head.

In order to be able to win our demands we must do two things: We must believe that they are right and just, and we must have the courage and faith in our ability to win them. Therefore, in order to get the will and conviction to win we must not stop at the fourth point of our program but go forward and backward and make up our minds fully upon all our demands. Our problems, after all, is not so much how to get a dollar or two more a week but how to get control over the labor conditions in the trade, which will automatically bring us satisfactory earnings.

The principal problem confronting us is how to make the real and the so-called jobber in our trades be made responsible for this work, produced outside as well as inside his shops. We must make certain that each owner of an inside shop employs a certain number of workers therein, or chooses a fixed number of contractors for making up his garments. These contractor shops the Union will consider as his own shops, where the work will have to be distributed equally, and which shall have not less than 14 machines in addition to a required number of workers from the other crafts.

This will give the Union the opportunity to concentrate our workers in larger units. But in order for this reform to amount to more than a scrap of paper, it will be necessary that each employer guarantee to his workers a fixed number of weeks of work annually. And when I say "guarantee" I mean it in an entirely different sense from what this term has been understood in our Union heretofore. Let us say, for instance, that our employers would guarantee us thirty weeks of work for the year which would amount to approximately \$1,800 per year in earnings. Again suppose the individual employer which we have in mind employs 50 men in his shop, making his payroll therefore \$5,000 weekly, 15 per cent of this payroll to be deposited by him each week in a trust fund as guarantee for the faithful performance of his agreement.

Let us assume that the understanding with this employer is that he is to pay the workers two-thirds of their wages for the time he fails to supply them with work in accordance with the terms of his agreement, and it should happen that his workers, instead of 30 weeks, had only worked 24 weeks. We assume that the security fund of this firm has meanwhile reached over \$10,000. Can there be any doubt that under such an arrangement this em-

ployer, and for that matter every other, will leave nothing undone to supply his workers with as many weeks of labor as he undertakes to do in his contract?

It is such an agreement that the Union strives to obtain for the workers, of a type we have never had yet in New York. The Union demands too that a plan of unemployment insurance be introduced in the trade for those unable to get jobs. Of course, such a plan cannot be materialized without a labor bureau. There are several other things which the Union regards as absolutely essential, such as, for instance, the right to examine the books of the manufacturers and jobbers, and also the adoption of regulated remedial measures in the event of violation of the agreement by employers. I take it that our members understand that we have got a man-size job on our hands, and it is well that they appreciate in advance the difficulties that lie in the way of its realization. Let us see.

Suppose the employers agree to the limitation of the numbers of contractors and the fixing of a minimum of 14 machines in the contractor shops, which might mean that some shops would have to be merged. But if, at the same time, the Union should be called upon to defend as before the various scales above the minimum, it is quite obvious that the same obstacles to proper union wage control as have existed heretofore will remain in full force and the basis of our program will be knocked out from under its structure.

The argument is advanced that this point of our program—the protection by the Union of one minimum wage scale—will give some employers the chance of cutting the prices of those who receive wages far beyond the minimum scale. But those who argue like this forget that the present scale is not the one which was put down on paper when week-work was introduced. They forget that when we made up those scales we were not guided by the real facts in our industry for the simple reason that we never investigated them. It was a question of guess work largely, guided to an extent by what the earnings of each worker were under piece-work. No one can assert that the wage scales in our industry are comparatively high because we have prosperity; quite the contrary, we have had very bad times in the last few years, and yet our wages are higher than they are supposed to be as written down in our agreements with the employers.

And when this is considered, we cannot escape the inference that, with the adoption of a higher minimum scale for the biggest majority of our workers, we need not have any particular fear for the smaller number who might be able to command a higher figure. To begin with, there is no reason to believe that these exceptionally skilled men will not command their price, and secondly, we must keep in mind that our Union was not organized for the few "artists" but for the great mass of the average

skilled men and women to which the Union owes its responsibility first. In my judgment, no one will suffer from this reform, nor it will bring more equality into our trade, and it will also serve to equalize the costs of garment-making in general.

Some of our members may shrug their shoulders at the last statement as they will quite likely not see why the Union should interest itself in production costs. To these I wish to say that, if our Union will not actively and sincerely aid in making an end to the cut-throat competition which is paralyzing the trade, we shall never succeed in solving the "bundle" problem in our shops and the ability of the workers in one shop driving out the workers in another—all on account of this maddening competition in prices and cost production.

All this refers, of course, to cloakmakers. But before closing I should like to say that now, since we come in daily touch with conditions in the dress trade too, I can but confirm the fact that the situation in both trades is very similar and that the same program should be applied to both. We have been trying to find out, since we have taken the dressmakers into our Joint Board, if there were any special problems in the dress industry that would require a change in our program of demands. I can safely say that, as far as I can see, the ills that prevail in the dress industry are of the same kind and type that affect the cloak trade. But of this more anon.

INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR

By H. SCHOOLMAN

This Week Twelve Years Ago

Resenting the exploitation and mistreatment of the cloakmakers working in the shop of A. M. Glick & Company, the Chicago Cloakmakers' Union ordered a strike against this important firm.

The New York Cloakmakers' Joint Board elects for the first time a board of directors consisting of the following: Abraham Rosenberg, John Dyck, Abraham Bismor, Sol Polakoff, Morris Sigman, Saul Metz, Jacob Halperin, Meyer Perlstein, Harry Kleiman, Herman Grossman, Jacob Zimmerman and Abraham Scheff.

The dress and waist cutters of Chicago called a mass meeting of all the workers in the trade for the purpose of forming a local union. This was the first attempt to organize a local in the dress trade, which later resulted in the Dress and Waistmakers' Union, Local 160.

BRONISLAW HUBERMAN WILL APPEAR AS SOLOIST, AT CONCERT OF INTERNATIONAL CHORUS, SUNDAY AFTER NOON, MARCH 2

The International Chorus, directed by Leo Low, is giving a concert in Town Hall, Sunday afternoon, March 2. Bronislaw Huberman, will appear as soloist.

Buy your tickets early, if you wish to obtain good seats.

DRESSMAKERS

MEMBERS OF LOCAL NO. 22

ATTENTION

Five important branch meetings will be held on Thursday, February 28, 1924, at 7:30 p. m.

Downtown at Stuyvesant Casino, 142 Second Avenue.

Harlem at Laurel Garden, 75 East 116th Street.

Bronx at Claremont Casino, 3875 Third Avenue, near Claremont Parkway.

Brownsville at Brownsville Labor Lyceum, 229 Sackman Street.

The following meeting will be held right after work: Brooklyn at the office of the union, Vienna Hall, 105 Montrose Avenue.

The topics for this meeting are as follows:

1. Reports from the Executive Board and Joint Board.
2. Elections for officers of each branch as chairman and secretary.

Other important business will be taken up at these meetings.

It is very important that no dressmaker should fail to attend the meeting nearest to his residence. Come, all and participate in the activities of the union.

EXECUTIVE BOARD, DRESSMAKERS UNION,
LOCAL NO. 22, I. L. G. W. U.

I. SCHOENHOLTZ, Secretary.

JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

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A. BAROFF, Secretary-Treasurer H. A. SCHOOLMAN, Business Manager

MAX D. DANISH, Managing Editor

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Washington Conference on Prison Labor

At the call of Samuel Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labor, two conferences were held last week, at the headquarters of the A. F. of L., Washington, D. C.

The conference on prison labor, held on Wednesday, February 13, was called by President Gompers at the direction of the Portland Convention of the A. F. of L. to give consideration to Resolution No. 21 adopted at that convention which deals with prison labor and its effect on organized workers. The conference was attended by representatives of the following organizations:

United Mine Workers of America, International Ladies' Garment Workers, United Garment Workers of America, International Brotherhood of Bookbinders, International Broom and Whisk Makers, Boot and Shoe Workers' International Union, United Textile Workers of America, International Association of Machinists, Union Label Trades Department, A. F. of L., American Federation of Labor National Committee on Prisons and Prison Labor, General Federation of Women's Clubs.

The delegates of our International Union, General Secretary Abraham Baroff and Vice-Presidents Fannia M. Cohn and Salvatore Ninio, submitted a memorandum for discussion, in which it was stated:

1. That it is the moral obligation of the American labor movement to take the side of the prisoner in any discussion of prison labor, because the prison population is largely drawn

from the working class and ultimately they will return to it.

2. That the prison should be looked upon as a corrective institution rather than a punitive one.

3. That the prison as an institution of rehabilitation should not be looked upon as a source of profit for the State. Emphasis should be placed upon what use the men will be to themselves and the community in the future morally, rather than what use they are financially to the jail institution at present.

4. That the labor movement should insist on the abolition of all forms of contract labor. The attitude that should be assumed is one prohibiting an outside industrial corporation, under whatever guise, from finding a place in any kind of penal institution. All the work should be under the state use system, with no profits for the state, and under conditions of labor that correspond to the union conditions in the same industries in their locality.

5. That the prison should properly, at least in its industrial activities, be under the supervision of the Department of Education, because all work in prison should be organized with a view towards preparing the men or women to earn a living upon their release. The labor movement should cooperate in the development of prison industries to the extent that the prisoner, on his release, will find ready access into organized industries.

The discussion of the problem was

most interesting. The delegates had expert advice in the persons of Dr. E. Stagg Whitin of the National Committee of Prison and Prison Labor, and Mrs. Julia Jeffery of the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

After a lengthy discussion, the following conclusions were reached:

First: That we believe that the quickest and most effective way to eliminate the evils of the contract and public account systems in the various states prisons, penal institutions, reformatories and correctional institutions, where they are in operation in unfair competition with free labor, is by the enactment of legislation in such states.

Second: That a model uniform bill be outlined by the American Federation of Labor to be introduced in the different states for the abolition of contract labor and public account and other systems which exploit the labor of the prisoner and the public generally.

Third: We declare for the principles of state use, production for the state, and the state's use system for surplus production.

Fourth: We strongly recommend that the American Federation of Labor inaugurate a vigorous campaign of education upon the evils of convict labor as affecting free industry, through its affiliated national and international unions, state federations of labor, city central bodies, local unions, the National Committee on Prisons and Prison Labor, the General Federation of Women's Clubs, and other friendly organizations who are willing to cooperate, and through the labor press and official journals, for the establishment of a state and state's use system.

Fifth: While recommending the en-

actment of state laws to deal with the prison labor problem in its various phases, we are mindful of the fact that strong efforts have been made in the past for the enactment of Federal legislation and we do not feel that the efforts to have enacted Federal legislation upon this subject should be relaxed, but that the American Federation of Labor through its Legislative Committee, should continue in the future as in the past to endeavor to bring about the enactment of Federal legislation which will effectively deal with this problem in line with labor's policy.

Signed: American Federation of Labor, Hugh Frayne; United Mine Workers of America, Walter James; United Garment Workers of America, A. Adamski; International Brotherhood of Bookbinders, Walter N. Reddick, Felix J. Belair, Anna Newry; International Broom and Whisk Makers, W. R. Boyer; Boot and Shoe Workers' International Union, Collis Loveley, C. L. Baine; United Textile Workers of America, Mrs. Sara Conboy; International Association of Machinists, H. L. Armstrong; Union Label Trades Department, A. F. of L., John L. Manning, alternate A. Adamski; International Ladies' Garment Workers, Abraham Baroff, Fannia Cohn, Salvatore Ninio; National Committee on Prisons and Prison Labor, N. Stagg Whitin, R. S. Humphries; General Federation of Women's Clubs, Julia Jeffery.

These conclusions were then sent, through Mr. Gompers, to the Executive Council for consideration.

The report of the conference that followed, on the status of women in industry, will be published in the next issue.

Lenin and Wilson

(A belated appraisal)

By A. SELDIN

Both of them have been great in their time, practically in the same time. Both of them died almost simultaneously.

Lenin and Wilson. The first had left behind him a patrimony over which his heirs are squabbling today. The other left nothing.

One might ask—who of the two was the greater man, and who influenced world events to a greater degree? But this is one of those questions that will never receive a unanimous answer. To their followers each will, of course, appear the greatest, and even the verdict of history will depend a good deal upon the historian and his environs. If Russia ever again becomes a Tsarist land, Lenin will occupy in its history the place of any other unsuccessful rebel or "bontar." Should Russia become the first Socialist state in the world—Lenin will be assigned the role of a savior, of a Messiah and a modern Moses in Russian history.

The same is true of Wilson. If American history will be written by a Lodge or a Cabot, Wilson will appear in it as a well-meaning simpleton, a person without any conception of realities, who might have drawn his country into the swamps of European hatreds, into a League of Nations, were it not for the saving sense of his more practical contemporaries. If the history of America of today is written in a liberal spirit and atmosphere, Wilson will be portrayed to posterity as the first great American who dared to dream of world peace, but who, like every other great man, was misinterpreted and misunderstood in his own day.

Such is the course of things. Every human-order produces its historians and all writers of history interpret the past and its heroes in the light best adaptable for the regime prevailing in their own day.

Let us leave the future to the future. In our day both Lenin and Wilson are great. Both were hated and loved. Both were overestimated and belittled, and upon both of them great hopes had been placed which later were turned into disappointment.

For Wilson and Lenin, at the very height of their influence, were far more than individuals, far more than even great personalities. They have been symbols, the embodiment of two world ideals, of the two paramount world powers. Wilson was symbolized as a constructive force, while Lenin represented the power to destroy. They both stood at the summit of the two most forceful movements of their time, and neither of them could be ignored. One had to take sides either for one or against the other.

The world was passing through a fierce crisis and each of them was becoming a world ideal that might lead the world out of this labyrinth. Only two central figures pointed out a definite course—one, the dictatorship of the proletariat, and the other—the League of Nations. They were Lenin and Wilson.

They failed both and the world is disappointed in both. Lenin's dictatorship did not bring communism even to Russia, while Wilson's League of Nations brought no peace to the world.

But Lenin left behind him an inheritance over which his heirs might fight. Wilson left nothing—and why?

There is, of course, a sharp difference of opinion concerning the inheritance Lenin left. There is a very substantial opinion, for instance, that this inheritance amounts to no more and no less than Russia's destruction. That may be true, but even a debacle may have its historic value. A social debacle may pave the way for a new social structure. If Lenin and his associates have done nothing more than

destroying the old Tsarist regime, they have accomplished a great deal anyway. They may be criticized, and quite justly, for having diverted the trend of the Russian revolution to false paths, but this will not detract much from their achievements.

But where is the inheritance of Wilson? What traces has the personality of Wilson left upon the American political and social life? What besides a dozen or two of fine speeches and as many broken promises did he leave behind him? The answer to this question need not be sought in the personal characteristics of these two men; but rather in their environs. Far apart as Wilson and Lenin may have been in their temperament, breeding and personal experience, they were still farther apart in their environments.

Lenin's background was a strict revolutionary tradition, and a stiff revolutionary conscience; Wilson's was that of an American college professor, all ways mindful of his trustees. Lenin's sphere of activity was the revolutionary idealism of a country which has risen to the highest stage of revolutionary optimism. Wilson, on the other hand, worked under circumstances and the atmosphere of war profiteering, financial sharks and adventurers, and sordid politicians.

The result of this was that when Lenin spoke, bad or good, he spoke in the name of Russia, of revolutionary Russia, while when Wilson spoke and wrote—he only spoke in his own name. The one was a master, while the other was merely a tool. The proof of this came soon after the war was over, when the true masters of the situation began to assert themselves. Then it became clear that Wilson's 14 points, his great achievement as war president—were nothing more than war propaganda, aimed at demoralizing the Germans and nothing more.

And that's about all they were taken for afterwards. Wilson fought back with all his might. He tried to save from his idealistic structure as much as possible. He was ready to compromise in order to save at least the

skeleton of his League of Nations, and as a reward received as much as that—a skeleton.

Lenin's inheritance, indeed, may not be much, but he has left heirs behind him.

Wilson left hardly any heirs. His nearest associates, the members of his cabinet had left him even before his term had ended. Some of them went to take up good retainers with antagonistic political motives. Even his press agent, George Creel, a staunch fighter for democracy and against the tyranny of the Bolsheviks, appears to have been the recipient of Doheny's five thousand dollars of oil money.

All of which proves over again the old maxim—that in order to become great one must have not only a historic opportunity but also the proper environment. Lenin had this environment but Wilson did not. Lenin therefore left an inheritance with heirs while Wilson left none.

RAND SCHOOL NOTES

On Saturday, February 23, at 1:30 p. m., Scott Nearing will discuss "The Oil Scandal" in his Current Events lecture at the Rand School, 7 East 15th Street. At 2:45 p. m., Prof. H. W. L. Dana will give the last lecture in his course on "Current Drama."

On Wednesday, February 27, at 8:40 p. m., Mr. Morris Hiltquist is lecturing on "New Problems for Radicals." Also at the same hour Mr. Willy Pogany, the artist who painted the murals in the Debs Auditorium is lecturing on "The Development of Art."

On Thursday evening, February 28, at 8:40, Mr. Herman Epstein is lecturing on "The Meaning of Music—What is a Symphony?" in the Debs Auditorium, 7 East 15th Street.

A CORRECTION

In last week's issue of JUSTICE, on page 3, an error was made in the name of the chairman of the Executive Board of Local 22, which should have been B. Blustein instead of M. Blumberg, as it appeared.

The Physical Examination of Fifty Thousand Garment Workers

By GEORGE M. PRICE, M.D.

Director of the Joint Board of Sanitary Control and the Union Health Center, New York City

(Conclusion)

Examinations for Sick Benefit.—The next group of persons examined consisted of workers who applied to their locals for sick benefits. Three of the largest locals of the union have introduced sick benefits and pay their sick members the sum of \$7 to \$10 per week for seven to ten weeks during the year. Applicants for this benefit have to be examined either at our office or at their homes and to be given a certificate entitling them to sick benefit.

Certification for sick benefit began in 1914 and since that time 8,438 examinations have been made for this purpose. 5,067 at the office, and 3,371 at the homes of the patients. More than 80 per cent of these examinations were made for members of Local 35, the Pressers' Union. About one-fifth—20.6 per cent—of the patients from this local were between 25 and 34 years of age; 43.8 per cent were between 35 and 44 years of age; and 25.6 per cent were between 45 and 54 years of age. In 14 per cent of the cases sick benefit was refused by the local for the reason that the physicians found no disability.

Local 35, the pressers, paid out from 1914 to 1922, inclusive, for sick benefits and medical relief, a total of \$62,834.57—\$58,197.00 for cash benefits and \$4,637.57 for medical relief. In all, this benefit of the union had 7,440 cases of sick benefit with payments for 10,201 weeks of sickness, or four and three-fifths weeks for each case, with an average benefit for each case of \$25.92, and a total cost for each case of \$28.42.

VOLUNTARY EXAMINATIONS

Life Extension Examinations.—Within the last few years life extension examinations have been made at the Union Health Center. These are given to persons desiring a thorough examination to determine their physical condition.

Special Examinations.—During the last six or seven years, a large number of examinations—29,272—have been made of workers who came voluntarily for examination or treatment either to the general or to special clinics. The bulk of the examinations in these clinics have been made since 1920. The following tabulation shows the number of the general and special examinations made in the clinics beginning with 1920 and ending with September of 1923.

General examinations: 1920, 1,599; 1921, 4,297; 1922, 5,286; 1923 (nine months), 3,990; total 15,172.

Special examinations: 1920, 799; 1921, 3,742; 1922, 4,309; 1923 (nine months), 5,224; total 14,174.

METHODS OF EXAMINATION

The extent to which physical examinations are conducted in the garment industry is indicated by the fact that at the end of 1922, 50,000 persons had been examined, and nearly 50,000 examinations had been made.

The method of examination depends upon the purpose for which the workers are examined. The life extension examinations are the most thorough. Applicants for these examinations first undergo a preliminary examination by the resident physician, who takes a full history and makes the preliminary tests. They then are examined by the internist and subsequently by the specialists to whom the internist may refer them for special examinations. As a rule, they are examined by not less than four physicians. For life extension examinations the patients are fully stripped;

for all other examinations they are stripped to the waist.

The examination of persons who apply to the internists or specialists for treatment does not differ from the general examination given for this purpose in any clinic or dispensary.

The least thorough examination is given to candidates for admission to the union, since the purpose of this examination is simply to exclude persons suffering from active, infectious diseases. The examination is general and rapid. Whenever there is a doubt as to the condition of the chest or other organs, a second examination is usually ordered. As a rule, no candidate is rejected, or accepted as a non-benefit case, without a subsequent more thorough examination.

Time Required for Each Examination.—This differs according to the character of the examination. In a life extension examination the examinations by the resident physician and internist usually take no less than three-quarters of an hour; the examinations by the other physicians require an additional fifteen to thirty minutes. The examination of patients coming for general and special treatment lasts, on an average, about fifteen minutes; examination of applicants for admission to the union lasts from five to fifteen minutes, with an average of eight minutes.

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE SHOPS

The women's garment industry has been regarded as one of the typical sweat-shop trades. Prior to 1919 a large amount of work was done by the workers in their homes. A great many shops were located in East Side tenements and small flats, in stores, and in basements and cellars with inadequate light and ventilation and deplorable sanitary conditions. At the present time the women's garment industry in New York City is housed principally in the left district, between Second and Forty-second streets in Manhattan, with a few hundred shops scattered on the East Side, in Brooklyn, and in Harlem.

Since 1911 the Joint Board of Sanitary Control has undertaken to clean up the "Augean Stables" and has established adequate control and supervision of all the shops in the industry. Through semi-annual inspections and numerous irregular inspections during the year are made by the inspection of the Board. As a result, the improvement in the sanitary conditions of the shops in the industry has been very notable during the last ten years. There has been a steady reduction of the most important sanitary defects, but constant supervision is still necessary to prevent the minor violations which occur.

OCCUPATIONAL EFFECTS

There are comparatively few special factors acting unfavorably upon the health and physical condition of the workers. Owing to special conditions prevailing in the left district of Manhattan, there is a considerable fire hazard. The number of accidents is relatively small; these accidents that do occur are cuts from cutting machines, burns from pressing irons, and finger injuries from needles. There is very little danger from dust. Only the heavy materials, such as plush and similar cloths, produce dust. There is no danger from gases or fumes except leakage of illuminating gas from the pressing irons. Special investigations as to the carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide content of the air in certain shops made at

different times by, or with the cooperation of, the Board show no great hazard from these gases.

When work was done on the piece-rate basis, there was a considerable hazard from overwork and fatigue. Under the weekly wage basis, this has been largely eliminated. Insufficient and improper illumination is a cause of concern, and many workers are suffering from defective eyesight due to overstrain or glare. Defective seating arrangements resulting in faulty posture are a considerable hazard in many branches of the trade. The Board has made special studies of these conditions with a view to remedying them.

GENERAL HEALTH OF THE WORKERS

The general health of the workers in the women's garment trade in New York City does not appear to be worse than that of workers in kindred trades. Our figures show that only about 1 per cent of the workers have pulmonary tuberculosis. This is much smaller than the percentage found by the United States Public Health Service or by Dr. Landis Forester investigations, however, were based upon a comparatively small number of workers who were more or less selected from a physically inferior class. More-

over, the tuberculosis incidence rate has been greatly reduced during the last five or six years.

About 2 per cent of the workers suffered from pulmonary affections, notably fibroid phthisis, asthma, emphysema, and chronic bronchitis. This, also, presents a much smaller group than in former investigations. There were 550 cases of chronic cardiac disease among the 25,510 candidates for admission to the union. About 15 per cent of the persons examined suffered from some form of gastrointestinal disease, chiefly the neurotic type. About 25 per cent suffered from neurasthenia. This percentage, while considerably lower than that shown in former investigations, is still too great. The prevalence of this disease among garment workers is partly explained by racial and economic conditions in the industry. The other diseases that we have found quite frequent among our workers are rheumatic affections, various forms of neuritis, diabetes, and endarteritis obliterans.

We have not as yet undertaken the extensive task of studying in detail all our 50,000 records. The result of such a thorough study will undoubtedly be of greater value than our present preliminary survey.

COOPERATIVE NOTES

PLAN COOPERATIVE HIGH SCHOOL

No more pencils—no more books! No more teacher's angry looks!

Do you remember the jingle you used to sing at the end of every school term, as you stamped out of reach of terrible ogre that gobbled you up each day? That's the tune that a group of Minneapolis high school boys and girls are going to sing—but they are going to sing it at the beginning of the school term—not the end, and they are going to put the strong pedal on the last line while taking the terror out of the first.

There's a reason. Local 59 of the American Federation of Teachers, which includes many of the high school teachers in Minneapolis, Minnesota, is organizing a "cooperative high school" to be conducted jointly by the teachers, the students, and the community—without any principal. These union teachers have a deep-seated conviction that they can banish the "angry looks" forever if they can have the greater freedom and fun of teaching in a cooperatively managed school. And when the "angry looks" disappear, pencils and books will have a new charm for their pupils. Besides, the pupils will be helping to manage their own school—and there's a lot of difference in that kind of a school. Ask any boy!

Anyway, they have already set to work to organize the cooperative high school. It is to be directed by an executive committee, composed of five members. Two of them will be elected from the teachers' senate. The other three will be elected by volunteer organizations, representing the student body, a business administration committee and a conditions committee. As soon as they get their organization and school set up, there should be no great dearth of students.

GERMAN COOPERATORS HARD HIT

Cooperative stores are the only institutions in Germany which stand between the German people and the hungry wolves that howl at their doors, and they are having a bitter fight to maintain their existence. Not only has the wild inflationary policy of the government depleted the cooperatives' credit reserves, which before the war reached millions of dollars, but the cooperatives are being crushed under the burden of taxation which the government has inaugurated in an effort to reestablish its own pre-war strength.

Although the German Cooperative societies have done their best to keep pace with the continual depreciation of the mark, they are getting more and more out of breath. They are demanding that the government itself should supply them with working credits, since it is the government's policy which has so depleted their strength. Either the cooperative societies must be assisted, they are warning the government, or else they can no longer feed and cloth eight million families, thus creating the danger of pillage and riot to say nothing of more serious eventualities. A deposition of cooperators recently called upon the Minister of Taxation to utter a final protest against the crushing burden of taxes imposed on the business of the cooperatives by the bankrupt government.

The importance of the German cooperatives to the common people can be judged from the following figures of membership of some of the big city consumers' cooperatives: The "Produktion" of Hamburg, for instance, has 144,000 members; the "Prokon" members; Kiel, 35,000; Bielefeld, 30,200; Lubeck, 27,200; Bremen, 25,300; Bremerhaven, 20,000, and so on. In most of the German cities these cooperatives are the only means adapted for the popular distribution of food-stuffs. Their existence means the existence of the German people.

PRESIDENT SIGMAN WILL LECTURE SUNDAY, MARCH 2, AT 10:30 A. M., IN THE CLUB ROOMS OF LOCAL 1

President Sigman will give a course of three lectures on the Problems and Policies of the I. E. G. W. U., commencing with Sunday, March 2, 10:30 a. m., at the Club Rooms of Local 1, 1581 Washington Avenue, Bronx.

These three lectures will conclude a course of twenty lessons on "The Aims, Problems and Tendencies of the American Labor Movement, with Special Reference to the I. E. G. W. U.," given by Max Levin since November 2.

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JUSTICE

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EDITORIALS

AMERICAN LABOR AND THE BRITISH LABOR GOVERNMENT

To begin with, the British Labor Party is a party of workers, of wage-earners, of proletarians. We may dissent from many of their acts and the manner of conducting their affairs. This, however, should not in the least change our sympathy and admiration for them.

The strip of water which divides us is surely not big enough to estrange us. Still less ground is there for feeling bitter or envious of their great accomplishments, to try to belittle the achievements of the British Labor Party because we adhere to another point of view. An attitude of this kind is unbecoming our labor movement. Granted that we in America need not or cannot for the time being build up such a labor party, though very many active minds in our movement are of a different opinion, our own specific conditions cannot be accepted as a yardstick for other countries in which the economic and political relations are entirely different.

We do not imply in the least that we should not say what we think in regard to the English labor movement or that we are in any way bound to abstain from criticism of that movement. But our criticism of it must not be tainted with pettiness. It must be well-founded, and not be mere carping or fault-finding.

It is criticism of such a kind that we ran across in an editorial written by Chester M. Wright in the American Federationist for February.

Mind you, we find no fault with Brother Wright for believing that the political movement in England will bring no good whatever for the workers as wage-earners. He has a right to his beliefs, though we remember the time when Brother Wright claimed entirely opposite convictions, when he was connected in an editorial capacity with the New York Call. He believed strongly in independent political activity for Labor, and advocated that they scorn non-partisan politics. Yet, the fact that Brother Wright has changed his opinion in this respect does not in any way argue against him. But if Chester Wright is entitled to his opinion, is not the English Labor Party just as entitled to have firm opinions of its own?

Says Brother Wright in his editorial: "The American trade union movement has been considerably criticised by the British trade unions and their American friends. This alone would be ample justification for examination on our part of the result of this torch-bearing in England." Quite right. Criticism is at all times justified and welcome. Much to our regret, however, the criticism of Chester Wright aims at belittling things which in truth are not small. To make a caricature of something which in fact is very beautiful, is not criticism. Brother Wright begins his leader with the first sentence of Ramsay MacDonald's speech at Albert Hall: "We have been in battle and we have brought back the trophies." To offset the assumption of MacDonald that the English Labor Party came out of the last election a victor, Wright rushes to explain to us that the British Labor Party has been through a campaign from which it emerged with a slight increase in its proportion of the total vote (29 per cent to 31 per cent).

While these figures are unquestionably correct, they, however, are given in an ungenerous and unfriendly spirit. A friend would "examine the results of this torch-bearing in England" somewhat differently. To begin with, MacDonald obviously never meant by his first sentence to imply that the English Labor Party has already achieved all it wanted to. In many of the following passages of his speech, he states expressly that he regards the results of the last election as a mere beginning, as the first step. Let us quote a few words from MacDonald's speech which Brother Wright surely must have read, though he does not mention it: "We are a party," he said, "that away in the dreamland of imagination dwells in a social organization fairer than any organization that mankind has ever known. We are not going to jump there. We are going to walk there. We are upon a pilgrimage. We are on a journey. One step enough for me. One step, yes, my friends, on one condition, that it leads to the next step."

That ought to be sufficient to convince anyone that Ramsay MacDonald is far from believing that he and his party had reached the goal of their achievements. The first step has hardly been made, and to twist English Labor that they have only gained two percent of the total vote is anything but gracious. That this two percent was not of such small significance one might realize from the fact that, when Baldwin dissolved the last Parliament in order to catch the British Labor Party napping and to smash it as the party of His Majesty's Opposition, the Labor Party only had 44 members. Now, having increased its general vote from 29 to 31 percent, it has 192 members, an increase of 33 percent. These are not such trifling results when all is said, Brother Wright, and we

must not forget that this 31 percent means four and a half million Englishmen and women, four and a half million workers. As MacDonald said in that speech: "We have four and a half million electors standing steadily behind us in the country,—a very good beginning, but not an end by any means."

Brother Wright's bitterness is thus evident from the very beginning of his "criticism" of that great event in England which, in our opinion, is the biggest thing that happened in our age, even though personally our attitude towards political action on the part of the workers has always been negative. What happened in the last few months in England is the only ray of light in the last ten years of dark reaction the world over. Whether one believes in or disagrees with parliamentary activity for workers, it is a sin to attempt to deny its paramount significance. Let us listen therefore to our critic:

"There is sufficient evidence that the British Labor Party is already taking the first lessons in the fine art of carrying water on both shoulders. It is not so long since Philip Snowden introduced in the House of Commons his resolution advocating one hundred per cent socialism. It will be remembered that this resolution was made the official expression of the Labor Party and was the final phase in the slow but sure movement of the Socialist wing known as the Independent Labor Party to capture the whole British Labor Party."

"Following this the parliamentary campaign was waged largely upon the issue of a proposed capital levy. It was what we would call a paramount issue in an American campaign. The elections were scarcely over when the Labor Party spokesman began to reassure England and the world on this point. The capital levy is now something to be undertaken in the remote future, if at all."

We do not wish to be harsh towards Brother Wright, even if it is only for the fact that he is assistant editor of the American Federationist, and for his general work in the labor movement which we believe is very useful. But we must say that such criticism is highly unfair. To mention the Socialist resolution of Philip Snowden, thereby creating the impression that Snowden actually meant through that resolution to introduce one hundred percent socialism in England, means one of his two things: either to brand Philip Snowden and the entire British Labor Party as an aggregation of fools, or that Brother Wright considers his own readers hopelessly ignorant. The Snowden resolution was nothing more or less than some Socialist propaganda, and, for that matter, Snowden and MacDonald and all Socialists still adhere firmly to that one hundred per cent Socialist resolution. If Socialists believed in "all or none" Brother Wright may have had the right to mention that resolution. But the fact is that Socialists never believed in the "whole hog." They have had at all times a program of minimum, immediate demands and a program of maximum demands. The very fact that Socialists go into politics is in itself eloquent proof that in this respect they have adopted the point of view of all wise and practical trade-unionists—take all you can at this time, and then ask for more, and for more."

The principal issue of the last election in England was the capital levy. Brother Wright, and now MacDonald, allude concerning it. On the face of it, this looks like an indictment. But why not consider the circumstances? Brother Wright himself admits that only 31 per cent of the voting population of England voted for the Labor Party. How then can this party attempt to enforce an issue which was rejected by two-thirds of the voters? Suppose the Labor Party could have imposed this capital levy by sheer force upon the English nation. Would not Brother Wright be among the first to condemn them as Bolsheviks? If the Labor Party had actually been returned the majority party to the House of Commons and then not acted according to the mandate given to it by the people, it could have been branded as a traitor to its members. Today, when it is in such a precarious condition that it can be defeated on any serious division, all it can do is to make "the first step" in recognizing other faults which Brother Wright finds with the British Labor Government is that it declared the policy of not recognizing Russia as "pompous folly," and immediately upon entering office recognized it. The argument briefly runs like this: As the American Federation of Labor considers the present Russian Government as the greatest misfortune and tyranny which has befallen the Russian people, the English Labor Government should not recognize this tyranny, which is a danger for democracy and for the labor movement. But, Brother Wright, is the British Labor Party obliged to act strictly in accordance with A. F. of L. policy?

Ramsay MacDonald, as generally known, is not a Bolshevik. He is no less an opponent of Bolshevism than are Brother Wright and President Gompers. He hates the present Russian tyranny as much as all of us. But Brother MacDonald knows that "pompous holding aloof" will not improve matters one hair's breadth. He knows that Europe and the rest of the world need peace, and, as long as Russia is treated as an outcast among the nations, there can be no talk of peace for Europe.

So whether it pleases us or not, the present Russian regime has to be recognized. You cannot cut Russia off from the rest of the world, and it would be wrong to say that the decision of the Labor Government to recognize Russia came as a result of "cold-blooded appeal in behalf of a certain type of concession hunter and of a certain class which makes its political decisions on the basis of emotionalism and hysteria."

This can hardly be said of the British Labor Party. Least of all it has in mind the English concession hunter; it is the plight of the English worker and his horrible unemployment which weighs heavily upon its mind. The Labor Party believes that, by recognizing Russia, English and Russian workers will stand to win a great deal. Nor can it be said that the English Labor Government is hysterical from that. It is outspokenly anti-Bolshevik. This is what MacDonald has to say with reference to this question in his Albert Hall speech:

How to Help the German Labor Movement

By LEON CHASANOWICH

(Special correspondence to JUSTICE)

Berlin—The movement in America to help the German trade unions, endorsed by the American Federation of Labor and various other labor organizations, has prompted me to visit a number of leading labor officers in Berlin and to get their opinion on this matter. From my talks with these outstanding trade union leaders I learned: (1) that no direct understanding on this matter has been reached between the leaders of German and American labor, and (2) that such an understanding is absolutely necessary if this aid is to have the desired results.

The initiative in this situation comes from the Amsterdam International of Trade Unions and from the United Labor-Socialist International. The American Federation of Labor is as yet not affiliated with the Amsterdam International—for reasons probably well known to your readers. Nevertheless, Gompers and his associates did not find this a hindrance in their humanitarian move to help the needy trade unions of Germany, though as stated above without coming in touch with either of the above-mentioned two Internationals, and similarly without a direct understanding with the labor bodies of Germany.

Such a method of helping will probably not yield the maximum of result this movement might have brought about. Without planning and acting together with those who want this aid, the parties engaged in the task of raising help must of necessity work to an extent in the dark. As Walker, the secretary of the American Trade Union Federation told me: "We are in this case not subjective persons, but objective. We are not

acting, but it is others who act for us." It would seem that a feeling of modest pride prevents the German workers from crying out aloud for aid, and perhaps they are not hitherto for their organized employers to learn the extent of their present destitute condition lest the latter double the force of their attacks against them. They are grateful for all that is being done for them abroad but they are not eager to appear in the role of mendicants. This point of view is, perhaps, the right one, particularly when one is inclined to view the aid from America in the light of pure philanthropy, such, for instance, as the aid given by the Quakers to the children of Germany, etc.

If, however, this relief work is given a different social background and placed on a national basis, it can be made to look quite different and have an entirely different significance, so that the workers of Germany would have no reason to be in any way ashamed of being its recipients.

Let us, to begin with, be clear on two essential things: (a) The German labor movement needs at the present moment some substantial funds; (b) no matter how great this want is, it is nevertheless only of a temporary nature. In a previous article I have given details of the strength of the German unions before and during the first years of the war. If today they are "broke," it is due largely to their altruistic and patriotic stand in supporting the mark instead of investing in foreign currency. Notwithstanding the unparalleled industrial crisis, the German trade unions are still numerically the strongest in the world, and in such trades where there

is work, the workers are still contributing their union dues with scrupulous German punctiliousness.

There is no question but that it will take time before the German trade unions will again be in a strong financial position. But today they need some provisional funds to defend themselves against the concentrated attacks of capital. Such funds cannot be obtained through collections; it is loans that the German unions want, credit on recognizable terms, and there is no doubt that the German labor unions will pay back these loans in full provided they are given time. In Germany they cannot get such credits except at usurious interest rates. There is no reason, however, why they should not be able to obtain loans from trade union treasuries in other countries. Practically all the German unions have their own office buildings and halls and these can be offered as security for these loans.

Help through credit would be the proper and most effective form of aid; it would be the least offensive form, and would demoralize neither taker nor giver. Of course, there is something to be said about the fine spirit of help in every form extended by labor of one country to the workers of another. But there is hardly need of underscoring the point that such big help as the German workers want now could be served best through loans secured by the good will and faith and property of the German labor unions.

This is not only my personal point of view; it is shared by the most competent leaders of labor in Germany with whom I discussed this question. It would be best if the German Trade Union Federation had taken up no-

solutions to this effect with the American Internationals individually, especially with the bigger ones.

A move of this sort is now being prepared here. It would be worthwhile for the American trade unions to send over a committee to Germany to obtain a first-hand study of the local trade union situation and, through conferring with the leaders of German labor, to fix clearly to what extent this work of help for the German workers can be carried out in the form of credits and to what extent by means of donations. Such a delegation might be able to learn on the ground the extent of credit the German trade unions are entitled to and work out the conditions on which this credit be given.

I only wish to add that this proposal is not entirely new, that the German trade unions have already obtained in Europe some credits from outside labor organizations and that they consider these debts as sacred obligations. The German Federation is now completing its great home in Berlin largely with the aid of a loan which it obtained from a foreign labor body after the money assigned for this purpose was wiped out through the collapse of the mark.

This, however, is applicable only to the labor unions which have a regular income from own members, but which today are badly pressed for money and which can give substantial security for any loan extended to them. But the aid for the German Social Democracy will very likely have to take the form of help through donations and collections. Political parties cannot expect under the best of conditions to be able to raise sufficiently big sums in the future to be able to save for repayment of debts, and, on the other hand, the sums which the German Social Democracy needs for its work are not so unduly big that they cannot be raised by voluntary contributions from abroad.

Postmortems

By Z. W.

It occurs to me at times that it would be highly proper to organize a committee on a national scale, with branches in every city, town and village, to protect the memory of the dead.

It makes one shudder to think of the way we treat our departed. Not only do we bury them seven-foot underground, but we allow every Tom, Dick and Harry to weep post-mortems and write sappy eulogies over their graves, that would doubtless kill the helpless victims once again were they able to hear or read these.

It should not be thus. The departure of a human being should be as noiseless an occasion as his arrival. Without braggadocio and tom-tom beating, and with the least possible noise and ostentation.

It is a coarse business, this funeral procedure as it is conducted among us.

Just think of the amount of stupid praise and not less idiotic invective which in our day is being hurled against the coffin of a departing celebrity. How much nonsense, fiction and plain villany is poured out upon the fresh memory of a fallen giant!

Who, for instance, would have dared to write or speak, within their ears, all that has been written or said about either Wilson or Lenin while their bodies still lay in state? It might not be a bad idea to enact a law providing for post-mortems to be published in advance, while their subjects are still alive. For, as a matter of fact, they are usually prepared long before the person in question is dead. Our newspapers, as a rule, have these eulogies written and stored away, so as not to be caught napping when such a person of note makes up his mind to take a sudden leave.

"The pompous folly of standing aloof from the Russian Government will be ended—ended not because we agreed with what the Russian Government has done. This is not our business. I would like to know when a Liberal or Tory Government in its international relations always drew the line at Governments for whose every act they were prepared to make themselves responsible. I want trade? I want negotiations. I want a settlement from the coasts of Japan to the coasts of Ireland."

Then there is a great question that afflicts us at home, mixed up inextricably with foreign affairs—the question of unemployment. We have touched upon the major points of Brother Wright's criticism, and we reiterate that in principle no one may object to criticism of the British Labor Party or any other workers' group. We are only sorry that his criticism is not what usually passes under that heading, that it does not contain a single convincing argument. Had Brother Wright at least been an anarchist and a non-believer in political activity for workers, we could have understood him, even though we might not agree with him. But this is not the case. Brother Wright believes in politics, but his is the non-partisan, the impartial, so to say, labor branch of politics, consisting chiefly in appeals to the established political parties for concessions and aid, in return for which the workers are expected to vote for the political party best favoring labor. Without going far into the discussion of these two branches of political activity,

Such a measure, if enacted, would give the celebrity in question a chance to read what the world has to say about him or her—and, perhaps, an opportunity to make some commonsense corrections. They might rid these post-mortems of wild exaggerations and stupefying inferences of either satanic or angelic motives, the product of criminal naïveté or no less criminal malice.

That would make the dead appear to us somewhat more human. For, no matter what I may think of a Wilson or a Lenin, I cannot subscribe to

the common opinion that either of them had harnessed life in reins of their own making and stored it at the dictate of their own sweet or evil will. If a single individual could either cure or kill the world, our little planet would have been a very simple unspiculated place to inhabit.

Meanwhile, let us find means to silence the post-mortems. It is unfair to the dead and nauseating to the living. Let us leave the task of their appraisal to the historian. It is mean business to take advantage of those who cannot strike back.

BOUND VOLUMES OF "JUSTICE"

The management of our Publication Department has had a number of complete sets of "Justice" for 1923 bound and ready for sale.

As the number of these books is limited, secretaries of locals and individual readers who desire to obtain a 1923 volume for a very moderate price, will at once get in touch with the office at 3 West 16th Street, New York City.

It seems to us that the kind the English workers are pursuing is a good deal more dignified.

What concerns practical results, one can hardly say that organized Labor in America has gained more politically than organized Labor in England. The results of the political activity of Labor both here and in England are still in the lap of the gods. Perhaps the present Labor Government in England will be able to accomplish a little for the workers. Perhaps entering into practical politics will demoralize the British trade-unions. All these, however, are mere presumptions, and to criticize such a big and vital movement on the basis of mere presumptions is in our opinion somewhat premature.

On the other hand, it would be unwise for the American Labor movement to rush into imitating their English brothers. The political and economic conditions in both countries are very much different, and what may succeed in England might be a failure in America. Again, the British Labor Party is in England the result of a long development and, given the best of intentions, Labor in America cannot expect to accomplish in the near future what has been possible in England. What American workers should do is watch with clear and unspiculated eyes all that is transpiring in England in the near future, and then form its opinions, not on the ground of assumptions, but on the basis of concrete facts.



IN THE REALM OF BOOKS



Posterity Says

Poor White. By Sherwood Anderson, New York: B. W. Huebsch, 1920.

By SYLVIA KOPALD

"Poor White" was offered to the public in 1920. It was one of the straws which showed that the winds of thought were blowing in new ways among us and it made a stir. Many times since its appearance I have heard it discussed, thought about it, and planned to read it. Yet it was not until 1924—four long years after its appearance—that I actually turned its pages. And in these years of crowded literary reaping, four years mark a long, long time.

There was in this situation, I know, both a danger and an advantage shading over my belated judgment. To take up a book after hearing it highly praised and frequently discussed is to threaten oneself with disillusion. Realization proverbially falls short of anticipation; edged expectation usually brings dulled fruition. Only the masterpieces of the ages can survive in temperate praise. On the other hand, such a delay in reading a much discussed book may lend perspective. The heat of discovery has cooled. "Epoch-making events" have become recitative history. The belated critic has become posterity; and modern posterity knows how to show the mere past its place.

I, then, am posterity. I have read Sherwood Anderson's much discussed first novel. What has posterity to say in judgment?

"Poor White" remains an important book. It survives time far more tri-

umphantly, I feel, than does "Main Street." The acid of the latter added a phrase to the American language; the understanding of the former added illumination to the American heart and soul.

There is more to the contrast than even this; although in the first difference lies its greatest significance. "Main Street" is a monument of painstaking detail; it builds from without in. We know Carol and Doc Kennicott and their Main Street circle because Sinclair Lewis records so faithfully in some 600 pages the externals amid which they move. The slam of the store door each night, the smell of tobacco, the dirt behind careless fingernails, the cut of midwestern cold; out of these things Main Street is built. Sherwood Anderson works from within out. In some 200 pages, lean pages he spreads almost a half-century of American life before us, with its vast and disturbing transformations. He moves from the south of the poor white, to the Ohio of the "Up and going" north; and New York flashes in and out of the pages. From the America of the handcraftsman and farmer to the America of investor and business promoter and financier. And always through the mirror of men's souls. From within out. It is stirring art.

Inarticulate Hugh, poor white and self-made inventor with his aspirations and desires and inadequacies is

clear-eyed and unafraid, knows that a moving figure. Clara Butterworth, the only way to accept life is by embracing its fundamentals and rebelling against its form. Poor harness-maker Joe, over-sensitive artist that he is cannot accept the success which the hated new order brings him. And of all the town of Bidwell only these three of the principals really belong in the race of men. The others are touched by the curse of business, and whoever business captures for its own is spoiled by that Midas touch.

There is something refreshing in the scorn which Anderson pours upon American businessmen. A stillness gathered over the land; men's homes mellowed and a sense of waiting hovered over them. Art was waiting to be born. Instead the ugly god of business stretched forth his hand. And everywhere men reached out eagerly for it. Steve Hunter and successful Tom Butterworth are symbols. They and others like them spread the lie through the land: we of the itching palm, we of the acquisitive bent—we are America's great. Publicity men arise whose sole task it is to cry the lie aloud, to hurl it from sea to sea, to engrave it upon men's minds by the sheer din of constant, loud repetition. Certainly there is nothing of greatness in Tom or Steve. They win their place by sharp dealing by utilizing Hugh, by sheer chance and guesswork. They are mean and fleshly and calculating. The little touches with which Anderson paints them are sometimes diabolical in their ferocity. The farmer's daughter whom Steve purchases for his mistress with two new dresses, the union with which he disposes of his sister, Tom's only pet, and his self-satisfied grasping at the main chance, his "back-door milliner"—by such little things Anderson strips off the layers of pretense in which they swathed themselves and shows them for the mean little things they are.

But all the people who move through this changing America are

drawn with equal insight. From the workers who are brought to agree unwillingly with the union agitator, to the farm hands who stir restlessly because the dream of Clara's development from hunger, uncertain Hugh, to hungry, sure-handed Clara, these people, creatures of a man's imagination, become as real as we creatures of another, perhaps diviner, imagination can grasp be.

Anderson has a disconcerting way of speaking of the "man Hugh" and the "woman Clara"—later "the woman Clara"—"her man, Hugh." It is funny how such designation can add to our sense of dealing in absolute fundamentals. The man Hugh keeps the inventor an individual, and yet in some subtle way reduces him to an atom of the mass. There is something basic and age-old in "the man" which takes from us that specific dress of time and place that makes us Hugh and Clara and Joe and Anna.

And this is a symbol of Anderson's strength. Individuals are products of a past and creatures of a present, and yet distinct individuals. High art draws them in all their aspects. Anderson is somewhat too prone to reveal them thus for what they are by using the terms of sex experience. Probably no other human experience reaches as continually to the root of life, and yet there are dangers in this absorption in one phase of human experience. Anderson himself proved its dangers when he wrote "Many Marriages." But Anderson, like America is developing. "Poor White" begins with the America of lean and sallow farmers, passes the America of thoughtful inventors, and ends with the America of Hugh, whose newest invention is simultaneously discovered by a man in Iowa and the businessmen Steve and Tom, who seek with their accumulated funds to "beat the Iowa inventor out of it." Sherwood Anderson knows his changing America. America is watching its growing, developing Sherwood Anderson.

Adventures in Housing

By FRANCES ROBBINS

To me, a stranger, the wide prosperous business streets, the magnificent town hall and library, the post office, the beautiful shops, the suburbs, made the town seem very attractive. But now, after a residence of several months, disillusion has set in and a sense of outrage has succeeded a feeling of pride. For, only a few streets distant from the show avenues and even on the outskirts of the town, dwell factory workers and laborers under conditions unspeakable.

Therefore, when an editor in a near-by town asked me to write a story on housing in this city, I jumped eagerly at the opportunity. In my leisure time, I had written special articles for newspapers and had enjoyed doing them. But one's first real assignment is something quite different and altogether terrifying. To go from home to house, gathering statistics on rents, size of families, number of rooms, etc., may sound very interesting, but it also requires courage.

Not being a very brave person, the hovels and shanties of this Connecticut city seemed more alarming than the worst slums of New York City.

But the story had been promised. The editor wanted figures and facts, not a psychological treatise on "Fears." And so, after promouncing up and down the street three or four times, I entered a dark stairway that led to a group of unsavory tenements above dingy stores. Knocking hesitantly at the first door, I found myself facing a large comfortable woman, who looked too well-to-do to be worrying about rents. A few ques-

tions served to disclose the fact that the woman owned the house and the store beneath. Beating a hasty and rather undignified retreat, I tried a similar flat in the next house. No one was at home except an old Jewish woman, who understood enough English to escort me through the place and answer a few questions in a rather bewildered fashion. Twenty dollars for five gloomy unheated rooms, only two of which had windows. Poor soul, her embarrassment on showing me the horrible toilet in the hall was no less than mine on viewing it.

Having made a fairly good start, the other visits were easier and conducted in what I fondly believed to be a very professional manner. It was cold day and almost everywhere I was courteously received and invited to sit down and warm myself. One gent little woman with a remarkable brogue even offered me a cup of tea. She was a garrulous old lady with a biting Irish tongue, which she used scathingly on the fortunately absent landlord. For her four rooms (only three of which were livable) she had paid eight dollars only six years ago. For these same rooms, heatless, gasless, bathless, she now paid eighteen dollars. With her stick she pointed out gaping holes in the walls, windows loose and broken, plaster cracked and patted over with colored Sunday newspapers.

It was she who directed me to the flat above, where I found a colored family of six living under far worse conditions. For three dilapidated rooms, they paid twenty dollars. The small kitchen store shed a meager heat around which huddled a man, woman

and three children. On the draughty, splintery floor crawled a wizened little picaninny. Their landlord was the man the Irish crone had spoken of, who hated "niggers" except when he could get a higher rent from them than their white neighbors. It isn't only Harlem profiteers who exploit them in their helplessness.

On another afternoon I went through the Polish and Italian quarters. I shall never again feel quite as distressed about the teeming population of the East Side after wading through such a mass of filth, dirt streets and alleys, visiting homes in damp cellars or up rickety stairs into filthy tenements, all bathless and all with toilets in the yard,—and at rentals that would cause any self-respecting East Side landlord to raise his rents immediately! One can hear him, "Look, ain't you got paved streets and a sewer and a bathtub and a sink and a toilet in the house?"

Late that afternoon I was directed to Shanty-Town, a group of about ten tumble-down cabins, raising themselves like brown mushrooms above the mud flats on the Sound. At one side ran a creek reeking with the waste from an adjacent dye-works. It was almost dusk as I tremblingly approached the first house. A large kindly man answered my knock and smilingly inquired as to my errand. His wife evidently resented me and glared at my routine questions. Both began to answer but the man's voice was the louder and I learned that the house was owned by the factory people, that he paid ten dollars a month rent, that the family consisted of two adults and seven children. The tiny low rooms were filled to overflowing with odds and ends of furniture, drying clothes and heavy smells of dead but not forgotten meals. Where and how they slept is a mystery I never shall solve, for the wife hustled me

out, and explained ungraciously, "The landlord's very good to us. We wouldn't want him to think we was complainin'." (Good to them! Ten dollars for that appalling pigsty!)

When her husband tried to soften the effect of my unwilling exit, she screamed, "Shut up, you lazy loafer. Want us thrown into the street!" Considering that the family was about \$4.50 on a week-day afternoon, the poor woman may have had some sound basis for her charge of laziness. He may have had more spare time than she to develop that engaging pleasantness. When she discovered the name of my paper, she shrieked, "I don't like that rotten paper, anyhow!" and shut the door an inch beyond the tip of my nose.

Six children, surprisingly red-cheeked and husky, conveyed me through the mud to the carline, audibly commenting the while on my various articles of apparel. I smiled goodbye at them but my only reply was a derisive, "Gwan, mind your own business!"

Thus ended ignominiously my series of housing investigations. I boarded the car with a sense of righteous indignation against all landlords. And if ever I have enough money to build homes for the poor, I shall begin, not in a crowded city slum, but in the suburbs, whither the reformers urge the city workers to migrate, where they and their children may enjoy "God's free air and sunshine in the Great Out-doors." Bunk!

HALF-RATE TICKETS TO SYMPHONY CONCERTS

The Educational Department and the various local union offices have seasonal cards for distribution to international members. These cards entitle our members to half-rate tickets for the State and Philharmonic Symphony concerts.

LABOR THE WORLD OVER

FOREIGN ITEMS

FRANCE

FRENCH EMPLOYERS AND THE FRANC.

It is very instructive to watch the attitude of the "Journée Industrielle," the organ of the French capitalists, as the franc falls lower and lower. The employers have hitherto lauded Poincaré to the skies, which is not surprising, seeing that they determine his policy. But then they began to be a little less agreeable; for they realize that the present development may cause depreciation of their enormous profits. While the German industrialists looked calmly on at the fall of the mark, knowing that in the long run the people would be the chief sufferers, the French employers, since their own man is at the helm, throw their influence on the side of the State.

They were anxious that even now the workers should begin to shoulder the burden. "La Journée Industrielle," which has said so much about the "active and efficient" government of Poincaré, now cries out in alarm: "Will they act?" and makes use of the following argument: "Take care! What will be our relations with Germany in a few months' time when she may have reconstructed her finances, and freed herself from national and foreign debt? She may then be able to get foreign money and credit, while France is refused them?"

This, thinks "La Journée Industrielle," would be a calamity which must be avoided at all costs. Therefore it is that the paper urges the nation "to do what is asked of it," and to shrink from no sacrifice that may serve to bolster up the falling franc. The same number quotes various reassuring statements made by the leading industrialists, calling attention to the flourishing condition of French trade and industry. But, reading between the lines, it is plain to see that these comforting reminders are not intended to show the man in the street that French industry can be relied upon for help in time of need: they are merely meant to smooth the way for Poincaré's subsequent announcements, and to gild the pill that is being concocted for the nation's ills.

For the money which is needed for the "deliverance" must be raised, partly from consumers by higher taxation, and partly by mulcting the officials, old people and others who are entitled to pensions. Finally, in order to reward the great industrialists for the sacrifices which they have not made, they are to be granted monopolies.

Two days later, then, "La Journée Industrielle" was as much in love with Poincaré as ever, and was, indeed, thanking him for his "courageous" measures. "Le Temps" is "rejoiced that the Government has abandoned its scheme of social insurance." That means that it applauds Poincaré for being heroic enough to lay the burdens where they should be, namely, on the backs of the workers.

THE RECONSTRUCTION SCANDAL OF NORTHERN FRANCE.

For months past various French newspapers have been raising their voices against the many scandals of the reconstruction policy of the French Government in the devastated areas. Their protests have at last compelled the French Government to appoint a Commission of Enquiry, which is now taking energetic steps to investigate the matter, aided by those of the inhabitants and industrialists of Northern France whose indignation has been aroused by the flagrant injustice of the compensation policy. According to the latest reports, no less than 20 milliards of francs have been obtained from the Government by fraudulent representations.

It is also stated that large quantities of iron (about 1100 trucks) which were delivered by six German towns for the use of certain of the towns of Northern France have been fraudulently diverted from their destination and shipped abroad from Calais, Dunkirk, etc. The usual procedure of these shameless profiteers is to force those war victims who are in financial straits to sell them their delivery warrants for a mere song. The amount of money out of which these unfortunates have been swindled in respect of this iron stunt alone is said to be eight millions of francs.

GERMANY

GERMAN RESISTANCE TO THE LENGTHENING OF WORKING HOURS.

The National Council of the German General Federation of Trade Unions has recently discussed the attacks of the employers upon the eight-hour-day, and has adopted a resolution protesting against the provisions of the new decree regulating working hours, which in numerous cases leave it to the option of the employers to observe or disregard the statutory eight-hour-day. The Council considers that this disregard of the workers' right to be consulted is an infraction of the constitution, which expressly guarantees the workers cooperation in the regulation of wages and working conditions.

The National Council declares that it is the duty of the unions to hold fast to the eight-hour-day (which in clause 1 of the new decree is once more recognized as the statutory working day), and not to permit this maximum to be exceeded. Any extensions which are necessary must be only provisional, and must take the form of overtime work.

At the general meeting of the Berlin Trades Council, Leipart, the President of the Federation, spoke on the same subject. He called attention to the fact that in 1918 the employers declared that the shorter working hours would be practicable for industry provided that foreign countries also adopted the same system. The first official assault upon it might be traced to the Government Note of November, 1922, addressed to the Reparations Commission, in which there was mention of new regulations for working hours in connection with the work to be done for reparations purposes.

Leipart proceeded to explain the various regulations, placing special emphasis upon the fact that agreements fixing working hours have the force of law. The views which were being so zealously spread among the industrialists, that they might order an extension of working hours on their initiative, were absolutely false.

Press Bureau, International Federation of Trade Unions

DOMESTIC ITEMS

BACK PAY SUIT LOST BY RAILWAY SHOPMEN.

Federal Judge Dickinson has dismissed the \$15,000,000 back-pay suit that system federation No. 90 (shop men) started against the Pennsylvania railroad.

The claim was for the difference between wages set by the railroad labor board, and wages set by the railroad's company "union." Judge Dickinson ruled that federal courts have no power to enforce decisions of the railroad labor board. The federation system will appeal the decision.

One result of the trial that is of value to the organized workers is the statement by a Pennsylvania railroad official that the expenses of company "union" representatives are paid by the railroad when they are negotiating wage rates.

Robert V. Massey, general manager of the eastern region of the Pennsylvania railroad, made this acknowledgment under cross-examination by the shop men's attorney.

This is proof that the company "union" is a good investment for the railroad as the management has saved \$15,000,000, less the few hundred dollars it expends on company "union" representatives while they are housed in fine hotels and smoke good cigars during a wage conference.

FARM TOOLS FIRMS USE TRUST METHODS.

A complaint against leading agricultural machinery makers and implement dealers for maintaining a conspiracy by cutting off machine supplies to farmers' cooperative associations has been issued by the federal trade commission. The firms include the harvester trust, Moline Plow Company and Deere & Co.

The associations "maintained a system of espionage," the complaint asserted, over the entire industry to cut off the supply of implements not only to cooperative associations but to "irregular" dealers who would not maintain the price and profit levels of the organized members.

WORKERS' PENSION LEADS.

The steel trust announces that it has paid \$1,448,112 in pensions to "more than 4,000 employees" during the past year.

If the number were exactly 4,000, this would mean an average pension of \$362 for the year, or \$6.98 per week. If the pensioners total more than 4,000—which is quite probable—the average is less.

The public press makes friendly comment on this paternalism of the steel trust, that is committed to the anti-union shop.

As against this pension, stands the pension of \$8 a week which the International Typographical union pays to every member.

HIGH BALDWIN PROFITS.

The annual report of the Baldwin Locomotive Company promises to surpass the most rosy estimate. Net profits, it is stated, will exceed \$10,500,000, a new high record. This is declared to be conservative.

FOOD PRICES GO UP.

During the year period, January 15, 1923, to January 15, 1924, food prices increased in the following cities, according to the bureau of labor statistics: Springfield, Ill., 8 per cent; Peoria, 7 per cent; Cincinnati, Columbus, Milwaukee and Omaha, 6 per cent; Denver and Louisville, 5 per cent; Indianapolis and Jacksonville, 4 per cent; Bridgeport, Detroit and Manchester, 3 per cent; Boston, Butte, Charleston, New Haven, New Orleans, Norfolk and Washington, D. C., 2 per cent; Fall River, Providence and Scranton, 1 per cent; Richmond and Rochester, less than five-tenths of 1 per cent.

PRIVATE COMPENSATION URGED BY BUSINESS MEN.

Business interests in Washington and throughout the nation are urging congressmen to oppose the Fitzgerald compensation bill, which prohibits private concerns from writing compensation to injured workers in the District of Columbia.

Business men favor the Underhill bill, which permits private concerns writing this insurance. These advocates declare that Congress has no right to injure a private business—the business of living off the injuries and misery of helpless workers.

DEATHS IN MINES.

There were 2,413 men killed in coal mines last year, according to reports received by the Bureau of Mines. Coal produced in this period totalled 641,476,000 tons, or a fatality rate of 3.82 per million tons, as compared with 4.15 for 1922.

This is a reduction of 8 per cent in the fatal-accident rate per million tons of coal produced in 1923, and is equivalent to the saving of 210 lives, the bureau points out.

INDUSTRY'S VICTIMS ARE PAID MILLIONS.

More than \$83,000,000 has been paid to the victims of industrial accidents in Pennsylvania in the past eight years, according to Gabriel Moyer, manager of the state insurance fund.

During this period there have been 20,463 fatal accidents, more than 100,000 serious accidents and more than 1,500,000 accidents of all degrees of severity. In 1923 there were more than 3,000 fatal accidents and more than 110,000 serious accidents.

More than one-half of the total money paid has been to widows and orphans, Mr. Moyer said.

8,000 TEAMSTERS STRIKE.

Eight thousand members of Teamsters' Union No. 731, in Chicago, suspended work to enforce a wage increase of 51 cents a day and reduce the work day from nine hours to eight hours.



EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES

An Outline of the Social and Political History of the United States

Outline of a course given at the Workers' University, Season 1921-23, by Dr. J. H. Carman.

Complete outline of this course in a 48-page pamphlet may be obtained at the office of the Educational Department, 3 West 16th Street, at 10 cents a copy.

(Continued from last week)

Lesson 7—The Old Order and the New Democracy

- I. The old order.
- II. Attacks upon the old order.
- III. The new Democracy helps elect frontiersmen, Andrew Jackson, President of the United States.

Lesson 8—Jackson and the New Democracy

- I. Andrew Jackson and the Spoils System.
- II. The Tariff and Nullification.
- III. Jackson and the United States Bank.
- IV. Jackson and Internal Improvements.

V. Jackson's measure angered the financial interests, and certain of the Western farmers, and they organized the Whig Party to oppose him and his followers.

Lesson 9—The Struggle for the Great West

- I. The Middle West.
- II. The Far West and the Southwest.
- III. Our Strained Relations with Mexico during the last few years.

Lesson 10—Sectionalism and the Civil War

- I. Slavery—North and South.
- II. The Drift toward Civil War.

Lesson 11—The Results of the Civil War

- I. The Supremacy of the Union.
- II. Destruction of the Slave Power.
- III. Triumph of Industry.
- IV. Victory for Protective Tariff.
- V. A Liberal Immigration Policy.
- VI. The Homestead Act of 1862.
- VII. Internal Improvements.

Lesson 12—The Political and Economic Revolution of the South

- I. The South at the Close of the War.
- II. The Restoration of White Supremacy.

III. The Solid South.

- IV. The Economic Advance of the South.
- V. Social Effects of the Economic Changes.
- VI. The Revolution in the Status of the Slave.

Lesson 13—

- I. Business Enterprise.
- II. Population 1860-1920.
- III. Railways and Industry.
- IV. Corporations and Development of Monopoly.
- V. The Corporation and Labor.
- VI. Cities and Immigration.

Lesson 14—The Republican Party and Big Business

- I. The Republican Party Supreme, 1861-1885.
- II. The Growth of Opposition to Republican Rule.
- III. The Republican Party Again Supreme, 1896-1912.

Lesson 15—Half a Century of Exploitation of Natural Resources

- I. Importance of Problem.
- II. Our Natural Resources.

Lesson 16—The Era of Criticism and Reform, 1870-1923

- I. After the Civil War, the American people began to be more critical of their institutions.
- II. Manifestations of Unrest and Criticism.
- III. Reforms Undertaken.

Lesson 17—America, A World Power

- I. America, from the first, has been a world power.
- II. America, too, has been imperialistic.
- III. Territorial Acquisition, 1865-1923.
- IV. America and the World War.
- V. The struggle for markets and power continues.
- VI. The future of America.

Dr. Stolberg's Course in the Workers' University

We want to call the particular attention of our members to the lectures to be given by Dr. Benjamin Stolberg in the Workers' University on Saturday afternoons at 2:30.

Dr. Stolberg has made an intensive study of the organization, tactics and development of the most important labor unions in America. His articles on this subject have been published in many important magazines, and they have been received as authoritative interpretations of certain sections of the American Labor Movement. Dr. Stolberg attended the recent convention of the miners' union, and reported the proceedings to a monthly publication in America. He will deal with the entire problem of the miners' organizations at one of the discussions in his course.

B. VLADECK WILL START HIS COURSE WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, FOR OUR MEMBERS IN BROWNSVILLE

Wednesday evening, February 27, B. Vladeck will start his course on "The Rights and Duties of Union Members." The course will be given in the Brownsville Labor Lyceum, 219 Sackman street, Room 405, 8 p. m. The lectures will be continued in the same place and at the same time for several weeks.

The purpose of the course is to dis-

In addition to discussing the situation among the railroad unions and the miners' unions, he will also take up the situation in the meat-packing industry.

Many of our members understand that intelligent action on the part of the labor movement in America requires a clear knowledge of the psychology and activities of the various important organizations. From that point of view, those of our members who are particularly interested in this problem will find Dr. Stolberg's course of great importance. They will hear not only the facts in the case, but also a clear analysis of the forces which are contributing to the development of the American Labor Movement.

cuss the rights, duties and obligations of a trade union member. The lecturer will stress the principles of straight thinking and effective presentation of one's thoughts, and the audience will be given an opportunity to ask questions which will be answered by the lecturer.

Admission is free to members of the I. L. G. W. U. For further information apply at the office of our Brownsville local unions or at the Educational Department, 3 West 16th street.

Weekly Calendar

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

Room 529

Saturday, February 23

- 1:30 p. m. J. H. H. Lyon—Social Forces in Contemporary Literature—The Modern Novel—Balsac.
2:30 p. m. Benj. Stolberg—The Labor Situation in Basic Industries—The Railroad Industry.

Sunday, February 24

- 10:30 a. m. A. Calhoun—Social Institutions.
11:30 a. m. H. J. Carman—The Development of Modern Europe.

UNITY CENTERS

Monday, February 25

- Harlem Unity Center—P. S. 171
1034 Street near Fifth Avenue, Room 406
8:30 p. m. Max Levin—History, Aims and Problems of the American Labor Movement with Special Reference to the I. L. G. W. U.
Brownsville Unity Center—P. S. 150
Christopher Avenue and Sackman Street, Room 204
8:30 p. m. Sylvia Kopald—Economics and the Labor Movement.

Tuesday, February 26

- Bronx Unity Center—P. S. 81
Cretona Park East and Charlotte Street, Room 511
8:45 p. m. Sylvia Kopald—Economics and the Labor Movement.

Wednesday, February 27

- East Side Unity Center—P. S. 63
4th Street near 1st Avenue, Room 404
9:00 p. m. A. L. Willbert—Modern Economic Institutions.

English is taught for beginners, intermediate and advanced students, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.

EXTENSION DIVISION

YIDDISH

Saturday, February 23

- Local 9—228 Second Avenue.
1:00 p. m. Max Levin—Modern Economic Institutions.
Sunday, February 24
Club Rooms, Local 1—1581 Washington Avenue
10:30 a. m. Max Levin—The American Labor Movement.
Clinton Hall—151 Clinton Street, Room 47
12:00 M. H. Regoff—Civilization in America.

Wednesday, February 27

- Labor Lyceum, 219 Sackman Street, Brooklyn
8:00 p. m. B. C. Vladeck—Rights and Duties of Union Members.

Thursday, February 28

- I. L. G. W. U. Building—3 West 16th Street.
Lecture for Shop Chairmen and Executive Members, Local 91.
4:00 p. m. Max Levin—Aims and Problems of the American Trade Union Movement.

ENGLISH

- Local 17—Reefer Makers' Educational Center
142 Second Avenue

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

RUSSIAN

Friday, March 7

- Russian-Polish Branch—315 E. 10th Street
8:00 p. m. K. M. Oberucheff—Trade Unionism in the United States and Europe.

Friday, February 23 and 29

- Labor Lyceum, 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

BOSTON

- Wednesday, February 27
Local 7, 21 Essex Street.
6:00 p. m. Lawrence G. Brooks—Labor Banking.

PHILADELPHIA

- Monday, February 25
Local 50, 1018 Cherry Street
7:30 p. m. B. Glasberg—Social and Trade Union History.

ALL LECTURES IN ENGLISH UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED. ADMISSION FREE TO THE MEMBERS OF THE I. L. G. W. U.

Sunday, March 2

- Town Hall—113 West 43d Street.
3:00 p. m. Concert by International Chorus, directed by Leo Low, with Bronislaw Huberman, Soloist.

The Why of Labor Banking

By HARRY W. LAIDLER

The most unique recent development of a semi-cooperative nature in the trade union movement has been the organization during the past few years of labor banks. For years labor in the United States, both through its trade union treasuries and through the individual earnings of its members, has possessed a great potential borrowing and lending power. This power has never been utilized. The trade unions have deposited their thousands, and in some cases their thousands, of dollars in various capitalist banks, while individual union members have made in the aggregate even larger deposits.

Many factors have forced trade union leaders to begin to mobilize labor's money in behalf of labor. Unions have often been unable to obtain credit during strikes, while the money which their members deposited has been put at the disposal of the employers whom they have been fighting. Trade unionists have witnessed the large profits which banks, with their rapid turnover, have been able to make for their owners. Why, they have asked, should not some of these profits be diverted to labor? They have become convinced that the power in their hands of making loans could often be made an instrument for inducing employers to adopt a more favorable labor policy, where now it is used almost wholly against labor. They have come to the conclusion that the way to democratic self-government in industry lies through constantly increasing the control of labor over an ever larger number of industrial and financial functions, and that labor banking would help to do that. The financial difficulties lately encountered by foreign born workers in sending their money to their relatives in other countries, especially to Russia, through the channels of the ordinary bank, have given an added impetus to the movement.

MACHINISTS LEAD THE WAY

The International Association of Machinists was the first to mobilize its credit resources. It obtained an interest, through the purchase of stock, in the Commercial Bank of Washington, D. C., and ultimately acquired sufficient shares to hold the balance of power in this bank and to dictate its management and personnel. In May, 1920, the Machinists organized a bank of their own, the Mt. Vernon Savings Bank, asking outsiders to come in, though the organization held a majority of the stock.

The next and more significant experiment was that of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, the most powerful of the railroad workers' organizations, and one that, until recently, has been regarded as among the most conservative of the American trade unions.

THE RAILWAY BROTHERHOODS FOLLOW

In November, 1920, a few months after the formation of the Mt. Vernon Savings Bank, this union organized a bank of its own, called the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers Bank, at Cleveland, Ohio, with a capital of \$1,000,000. This bank, in contradistinction to that of the machinists, was a hundred per cent trade union bank, the majority of stock being owned by the Brotherhood itself, and a minority by individual union members. The local Cleveland bankers fought the bank quite bitterly for a while, but have since stopped their open opposition. Its business grew so rapidly that, by the beginning of 1923, its assets had increased to nearly \$15,000,000. The union, as a result of its initial success, later purchased one of the most beautiful bank buildings in Cleveland to house its Euclid Street branch. It is constructing a twenty story bank and

office building for its central organization, has purchased a large interest in one of the prominent New York banks—the Empire Trust Company—and is opening banks in New York and in other cities.

FEATURES OF LABOR BANKS

These banks are not pure cooperatives. They have been described as an example of "trade union capitalism." The trade union owns the majority of stock, and dominates its control, obtaining one vote, as in other private corporations, for every share of stock owned.

These banks, however, have some cooperative features. Their dividends are limited to ten per cent, and all over and above this goes to depositors in proportion to their deposits, and to the spreading of the banks' facilities. While the policy of these banks in investing and lending money has been a cautious one, they have had frequent occasion to make loans to those whose sympathetic labor stand had earned them the enmity of other banking institutions, and to refuse those concerns which had definitely aligned themselves with the anti-labor forces. They have been able to help the working in the building of homes, and to assist a number of cooperative enterprises.

THE AMALGAMATED AND OTHER BANKS

The third large international union to enter this field is the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America. In July, 1922, the Amalgamated opened a bank in Chicago, and in the spring of 1923, another one in New York.

Other organizations have caught the banking fever. The large central trades council in New York City has recently been instrumental in organizing the Federation Bank; New York locals of the International Ladies' Garment Workers, the International Union Bank; railway workers of Minneapolis, the Railway Brotherhoods Bank, while the Railway Clerks of Cincinnati and other groups were in the fall of 1923 planning further labor banking undertakings.

ADVANTAGES AND DANGERS

Will a peep into the banking world and acquaintance and friendship with the banking interests tend to make trade unionists more conservative? Will their desire to do nothing that may disturb the growth of their banking institution tend to lessen their militancy at critical periods? Or will the wakers up by the trade unions of an additional industrial function and the demonstration that the workers are capable of managing a great, mysterious enterprise formerly left to respected financiers what their appetite for further conquests? Will they succeed, or will they commit blunders which may discredit the whole labor movement? Time alone will tell. In the meanwhile, labor banks should guard against a number of dangers. Among these dangers are the following:

- (1) That of hiring, on the one hand, friends of the trade union movement who are inexperienced in banking, or, on the other hand, bankers with little sympathy with the ideals of trade unionism;
- (2) That of lending large sums of money to cooperatives, to officers or to friends of the union on insufficient security, because of a generous desire to help the individuals or institutions applying for loans; or, on the other hand, lending to business men whose interests might be seriously affected by a strike or other action of the union in control of the bank;
- (3) The placing of union banks under financial obligations to interests ordinarily opposed to organized labor;
- (4) The tying up of union funds in

РУССКО-ПОЛЬСКИЙ ОТДЕЛ

УТВЕРЖДЕНИЕ ДЕЛЕГАТОВ ДЮМОНТ БОРА НА 1924 г.

Общественное собрание делегатов Дюмонт Бора на 1923 и 1924 годы в пятницу, 15-го февраля, было одним из значительнейших заседаний этого движения в нашем районе. Заседание это было во духи критичности: во первых был утвержден делегат в Дюмонт Бора на 1924 год, который представляет ореховки и статистический работа заключенных новых депортации во всем количестве нашей индустрии с более выгодными для рабочих условиями, так как в старые законы включаются а менее жесткие этого года, и в случае необходимости быть как забастовочный комитет в борьбе против производства и переплате копейки; во вторых из состава этого Дюмонт Бора был выбран американский делегат, который так или иначе придется руководить той или иной формой борьбы и привести соответствующую работу армии до победы над ним.

Вследствие позднего времени было решено на этом собрании выбрать официальных лиц только за 3 главных должности в Дюмонт Бора, а именно: Президента, Управляющего и Секретаря. На первую должность был избран брат Н. Сташневич, на вторую брат Н. Фаберже, а на третью брат З. Лаптев; все вышеупомянутые братья были избраны единогласно и без всякой оппозиции. Выбор остальных официальных лиц будет произведен на следующем собрании Дюмонта.

Все ораторы отметили весьма продуктивную работу как администрации так и делегатов Дюмонт Бора за прошедший 1923 год, извывая и то же время глубокого сожаления, что в новый состав Дюмонт Бора будет так же усиленно вест работу именно как в старом.

Но было скрыто и то обстоятельство, что настоянию составу этого административного учреждения нашего района предается известия на своих печатях о огромную работу по реорганизации нашей индустрии предпринят в этом году.

Поздней отеч, включая имея официальных лиц, которые будут выбраны на следующем собрании Дюмонт Бора, будет известен на следующем общем собрании отдела в пятницу, 7-го Марта.

В ПОЛЗУ ГОЛОДАЮЩИХ ДЕТЕЙ.

Базар, устроенный в настоящее время в Градх Паласе, на 46-ой ст., в пользу голодающих детей Европы, заслуживает гораздо более вниманья, чем представляет к нему наша обыкновенно отчужденная интеллигенция.

Как уже сообщалось, предпринято это устраивается «благотворным комитетом различных организаций» г-н. Ниса Норка с целью помощи голодающим детям Европы. Докладчиком, что детей изголодавшихся в Европе теперь «насчитывается около 65,000 детей и если эти помощи не придет, то большинство из них погибнет.

Нам Дюмонт Бора принимает такое деятельное участие в этом предпринимает и прочее, что очень приятно видеть по-настоящему серьезную работу этого предпринимателя.

securities which cannot be readily turned into cash during an industrial crisis;

(5) The recruiting of depositors primarily from one industry of trade. For in such a case it is conceivable that too great a demand on the bank might be made during a strike, lock-out or period of unemployment in the industry.

Furthermore, trade union officials should not ordinarily try to combine direction of a union with the responsibility for running a bank, nor should they ordinarily receive salaries both from the trade union and the bank. Lack of harmony among trade union groups cooperating in the running of the bank might at times lead to disastrous results.

или устроившего с высокой степенью организованности и благожелательности.

Все собрание, имея Градх Паласе заложив всевозможными способами и путем до бешеного до автомобилей. Дюмонт на складывается так много Вы можете во многих случаях купить на рынке и нежные по обыкновенной стоимости.

Отделом распространяется тотальная масса книги, включая минимал отделе нашего района, брат Шустер и тем товарищам, которые нуждаются в этом для более особенно рекомендуются посетить базар в том же зале, который был заложил на этот раз участие друзей как изумительного искусства.

Базар будет открыт каждый день до 24-го февраля, с 12 ч. дня до 12 ч. ночи.

Вход 50 центов.

Наконец-то вообще, а наши товарищи в частности сделали свою долю доброго дела — подали огромное количество денег бедней. Опередила за нами.

Ч ИТАТЕЛИ БИБЛИОТЕКИ ОТДЕЛА ТОВАРИЩЕЙ

На прошлом собрании Исполнительного Комитета Русско-Польского Отдела было решено пополнить нашу библиотеку; для того чтобы это сделать было экономно и успешно, надо прежде всего знать какие именно книги нас недостает, потому что было поручено принять самые серьезные меры к тому чтобы книги, необходимые у читателя очень долгое время, были возвращены в библиотеку Отдела.

Присутствующая редакция выдала книгу, а в следующем заседании, что большинство книг находится на руках от одного до трех с половиною лет без возврата.

Исполнительный Комитет дал нам возможность принимать все меры к возврату этих книг, а также до публикации в газетных или товарищеских не возвращаются книги и до образования в соответствующих отделах с просьбой выслать стоимость этих книг.

Прежде чем принять столь строгие меры и наказать интеллигенцию на товарищеско-интеллигентский с просьбой «возвратить эти книги в возможно скорей порядке» или по крайней мере сообщить о судьбе книги; но к сожалению большинство товарищей не знали книги, но только возвращать книги, но даже ответить на письма.

Потому, дабы избежать себя от лишнего в ненужных неприятностях, а если от и высокой степени неприятной «обязанности» предпринимать изумительные меры против нас, поспешите возвращать все книги, которые находятся у нас в руках, да прежде всего уведомить нас, да прежде всего уведомить куда именно Вы будете в состоянии их возвращать.

М. Шевченко, Секретарь.

ВНИМАНИЮ ЧЛЕНОВ Р.П.О.

По случаю праздника, день рождения Нахичевана, в пятницу, 22-го февраля, открытое общее собрание отдела не состоится. Следующее собрание отдела будет в пятницу, 7-го Марта, в 7:30 вечера.

SAFEGUARDS

However, the banking laws in most states and the regulations of the Federal Reserve Banks and other systems will generally prove a sufficient safeguard against unsound investments. The unions in most instances have thus far chosen technically trained bankers of broad social sympathies to conduct a technical side of their business, and whether trade union officials handle funds on a large scale, whether as investors of union funds, or as borrowers—bank or no bank—they are confronted with the most of the dangers catalogued above. Furthermore, the privilege of redepositing notes in Federal Reserve Banks makes for safety.

The Week In Local 10

By JOSEPH FISH

Due to lack of space in the last few issues and to the fact that quite a number of important events have occurred in the trade, such as the demand for increases by the cutters, etc., we have been unable to publish the yearly reports of our manager any sooner. We now give the reports for the Cloak and Suit and Waist and Dress Division for the year 1923, as presented to the membership by the manager at the meeting on January 28th:

YEARLY REPORT — JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1923

CLOAK AND SUIT DIVISION

COMPLAINTS

(1) Boss is doing the cutting. No cutter employed
Unfounded—Cutters were found working 291
Cutters were placed to work 70
Firm paid fine and cutters were placed to work 42
Firm paid fine 88
No cutters to be gotten 11
No work in shop 181
Shops on strike 7
Non-union shops 14
Receive cut work 14
Out of business 23
Security forfeited and stopped off shops (jobber) 1
Do not work on stock. Make models only 1
Shops burnt down 4
Retail stores 2
Pending—Newly settled shops 2
Total 772

(2) Boss is helping cutter at table
Unfounded—Cutter is doing all the cutting 10
Instructed 21
Paid fine 2
Agreed to employ additional cutters 3
Total 46

(3) Non-union cutter employed
In favor of union 58
Unfounded 61
No work in shop 12
Non-union shops 3
Out of business 2
Jobber (house dresses) 2
On strike 2
Total 139

(4) Cutters were not properly paid for overtime
In favor of union 10
Unfounded 1
Pending 1
Total 12

(5) Firm refuses to pay wages due cutter
In favor of union 28
Firm failed (case referred to Meyer London) 1
Pending 1
Total 30

(6) Firm refuses to pay cutter the minimum scale of wages
In favor of union 8
Unfounded 1
Pending 1
Total 7

(7) Firm offers to pay less than agreed upon
In favor of union 3

(8) Firm refuses to pay at holiday rate
In favor of union 5

(9) Firm deducted for mistake
In favor of union 3
On strike 1
Total 4

(10) Cutters were discharged
In favor of union 47
Unfounded 6
Impartial chairman decided that cutter is to stay out 1

Dropped (men failed to appear at office to take up cases) 3
Complaint not justified 1
Total 58

(11) Equal division of work
In favor of union 26
Withdrawn 7
Total 33

(12) Cutter is member of firm
Unfounded 16
Called before Executive Board—five expelled and two taken off jobs 7
Non-union jobber 1
Pending 1
Total 25

(13) Firm sends its work to a non-union shop
In favor of union 1
Unfounded 2
Firm was fined \$75.00 1
Total 4

(14) Firm receives cut work from a non-union jobber
No work in shop 1

(15) Cutters violating union rules
Adjusted in favor of union 41
Unfounded 29
Cutters summoned before Executive Board (cases held for investigation) 2
Cutters fined \$25.00 1
Cutters fined \$150.00 1
Cutters fined \$50.00 1
Non-union shops 4
Out of business 1
Total 80

(16) Cutters to be stopped off from work for failing to take out their union books
In favor of union 55
Cutter is out of shop 16
No work in shop 36
Out of business 5
Total 112

(17) Cutters to be stopped off from work for failing to pay fines imposed upon them by Executive Board
In favor of union 6
Cutter is out of shop 6
Out of business 1
Shop moved; address unknown 1
Pending 1
Total 15

Total number of complaints filed to December 31, 1923, 1,245.
Total number of complaints adjusted to December 31, 1923, 1,238.
Total number of complaints pending from December 31, 1923, 7.
Total number of complaints filed in year 1922, 1,432.
Total number of complaints filed in year 1923, 1,245.

WAIST AND DRESS DIVISION YEARLY REPORT—1923

COMPLAINTS FILED FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1923

Boss is cutting—no cutter employed
Unfounded—cutters were found working (some of these cutters had no working cards) 271
No work in shop (being followed up) 389
Firm paid fine 59
Firm gets cut work 42
Withdrawn—no evidence 21
Instructed (most of these firms claim they had cutter but failed to keep a record of their names) 36
Out of business 54
Open shops 38
Firms out of association 35
Firm cut work during strike 2
Shops called on strike 2
Tucking and hemstitching shops 4

Firm is a bundle contractor 1
Pending 11
Total 1057

Boss is helping cutter at table
In favor of union 2
Unfounded 8
Instructed 6
Total 16

Cutters discharged
Reinstated 37
Collected compensation in lieu of discharge 12
Dropped—cutters left shops 5
Cutter unassisted 1
Withdrawn—temporary employment 4
Firm out of business 1
Shop, ordered on strike 2
Pending 1
Total 63

Equal division of work
Unfounded 2
In favor of union 13
No work 1
Dropped by consent of D. D. 3
Cutter received compensation and left shop 1
Pending 2
Total 22

Non-union cutters employed
In favor of union 79
Unfounded 23
Pending 1
Total 103

Cutters have no working cards
In favor of union 31
Cutters out of shop 4
No such shop on record 1
Total 36

Cutters violating union rules
In favor of union 14
Unfounded 5
Dropped when strike was declared 2
Total 21

Firms refuse to pay wages due cutters (regular and holiday rate)
In favor of union 73
Out of business 2
Case dropped by cutter 1
Filed with Local 22 1
Shop declared on strike 1
Referred to lawyer 1
Total 79

Cutters did not receive proper pay for overtime
In favor of union 13
Unfounded 2
Dropped when strike was declared 1
Referred to lawyer 1
Total 17

Reduction in wages
In favor of union 5
Open shop 1
Total 6

Firm refuses to pay increase to cutters
In favor of union 1
Dropped members employed

In favor of union 14
Unfounded 1
Total 14

Firms hire cutters every week
In favor of union 3
Cutters are members of firms 1
In favor of union 1
Unfounded 1
Total 6

Cutters to leave jobs as per decision of Executive Board
In favor of union 1
Cutters to be stopped immediately to straighten out their accounts with Local 10
In favor of union 126
Pending 1
Total 129

Cutters to be stopped—they failed to pay fines imposed upon them by the Executive Board
In favor of union 5
Pending 2
Total 7

Complaints filed from January 1 to December 31, 1923, 1,587.
Complaints adjusted from January 1 to December 31, 1923, 1,567.
Total complaints pending from December 31, 1923, 20.
Total Complaints filed in 1922 1,155
Total Complaints filed in 1923 1,587



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582 PROSPECT AVENUE
382 EAST FOREMAN ROAD
BROOKLYN
1128 FIFTH AVENUE
D'BARNEIT L BECKER
OPTOMETRIST OPTICIAN

Elias Lieberman LAWYER

366 Broadway Tel. Franklin 2283
For many years manager of the Dress and Waist Makers' Union

CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10

Notice of Regular Meetings

REGULAR MEETING.....Monday, February 25, 1924

Meetings Begin at 7:30 P. M.

AT ARLINGTON HALL, 23 St. Marks Place