

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

—Job 27.6

JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LA

WORKERS' UNION

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

Vol. VI, No. 12.

New York, Friday,

Price 2 Cents

How Small the Mighty Look!

In the last two weeks, the center of interest in the news from Germany has been the trial in Munich of Ludendorff, whom the idol of the German people.

Ludendorff—what a name! A great genius, a supreme strategist, a veritable god of War.—Germany, big and small, believed him to be.

But today, as he stands stripped of his gold braid, on trial for treason to his Fatherland for the part he had taken in the "Beerhall Putsch" aimed at the overthrow of the German Republic, all Germany is coming to see what a man of clay he is.

Every word he has uttered from that stand has branded him as an ass; every phrase of his only substantiates the suspicion that he is a colossal fraud. Germany is discovering that her idol is but an old, dilapidated blabber.

That much for one figure who had played such an important part in the world and had contributed so efficiently to its total of woe.

But he is not the only one, and Germany is not the only fertile ground where "heroes" grow.

Just look around our own parts. Only a short while ago President Coolidge was regarded as a man of iron nerve who had the courage to rebuke even a unanimous Senate when it ran counter to his judgment. Coolidge was riding on the crest of a popular wave and was by far the leading candidate in the race for the Presidency.

And what about him today? Today, we see the President of the United States bossed around by a local district politician. We see that the President dare not appoint a small official without the sanction of this local boss. This boss, too, has publicly branded himself as a liar and is wholly saturated with the stench of oil. It is from him that our President is taking orders; it is to him that he sends telegrams, after this gentleman had proved himself a prevaricator and a person who should be shunned in ordinary honest company.

Is not this enough to make every American citizen bow his head in shame! Mr. Calvin Coolidge, the President of the United States, exposing himself as a messenger boy for a Ned MacLean!

Some people, true not many in number, have known for a long time that our Government has been a tool in the hands of an "invisible" group, and that this invisible government had the real power in its hands while the visible automata merely danced as the strings were pulled behind the curtain. These few, endowed with keener vision, have therefore understood that it is silly and futile to attack the visible authorities, as it was too clear that they had been mere putty in the hands of the real powers behind the stage. These persons knew that only a fight against the invisible sinister forces, against that all-powerful clique, was the only fight worthwhile.

But, pray, has anyone ever listened to the voice of those few? They were regarded as insane, as "anarchists," whose fond dream was to convert our planet with its great and wonderful civilization into a pile of debris.

Will their voice receive greater attention now that the abject supineness and humility of our visible governors has been so amply demonstrated by Coolidge's messages to his boss?

The startling events that are taking place in Washington these days should serve as the best eye-opener for the great blindfolded mass of the American people. But whether they will or not is open to doubt. The trouble is that most people have become so accustomed to darkness that rays of sunshine only hurt and annoy them and they are striving their best to avoid seeing the bright truth. Old prejudices and beliefs are still dear to them, too deeply ingrained in their systems. They fight against truth because truth is painful.

S. Y.

All Other Union and Trade News on Page Two

Work Cloak Manufacturers Asked To Confer On New Agreements

Invitation Signed by International and Cloak and Dress Joint Board

A few months from now, the trade agreements between the Cloakmakers' Union of New York and the employers' associations in the industry will come to an end. In union circles, discussions about the renewal of these agreements and the incorporation in them of some substantial improvements have been going on for some time past.

As our readers know, the General Executive Board of the International has prepared a program of demands to be put to the New York cloak employers to be made effective in the cloak industry as a means of improving the condition of the workers and stabilizing the industry. Rather than leave the negotiations concerning these industrial reforms to the last moment, the Union thought it better to begin discussions at once, as our organization prefers to have ample time to prepare for any possibility that might develop in the course of these conferences.

A few days ago, therefore, President Sigman and General Manager Israel Feinberg, acting respectively for the International Office and for the Joint Board of the Cloak and Dress Makers' Unions, forwarded a letter to the three associations in the industry calling them to conferences to discuss the renewal of the agreements between them and the Union. The letters were sent to the Cloak, Suit and Skirt Manufacturers' Protective Association; the Merchant Ladies' Garment Association, the jobbers; and to the American Cloak and Suit Manufacturers' Association, the sub-manufacturers. It reads as follows:

"In view of the approaching

termination of the collective agreement between our respective organizations, we would suggest an early conference between a committee of your Association and a similar committee of our Union, for the purpose of considering terms of a renewal agreement.

"In submitting this suggestion, we are animated by a desire to remove all uncertainties as to the future arrangements between employers and workers in our industry in time before the beginning of the next season, and to insure its continued and undisturbed operation.

"If our proposal meets with your approval, we would suggest that the executive officers of our respective organizations arrange for the time and place of the first meeting of the conference in the very near future.

"Very truly yours,
INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION,

JOINT BOARD OF CLOAK,

SKIRT, DRESS AND REEFER MAKERS' UNION,

By ISRAEL FEINBERG, Manager."

As stated above, the letter was sent to all the associations in the industry, but that does not mean that they have all been invited to a joint conference. It is addressed to each association individually and, as soon as replies are received from them, the time and the place will be fixed for meeting each of these individually for the purpose outlined in the communication.

Chicago and Boston Strikers Waging Hard Battles

President Sigman Left for Chicago—Ninno and Dubinsky in Boston

The striking dressmakers of Chicago and Boston are engaged in a difficult fight with their employers who are turning a deaf ear to their demands and would rather spend tens of thousands of dollars in attempts to break these strikers than to grant the just demands of their workers. But the strikers in both of these cities are equally determined to stay in the fight until they return victoriously to the shops.

Last Tuesday afternoon, President Morris Sigman left for Chicago to take stock of the situation and to help bring the strike to a successful finish. On the whole, from latest reports to

reach us, the Chicago conflict is in good shape, despite the fact that the local employers are fighting desperately and have on their side the police who persecute the strikers as only Chicago policemen know how. The effect of this bounding, however, has been just contrary to the expectations of the bosses. In the course of this week a number of workers who have still remained in some shops, hesitating to join the strike, joined the strikers. Meetings are held daily in all the strike assembly halls, where they listen to addresses by the leaders of the fight against the dress bosses and

(Continued on page 2.)

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.

INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR

This Week Twelve Years Ago

Tickets, Including Wardrobe, 75 Cents

FROM OUR JOINT BOARDS AND LOCALS

In the Chicago Joint Board

By M. RAPAPORT, Secretary

At a regular meeting of the Chicago Joint Board local, held on Friday evening, February 15, 1924, at the headquarters of the Union, A. Forlani, member of Local 5; S. Sapienza, M. Malanga and Natalie Jiamona, of Local 18, and L. Menino of Local 59, appeared before the Board as a committee on behalf of the Italian members of the Union to request the Joint Board to sanction the organization of an Italian branch. They claim that the Italian members of the Union do not attend meetings and are not active because they cannot understand the language in which the meetings are conducted. For that reason they want to have their own meetings, and also to help in organizing the Italian workers.

The Joint Board, in discussing the request of the committee, decided that a meeting be called of the Italian members as soon as the opportunity presents itself.

Brother Feistelson, as one of the committee that was appointed by the Joint Board to work in connection with the Chicago Federation of Labor in reference to the new moving picture that will be shown under their auspices, reports that March 17 has been set aside as a special night for our Union to see it. The Joint Board should be interested in seeing that the members attend the showing of this picture which is of valuable character and educational to the labor movement.

Brother Rapaport, secretary of the Joint Board, reported on the mass meeting held on February 9, 1924, with the members of the cloak trade, at which President Sigman spoke on the ten points submitted by the General Executive Board. He outlined the conditions that prevail in the cloak industry in Chicago as well as New York, and touched upon the greatest evil in that industry today, which is the jobber and the subcontracting system. He dwelt at length on this question, and said the International is prepared to find ways and means of meeting this situation at the expiration of the present agreement.

He also spoke on the various demands put forth by the General Executive Board, which had been accepted by the New York Joint Board;

namely, the time period of employment, protection of the minimum scale, unemployment insurance, and the forty-hour week, which he considered of main importance for the welfare of the workers of the cloak industry. He urged that these questions be taken back to the locals and discussed at every meeting in order that the members shall be able to get an intelligent understanding of the proposals submitted. In the near future these questions will be submitted to the membership for approval.

At the Joint Board meeting on Friday evening, February 22, a communication was received from the expelled members in which they stated a determination to do everything in their power to help in the coming strike of the dressmakers, and declared their willingness to undertake whatever task the organization may assign them to. They also ask the complete reorganization of the expelled members with full rights within the Union.

The communication was placed on file. The reinstatement of these expelled members is now out of the hands of the Joint Board, and they can only apply for the reinstatement direct to the International. In reference to their activity in the coming strike, all those who care to do anything in this connection will report to Brother Feistelson, the chairman of the general picket committee.

Brother Blais reported that things are busy in the cloak industry right now, and it looks as if the season will be a pretty fair one.

The raincoat makers still find things very slow, however, and the Union is trying to confer with the raincoat manufacturers on getting the government order to Chicago which will enable those in the raincoat industry to have plenty of work.

The same slack is evident in the ladies' tailors' trade, he reported. The strike situation in Kenosha is about the same as it was in the past. The firm has a little more work at the present time and is trying to engage scabs to work in that shop. Brother Blais urged that it is necessary to send a man out there for a while to take charge of the situation.

Among the Skirtmakers

By LOUIS PINKOVSKY

This is the first time, since I became manager of Local 23, that I am using the columns of our paper to speak to the members of the local.

The members of Local 23 surely know that, owing to the amalgamation of the two dressmakers' locals, a number of our former members had to transfer to Local 22. In their new local these men and women are continuing to be active in their Union as they used to be in Local 23.

The skirt trade is now quite busy. Whether or not workers are earning good wages it would be difficult for me to say. I have not been in the office long enough to be able to make a thorough comparison between the earnings of this season and of the preceding one. All I ask of the skirtmakers is that they keep close to the office, come there as often as they can, and bring all complaints and grievances directly to us.

At our last meeting, we discussed

the recommendations of the General Executive Board for the new agreement in the cloak and dress industries. It would be well for all our members to come to meetings now in particular when these burning problems are under discussion. We shall have another exchange of opinion on this subject at the next meeting and we should like every worker in the trade to be present at these meetings.

In speaking of these ten demands, I desire to express my opinion concerning the first of them, the one referring to the limitation of the number of contractors for jobbers each season. It may answer the problem of the cloak contractors quite adequately, but it does not cover the suit contractors, because this contractor does not get his work directly from the jobber but from the cloak contractor who works for the jobber. Our executive board will take up this question shortly and we shall make an attempt to clear up this point insofar as it affects the skirt contractor.

In Local 3

By DAVID RUBIN

About three weeks ago we had a general meeting in Bryant Hall to discuss with our members the ten demands our Union intends to present to the cloak manufacturers when the negotiations for a new agreement get under way shortly.

The meeting was attended by at least four hundred men who crowded the hall to its capacity. We were disappointed to learn that President Sigman, who was at that time in Chicago, could not speak to us on this subject, but were quite content to get a lucid explanation of all these points, particularly the demand relating to an increased minimum wage scale, from Vice-president Feinberg. He made this demand so clear to us and its benefits to the workers and the organization so convincing—that every one of our members, without exception, voted for it.

Before the discussion on these demands began, we discussed local problems. The first on the order was the right to make samples. We wanted to settle this question once for all—as to who is entitled to sample-making in the shops—the members of Local 3, the sample makers, or the operators. Another question was the formation of sample departments by jobber firms. According to the opinion ex-

pressed by many members, such an innovation would not only rebound to the benefit of the members of Local 3 but would have a favorable effect on the entire Union.

It was a successful meeting in every sense of the word, and we owe it, to a great extent, to Brother Feinberg's able and convincing presentation of arguments in favor of the new program of the International, a program towards which our members were not entirely favorable before this meeting.

Next Saturday, March 15, the organization committee of our local will hold a very important meeting to prepare the special demands of our own organization so as to be able to present them to the next general meeting of the members for discussion.

We are approaching very earnest moments in our Union and we desire to notify our members that they will soon be called upon to make very important decisions for themselves. When they get notice of the coming meeting, by mail or through announcement in the press, they have to leave every other engagement aside and come to it. Remember, we have a big and vital task on our hands and when duty calls us, we must not and shall not shrink it.

In Local 38

The nominations for delegates of Local 38 to the Jubilee Convention of the International in Boston next May will be the main business at the next general member meeting of the local on Tuesday evening, March 18, at 8 o'clock, in the Harlem Socialist Center, 62 East 106th street. It is urgent

that there be a full attendance of all the members in view of the importance of choosing men who will represent the local most ably and most faithfully.

The meeting will consider in addition several matters of great importance to the local.

COOPERATIVE NOTES

A COOPERATIVE STORE THAT

FLOATS

"It floats, it floats."

This time it is not ivory soap that we are talking about, but a cooperative store. A cooperative store that travels by boat up and down the Murray River, carrying by water a treasure-trove of common everyday sort of needs that the farmers round about would otherwise have to do without.

This romantic cooperative store lives down in Australia. It is owned by the Cooperative Society of Adelaide, which is the capital of South Australia. One of the largest cooperatives in that great continent, the Adelaide Society, has 100,000 members and runs twenty-eight different cooperative stores throughout the city. Thousands of prosperous farmers, living along the banks of the Murray

River, which passes through Adelaide on its way to the sea, wanted to gain the benefits of service and economical buying which their city friends enjoyed. Because they didn't get into the city, the cooperative society decided they would carry a cooperative store to them. So it purchased a ship, fitted it up with store-rooms, refrigerators, a warehouse, and counters, stuffed it full of the goods that farmers want, and sent it on its way.

Each day of the week, at certain hours, this floating shop appears at different spots by the river bank and the farmers round about come and make purchases. The ship is a veritable bazaar, for it not only supplies groceries and provisions, but earthenware, iron goods, fabrics, and clothing. When the farmers want to buy things out of the common run, like sewing machines, washing machines, etc., they order them from the catalogue and the machines are delivered on the next trip. And so the ship does good service among the scattered population, for whom this means of shopping is cheaper than road transport.

JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

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MORRIS SIGMAN, President.

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

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Advantages of Cooperative Housing

By JOHN LA RUE

Are you a tenant and long for deliverance from rapacious landlords? There is a way out for you! You can lay aside your yearning to profit at some one else's expense and are of the type that believes in social rather than private ownership. Thousands of American workmen are becoming interested in group ownership of their homes, as they have been launching their own banks and expanding their labor unions.

The recent exhibit at the Russell Sage Foundation showed to more than 3,000 visitors what workers had done collectively by buying old tenements and remodeling them, or by building their own model homes. Examples were on view of how hundreds of persons of small mean, professional workers and wage-earners, by putting from \$200 to \$1,000 into the first capital to finance 100 per cent co-operatives, were solving the pressing housing problem for themselves.

Sung in their collectively owned homes, these far-sighted workmen had eliminated the landlords; they held 99-year leases on their apartments, their rents were normal, they were secure from eviction if they met their obligations to the group. For their rents instead of rising were certain to decline over a period of years under proper management. They were no longer isolated from their neighbors but part of an intelligent, alert community, interested in civic welfare. They were casting away their selfish, inconsiderate and careless tenant ways and were becoming home makers and builders.

The details of the plan are well known. They are available to all those who can read and study. They have been thoroughly tested by thousands here and abroad.

The first essential for those who wish to escape from the aporeticity of tenancy is to find a similar group of congenial persons, some union that has a common bond or interest. They then agree to form a genuine cooperative housing association, establishing a corporation under the State laws. The law in New York as well as other advanced States is drawn to protect the co-operators from schemers.

The next step is the advancing of capital, each of the group contributing some of the sum, for which they receive stock in the corporation. On this investment they get the regular rate of interest, six per cent more than they could get by placing it in the bank. Usually they can get from two-thirds to three-quarters of their capital in first and second mortgage loans. On this also interest must be paid. Other charges must be considered for the up-keep of the building.

Care must be taken in the purchase of property. As a rule a building or plot of ground should not be bought at the top price. The best of friendly expert advice should be obtained. Property should be acquired that will increase in value and remain socially desirable in the future.

When the property has been acquired, an estimate must be made of the probable operating expense, including interest on capital, taxes, insurance, light, coal, janitor service, repairs, sinking fund. On this each member's share of rent is based, each paying in accordance to the number of rooms he occupies.

For the first years the actual rent would probably not be less than the private landlord would collect, but the service would be better. As interest charges are met and the mort-

gages paid off, the cost would decrease constantly. Rents in some co-operatively owned houses are uniformly less than in private houses. But in twenty years rents now \$50 a month are certain to decline to \$25 under good management.

Just what are the risks of such an enterprise? The risk is limited to the amount of capital each shareholder puts in. Just as in a private corporation, the total financial responsibility is less than one assumes in trying to buy a one or two-family house in the suburbs. The risk is less than that assumed by investments in a private corporation, for while the interest on the capital may be the same, a cooperative investor benefits not only through the advantages of living in a house managed in his own interest, but has an equal voice with every other stockholder in the corporation in which he has his savings. One man one vote is the rule. Under the cooperative regulations, no director gets a salary. There are no profits to divide among insiders. A manager may be hired just as a Unit House or a union may have a manager, but the advantages are shared by all.

Those who desire to make money out of such a plan are not wanted. Saving money is the object through patronage. The evil of subletting, of profiting at some one else's expense is barred in a cooperative house. When a member wishes to leave, he gets his original investment back, minus any charges. The apartment goes to the association and must be sold at the original rent to some person on the waiting list who is acceptable to the directors. Most co-operative houses have a waiting list. At the end of the year any surplus earnings may be distributed to the apartment users, in proportion to the rents they paid. The surplus may be used for educational purposes or for improvement of the property.

The basic principles for cooperative associations suitable for large cities like New York, Chicago and Mil-

waukee have already been formulated, so that any socially-minded group that knows its own worth and earning capacity can now safely launch a cooperative enterprise.

Exact information can be obtained from the Cooperative League, at 167 West 12th street, New York City. Incorporation under the State laws is comparatively simple and the by-laws are such that genuine co-operators observe them fully. Committees should be appointed to investigate the existing houses to see what has been done and how the experiments can be improved upon. These committees report what they have discovered to their associations. They set to work and before long they are living better than they ever lived before.

By this means of self help, in time thousands of cooperatively owned houses will grow up in the cities. The actual risk is only that personal risk, which is assumed by every civilized community or self-governing group, the personal equation. People should get along alone under the his or miss plan of private ownership; it seems certain they would get along much better under a social plan.

By cooperative methods it is possible to take over old tenements and remodel them. It is possible to build new houses and manage them economically by squeezing out the landlord's profit. It is possible to build blocks of houses as the Finns did in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, in ten years. It is possible to develop small garden communities in the suburbs.

But first and foremost, the group to begin with must be sincerely co-operative and united in spirit. As explained in the literature available to everyone and demonstrated by scores of actual houses standing and successfully operated houses, there is nothing difficult about having a cooperative model home, if tenants have the will to help themselves and follow the path that has been blazed for them by the pioneers of the cooperative movement.

Fighting for 48 Hours for Women

Report of the Conference in Albany, February 26, 1924

By MARY GOFF

Once again women from various spheres went to Albany to inform the Joint Labor and Industries Committee of the State Legislature, of the vital needs of both the 48-hour and the minimum wage bills for working women. There were eighty-five representatives of industrial, political, religious and social organizations who were united on this legislation.

Big business was on the job as usual in the person of Mr. Mark Daly, the spokesman for the Associated Industries, who read a lengthy report in which he stressed the point of view of his clients. At the very outset, he announced that a forty-eight hour week is "economically unsound." Curiously enough, in order to escape the main issue, he proposed, only at the conclusion of this report, that an investigation be made of hours and industrial conditions. His aim was to establish the contention that a forty-eight hour week for women in industry, will create unreasonable hardships for the captains of industry. He maintained that workers do not understand what these bills mean. We assured him that it may be true that workers do not comprehend the technical terms, and have no conception of the red tape and the political tricks that every safe-guarding measure is subjected to, but they feel the results of the drudgery of a long day's work for which they hardly earn enough to maintain themselves in decency.

Another distinguished gentleman represented the Chamber of Commerce. He also failed to bring forth

anything in opposition of the two bills in question, except the same old reiteration which he and his associates have been uttering for the last thirteen years, and stated that upon investigation, it was found that the home conditions were detrimental to the health of the working women, rather than long hours. We suggested as a remedy to the great philanthropist that better wages might mean better home conditions.

The old cry that the textile industry will have to be moved out of the Pennsylvania district, was met by a very able representative of the United Textile Workers, Mr. McMahon, their president. He brought forth undisputed statistical data, and emphasized the enormous dividends the textile industry yielded to the owners.

The "Equal Rights" brigade was in full force at this hearing, where they succeeded in lining up with a few other women who were under the influence of the "Equal Rights Complex." Though some of them admitted that they did not represent any industrial group, they had the audacity to propose an amendment to the forty-eight-hour-week bill. They asked that the word "workers" be substituted for the word "women," so that both male and female should be included in the bill. We did not hesitate to inform the ladies of the National Women's Party (our worthy opponents) that the working women were there to speak for themselves and for the thousands whom they represented.

The arguments presented by the "Equal Rights" aspirants were un-

questionably logical and most amusing. One lady nervously suggested that we needed quality because women predominate over men. Was the lady pleading for the rights of man, we asked? We agreed with her that perhaps in domestic or matrimonial affairs the fair sex had the upper hand, but at that time we were just concerned with women in industry. We assured them that the men would insist upon their rights without the assistance of these delicate creatures.

Our delegation pointed out the dangers of competition which exist among organized and unorganized workers. We also presented reliable data to prove that production did not decrease where hours of labor were reduced, facts based upon investigations that were made by Labor Bureau.

Three women delegates from Utica, Buffalo, Rochester and New York. Among the speakers at the special hearing were: Mr. Alexander, Mr. Andrew P. Roman, representing the Buffalo City Council; Mrs. Ward Pierce of the Buffalo City Club; President McMahon of the United Textile Workers; Mr. Harold Bennet, of the Bennet Textile Company; Mary Goff, representing the I. W. O. U.; Mary Hopkins of the Textile Workers of Utica; Miss Mabel Leslie, secretary of the Women's Trade Union League; Miss Mary Dreier, representing sixteen organizations of women, among these the League of Women Voters, Consumers' League, the Women's Trade Union League; Mrs. Katherine Moller, representing the Buffalo Council of National Council of Catholic Women; Miss Garden of the Waitresses' Union of Buffalo; Miss Leonard of the Italian Dressmakers' Union, Local 89 of New York; Molly Friedman of Local 22; Mrs. Mead, representing the League of Women Workers; Miss Betty Hawley, vice-president of the

State Federation of Labor, and last but not least, the Hon. Bernard Shieff, Commissioner of Labor.

The Commissioner delivered a very impressive address in which he urged the legislative committee to pass both bills. The minimum wage bill provides for the creation of an investigation committee. The 48-hour bill, if passed, will establish a 48-hour maximum week. The general impression is that the 48-hour bill will be enacted.

The delegates who represented our International and other organized groups, gained a new impetus to speed organization among workers with greater zeal, rather than to depend upon the deliberations of our legislators. The working women should utilize every conceivable channel, both political and industrial, in order to make industry safe for the workers. One thing is indisputable, judging from our experience, and that is that the greatest and most permanent assurance of better conditions can only be achieved through organized power on both the political and economic field.

THE GET-TOGETHER

The annual get-together of the students, their friends and teachers of the Workers' University, Unity Center and Extension Division will be held on Saturday, April 6, p. m., in the dining room of the Washington Irving High School.

Admission 35 cents. Make reservations with the Educational Department, 3 West 16th street, and spend a few hours in sociability and good fellowship.

The Jobbing Department of the Joint Board

By HARRY WANDER, Manager

From the heading of the article, the reader might properly infer that I do not intend to go into the history of the origin of the jobber in our industry. To begin with, a great deal has already been written on this subject—and whether I fully agree with all that was said about it or not does not matter much at this moment. Secondly, I believe that our members are interested in this question from its practical side too. They are like to know what the Union is doing right now to improve the condition in the trade; to what extent the Union has already succeeded in securing concessions from the jobber, before the fundamental reforms, now on the order of the day before our organization, are carried out.

As it has been my privilege to manage this department of the Joint Board, I shall endeavor in this brief article to give a review of what this department had done until now to obtain a better control over the jobbers under the conditions of the agreement with them.

When I took over the management of the Jobbing Department, the cry was prevalent that the jobbers were sending work to non-union shops while the workers in the union shops were idle. We therefore concentrated our whole activity to make certain that the jobbers send their work to union shops only.

In the course of two conferences with the jobbers' association, we succeeded in convincing them that the clause guaranteeing that all their work will be sent to union shops was about the only provision that amounted to anything in that agreement and that if this clause was not being lived up to, the agreement has no meaning or value for the union. They were compelled to admit the justice of our argument. The next problem was how to ascertain fully how many and which were the non-union shops that were working for the members of the jobbers' association.

On the surface, this might appear to be a simple matter. When one considers, nevertheless, that at that time we had no access as yet to the records of a jobber and that each of our complaints had first to be substantiated by evidence, the difficulty of proving such a case will appear clear. We sought, therefore, to work out a plan that would give us the possibility of learning of all the non-union shops employed by the jobbers, and we finally jointly adopted the following one: The association would present to the union a list of all shops employed by its members; the union would select from these the non-union shops, and the association would at once notify its members to cease giving these contractors work. We obtained such a list and when we got through assorting the shops, we learned that the jobbers had been sending work, until April, 1923, to 450 non-union contractors in and outside of Greater New York.

This fact, heretofore unknown to us, presented sufficient evidence to charge the association with violation of the agreement, which we did without delay.

When speaking of the agreement with the jobbers' association, I should like to say a few words concerning its membership so that the reader might know the type of employer with whom we were dealing and also the kind of difficulties we were encountering in the course of our negotiations. The membership of the "Merchant Ladies' Garment Association" consists first, of a small group of real "merchants," who have never seen the inside of a cloak factory but have

entered the cloak business in other cities and who later came to New York for business reasons. These firms, though they will not comprehend why the union is "interfering" in their affairs, are nevertheless inclined to observe agreements entered by them. There is, however, only a handful of this type in the industry.

Another element consists of former salesmen with "partners" who have gone into the cloak business with them and acquired wealth and position in it. These jobbers, though familiar with every trick of the game, and adepts in getting their work done as cheaply as possible, are still a group that can be dealt with at times. But it is the third element, former manufacturers who have gone into the jobbing business probably for the sole purpose of evading the direct control of the union and running their outside shops to their heart's content, that is ready to fight the union and even their own association, as soon as they find out that even as jobbers they cannot escape the influence of the workers' organization.

Not having any workers on his own premises, this type of jobber has lulled himself into a sense of perfect irresponsibility towards the union, particularly as the present agreement with the jobbers makes the stopping off of workers in the contractors' shops a difficult matter.

We have, nevertheless, succeeded in making considerable headway in the matter of controlling the non-union shops. As stated, in April, 1923, we found 450 non-union shops working for jobbers. After we secured the right to examine the jobbers' records and after complaints upon complaints were piled upon them, we brought down this number to a little over a hundred. From August, 1923, to January, 1924, we also settled with 360 shops. Of course, I do not desire to detract from anyone's credit for this accomplishment, but I am sure that a great many of these firms came to settle with the union after their work had been stopped off by the jobbers.

A number of jobbers against whom

we complained that they were sending out work to non-union shops were fined after a trial—these fines aggregating a sum of over ten thousand dollars. We also succeeded in unionizing 32 new jobbing firms.

Such in brief is the record of this department for this time. I refrained from giving details and from stating how difficult we found it to make any headway at all. We do not desire to boast of our work, but we cannot help stating that we are quite contented with the progress we made with the cloak jobbers, of course, under the limitations of the present agreement.

We shall touch on the situation in the dress industry in a second article.

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JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

Published every Friday by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union

Office, 3 West 16th Street, New York, N. Y. Tel.: Chelsea 2148

MORRIS SIGMAN, President. G. YANOFSEY, Editor.

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EDITORIALS

THE COMING CONFERENCES WITH THE EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATIONS

This week, President Sigman, together with General Manager Feinberg of the Cloak and Dress Joint Board, forwarded a letter to all the associations in the cloak trade of New York, manufacturers, contractors and jobbers, in which conferences between the Union and each of these associations are proposed for the consideration of the terms of the new agreement after the present agreement in the industry expires.

This request is prompted by a desire to remove all uncertainties as to future working arrangements in the industry before the beginning of the next season by not leaving negotiations with the several associations for the last minute.

It may be expected that the employers' associations to whom these letters have been sent will comply with the request of the Union as soon as possible. We consider that it is just as important for them as it is for the Union to insure the continued and undisturbed operation of the shops and every uncertainty concerning it. Surely they do not court any complications that can be removed by a joint understanding. We may expect, therefore, that these conferences will soon begin, and as it appears to us, will terminate successfully, if only our jobbers, manufacturers and sub-manufacturers will treat the Union's proposals as to the terms of the new agreement with due earnestness.

This is not the time for a thorough analysis of the program, —worked out by the General Executive Board and later adopted by the Joint Board and all our locals—from the point of view of the industry in general. But this much can we assure our employers—in its preparation our Board has had in mind not only the interests of the workers in the industry whom it represents but the broader interests of our trade as a whole. Our General Executive Board is fully aware that the workers are not a factor apart from the industry; they know that when the industry in general suffers the workers are the ones to suffer most.

The underlying idea behind this program is to place the industry first on a healthy foundation and to bring an end to the chaos that prevails in it. All the points in this program lead to this primary aim: to bring order in our trade which has been operating for some time like a rudderless vessel. We hope that the committees from the various employers' associations will approach the discussion of these demands without prejudice and without preconceived ideas that the Union aims only to benefit the workers by its program even if the employers are ruined. Only those whose experience with the labor movement is woefully scant and who are dominated by fanaticism can entertain ideas of this sort.

The representatives of our Union, however, are not fanatics and they have been in the service of the labor movement long enough to win general appreciation and respect. They know that under the present circumstances the welfare of the workers cannot be built up on the ruins of the industry. As labor leaders, it is their business to care that the industry flourishes, for they know that the better off our trade is, the greater will be the earnings of our workers, if only they are united and are influential enough to get what is theirs by right.

Such is the principal aim of the demands which the Union proposes to make upon the respective organizations in the New York cloak industry, and we are justified in expecting that the jobbers, manufacturers, and sub-manufacturers will act in the right spirit and will not, from the outset, approach these proposals with any suspicion regarding the motives of our organization. Then the conferences will bring the desired results and order will be introduced in our trade without hindrance.

It is high time, indeed, that our employers as well as the workers rid themselves of the idea that any reform in our industry can be introduced without the result of strife and struggle. Fighting may have been inevitable in the past as long as both sides could not begin to understand the nature of each other's part and relation in industry. Not being able to exchange opinions and without common ground among themselves, the only alternative in those days was fight. The many years of mutual negotiation between the Union and the associations in the trade have eliminated, to a degree, some of these drawbacks. A common ground has since been created for an understanding and it is not difficult to imagine that the fundamental reforms which the Union is now proposing could be introduced in a peaceful way, at the conference table, and without disturbing the productive processes of the industry.

True, every point on that program purports to benefit the condition of the worker and to make his existence more secure than heretofore. But at the same time each of these points aims

to raise the industry to a higher level that will easily make it possible to grant these demands. The manufacturers will, therefore, act as thinking persons if they consider these demands not merely from the point of view of their benefit to the workers but also for what they will achieve for the trade in general. If our employers will only rise to such a height, there will be no reason whatever for any general strike to introduce these reforms which are as vital and essential to all sides concerned.

We shall yet return to the consideration of each of these demands from the point of view of their importance to our industry. The conferences themselves will, of course, help a great deal to clarify and enlighten both sides on the merits of these proposals. We, therefore, wish these conferences the best of success, so that our International may come to its next convention in May with the great good tidings that finally it had succeeded in bringing the proper sort of coordination in the cloak and dress industry and that its thousands upon thousands of members will at last be made secure of a better existence for themselves and their families; that the eternal fear for the next day, devastating long slack periods and all the other trade evils identified with the infancy days of the cloak and dress trades, have been done away with, never to return.

THE DRESS STRIKE IN BOSTON

The Boston strike is not yet settled, as we expected. On the other hand, as these lines are being written, it is becoming more intensified, which frankly is quite a surprise to us.

It would seem that we have overestimated the good sense of the Boston dress manufacturers. We believed that they would not be slow in perceiving that they had made a mistake in permitting this strike to break out and would quickly concede the right demands of the Union. The situation in Boston is such that the employers have no justification whatever for their obstinacy. The demands of the Union are so moderate that their concession could have been anticipated as a matter of course. The International Union has sanctioned the strike and this is another proof patent that the demands of the Boston strikers are entirely legitimate and modest. Upon what ground then, except sheer obstinacy, do the Boston dress manufacturers allow this strike to go on?

This new turn, we repeat, is entirely unexpected to us and, in a way, we feel sorry for the Boston dress manufacturers because we know, as well as they should, that their obstinacy will not avail them anything. Eventually they will have to make these concessions. The workers will not give up the strike until they have won their point. The manufacturers could not expect to break their ranks by either protracted fighting or by attempts to intimidate the workers through the use of injunctions.

Neither will they succeed in driving the workers back to the shops by the whip of hunger. The dressmakers' union of Boston is not so poor as to allow such an outcome of the strike. Besides, it is the International, in fact, which is conducting this conflict and the International will throw in its entire support on the side of the strikers. Under the circumstances, the prolongation of this strike by the manufacturers is both impractical and unwise. It seems that, unless the dress manufacturers reconsider their decision quickly, it will remain for our Boston strikers to bring them to their senses.

GOOD NEWS FROM THE CHICAGO BATTLEGROUND

According to the latest information, the settlement committee in the Chicago dress strike has already secured agreements with number of manufacturers. A dent has already been made in the employers' lines, and there is reason to hope that very soon their entire fighting line will crumble and the Chicago Dressmakers' Union will acquire control over working conditions in the dress trade of that city.

True, the majority of the manufacturers are still waging a savage fight against the strikers. The strikers, however, are not in the least intimidated by this brutal warfare. On the other hand, the ferocity of the employers has made the lines of the workers even more solid. More than ever they are determined to stay in this fight until they have won. They know too well what they can expect if they return beaten and vanquished. They know how brutally their bosses will avenge themselves upon them should the cause of the employers triumph. Only the protection of the Union can safeguard them from the greed, avarice and mistreatment which has been their lot in the dress shops for many years past.

On the whole, the situation in the Chicago strike is very favorable despite the injunctions and various other forms of persecution. There is chaos in the camp of the enemy. Many of them have already deserted and made peace with the Union, while not a worker has broken ranks and the shops are as empty as on the day the workers left them. If nothing unexpected develops, this big strike should come to a quick termination. If the majority of the workers are sent back to work in union shops and only a minority remains outside to finish the struggle against the more unyielding group among the employers, the strike will practically come to an end with a victory for the Union.

The presence of President Sigman in Chicago this week should serve to add courage and determination to the strikers. This, however, is not President Sigman's only purpose in visiting Chicago. He went there to begin a counter attack against the injunctions which have been serving as a very potent weapon in the hands of the employers against the strikers. True, injunctions will not break the Chicago strike any more than they have broken any of our strikes in the past, but if there are means of checking this epidemic, the International must not leave them unused in this or any other strike. It is quite likely that the

What the Industry Owes to Our Workers

By MORRIS SIGMAN, President, I. L. G. W. U.

In two former articles, we have pointed out the changes which the joining of the jobber and the splitting up of the big shops brought into the industry. We emphasized that the jobbers are the dominating factor in the trade, that they have taken the place of the former manufacturers, and that they should therefore be made responsible for labor conditions and for the well-being of the trade in general.

We have also stated in detail the three first clauses of the program of demands which we intend to incorporate in the new agreement with the jobbers. These call for limiting the number of sub-manufacturers and contractors for jobbers each season, a fixed guaranteed number of weeks of labor for the workers during the year, and the right of the Union to investigate the records of the jobbers so as to be fully informed where and under what conditions their work is being made.

But in addition to regulating the jobber-contractor situation by such means of control, the Union feels that it must bring system and order in the life of the workers in the cloak trade in general. Without placing the earnings of the workers on a sound basis, none of these reforms will amount to anything. These reforms can only have a significance when the source of the evil which they are intending to remove will have been traced and attacked.

If we are ready to go as far as dictating to the jobbers that, in the midst of that season, they may not change the shops where their work is to be produced, we must act in an equally firm spirit when it comes to evils in the industry. One of the fundamental changes that must be made is to put the earnings in the various branches of our trade on as nearly a basis as possible. It is true, we have minimum wage scales for our workers today, but to begin with, these wage scales do not correspond with the living standards of the workers. They are too low, too insufficient, they do not correspond to the wants of the workers and are therefore neither durable nor permanent. Under these wage scales men chase one day from shop to shop for higher wages and the next day they are just as ready to work for much lower earnings as long as they can hold the job.

That this is an abnormal situation there can be no doubt. The Union has abolished piece-work because piece-work went hand in hand with the chase after the "bundle," and piece-work involved eternal haggling and bargaining over prices. The workers were kept in a constant frenzy during the height of the season and shop fought against shop to the ultimate detriment of every worker in the trade. The abolition of piece-work did away with that feverish

state of affairs in the cloak shops, but we could not, at that time, make the change from piece-work to week-work complete and adequate. We propose at present to complete this lack by systematizing the wages of our workers. This lack of order in the earnings of our workers today is such that, while as a matter of record our workers are working by the week, the wages they receive are, to a greater or smaller extent, still calculated on the basis of piece-work.

Let us explain this in detail. We have shown in a former article that the jobber is actually the manufacturer, that the sub-manufacturer or the contractor merely acts the part of a foreman for the jobber. The contractor obtains work from the jobber on a piece basis. When this contractor later hires workers and fixes their wages, he ostensibly hires them by the week, but actually their weekly wages are fixed on the basis of piece-work. A fanny worker gets money as a sewer, less. Workers engaged in making a better line of work demand and obtain a higher wage, while those who are employed at medium or cheap lines are willing to and do get a smaller wage.

In addition to that, we may take into account the unstable conditions in the shops. When the trade is busy, workers are hired at higher wages, but when the following week there is less work in the shop, the employer is apt to begin arguing with his workers that they work for lower wages than originally agreed upon. It is difficult to believe that cloakmakers would work for less than the minimum wage, yet when workers who are compelled, after they had obtained jobs at higher rates than the minimum wage, to seek other jobs in other shops where only the minimum is paid to them, it is only obvious that they are compelled to take wage reductions. It is understood that the Union is doing all it can to regulate these fluctuations, but under present conditions it can do but little. When the work was concentrated in the inside shops, the Union could take care that in slack times the work should be divided equally among all the workers. True, the employers always fought against it, but the jobbers today are spared even that trouble. They are maneuvering the distribution of work in the various sub-shops in such a manner that the principle of equal distribution of labor has all but lost its significance. That is why the workers are now changing their shops and jobs as often as they can. And the change of jobs tends only to bring down the above-the-minimum scales.

What does the Union purport to do now? The Union desires, simultaneously with the limitation of the number of sub-shops for the jobbers and with making the jobber responsible for labor conditions in the shops, that

a better regulation of wages be also effected.

In other words, the Union intends, first of all, to systematically set the minimum scales and to strictly enforce these raised minimum scales. The Union neither can nor would place itself in the way of any worker who is able to get higher than this scale; in time of rush, when the demand for cloakmakers is very high and wages naturally rise, the Union will not forbid the workers to get as much as they can. The Union, however, will not become a party to inflating wages one day and forcing them down the next. In the long run, the Union can not serve the interest of the workers under such abnormal circumstances. The best proof of this is the situation in the trade right now. Every cloakmaker suffers today because he does not know what will take place in his shop tomorrow, and this lack of certainty can be traced directly to the lack of system of wages in our shops.

Let us see how a systematized wage scale operates in other well organized industries. In the building trades, for instance, the minimum wage is as high as \$15 or \$16 a day, and it affects every worker in every branch of the trade equally. When the building trades are busy, the workers, too, get more than the minimum scale, as in our trades. This, however, comes naturally through the pressure of economic law, but the unions take no direct responsibility for it. When employment becomes normal in the building trades, wages come down again to the minimum. The building trades unions are strong because they can regulate in this manner wages in the whole industry, free and unhampered.

The cloakmakers' union is as strong as any single labor union in the country. Nevertheless, it seems to be always engaged on the crest of the wave of trade problems. It cannot balance itself to grasp a firm hold of these problems and one of the principal causes responsible for it is the lack of system in the wages of our workers. What the Union aims at with this demand for a raise of the minimum scales and for limiting its responsibility only for such scales, is the bringing of such a state of affairs into the cloak trade as prevails in all other solidly organized industries. The fast and more skilled worker will gain by this just as much as the slow worker. Today this fast worker is an inevitable loss because, after his higher wage is agreed upon, the work from his shop is often than not drifting away to other places and as he chases after it, he is bound to lose a part of his wage.

Next comes the principle that "the industry owes to its workers a living all through the year." The Union demands that an insurance fund be established towards which the jobbers, as well as the manufacturers, con-

tribute and from which payments be made to workers when there is no work in the trade. How these payments are to be regulated remains to be decided upon later, but this measure will have to be carried out. For such a seasonal trade as cloakmaking, this is a vital matter. The problem of unemployment in general, inasmuch as it can be solved under the present economic order, can only begin to be solved when the industry begins to take care of its workers all the year around and when systematic steps are taken to carry these ideas out into practice. The Union believes that our industry can be run upon a shorter week-work and one of its new demands is the introduction of a forty-hour week, as a means of lengthening the work seasons. Unemployment in the cloak trade, however, does not always go hand in hand with a longer work week. There are other influences that contribute towards it and that is why the insurance fund for unemployment is an industrial measure in which all the employing interests in the trade must concur.

The insurance fund will make it necessary to organize a labor bureau for the entire trade. It is necessary for the Union in order to come in touch with every worker not only after he is in the shop but before he gets to the shop. The industry in general should welcome a fixed center where employers can obtain workers of every kind through the machinery of an organization. The labor bureau will also serve as an agency that would determine which of the unemployed are entitled to benefit from the planned insurance fund.

And as a measure of ultimate control, so as to make it absolutely certain that every garment manufactured is made in union shops and under union conditions, and to weed out sweating for all time the Union demands that every garment carry a union sanitary label as a sign that it was made in a union shop.

The demands of the Union are very clear. It would introduce system and order in the trade upon which tens of thousands of families are dependent. This is a situation which calls for responsibility on the part of every factor in the industry. The Union is ready to respond and contribute its share and its influence to achieve such system and order. We have no doubt that the mass of our members will rise to a high enough level to carry out these planned reforms.

PRESIDENT SIGMAN TO CONTINUE DISCUSSION THIS SUNDAY

President Sigman will discuss "Does the Union Equally Protect All its Members Under the Present Trade Arrangements?" on Sunday, March 16, 10:30 a. m., at the Club Rooms of Local 1, 1581 Washington avenue.

This will be a continuation of the first talk he gave on March 2.

presence of Brother Sigman in Chicago may also influence many other employers to come to a settlement with the Union.

OUR FAMILY GROWS

Three new locals were added last week to the roster of our Union. The workers in these trades, hitherto unorganized, are on the way to becoming members of the great family of our International Union.

Of these three locals, one is located in New York—the Tuckers, Hemstitchers and Pleaters, Local 41. As manager of this new local, the International-appointed Brother Joseph Goldstein, one of our oldest and most active organizers. The other two are located in Astoria, Local 84, and Keyport, N. J., Local 85.

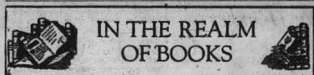
We should like to say a few words to the hemstitchers, tuckers and pleaters in particular. There was a time when these workers were cloakmakers, but as the industry developed and became divided into numerous sections, these former cloakmakers took up the making of special ornamental parts of the garment, for the manufacture of which separate shops with different machinery and separate owners have grown up in the garment industry.

In the run of years, these former members of the cloakmaker family have become entirely estranged from it. Recently the International discovered these workers and began to organize them. Now they are back in their old home. It is planned to have these workers out on a general strike as soon as preparations are made. The International plans to introduce in their shops the same work standards which prevail in the cloak and dress trades. The hemstitchers, tuckers and pleaters are in the majority intelligent men and know what a union means to workers and it is practically certain that they will not disappoint the expectations of our Union.

JOSEPH FISH, NEW TREASURER OF JOINT BOARD

Brother Joseph Fish, former financial secretary of the Cutters' Union, Local 10, has now been elected treasurer of the Cloak and Dress Joint Board in place of Brother Philip Kaplowitz, who is now occupying an executive position in the International Union Bank.

The Joint Board could not have selected a better person for the job. Brother Fish is an intelligent young man and a loyal trade unionist, with a record of a number of years of praiseworthy activity. We are confident that he will make good.



IN THE REALM OF BOOKS

Short But Crowded

THE LABOR PRESS FOR FEBRUARY

By SYLVIA KOPALD

The February issues of labor's journals are one more proof that it is only on the calendar that years are divided into clear-cut, regular compartments. Life itself is continuous and indivisible; and Labor's life, like the whole of which it is part, is an unbroken stream. On the calendar February is the year's shortest month. Should not Labor's February journals, therefore, chronicle the shortest march in labor's annual advance? As days are counted it may be a short chronicle; but as events go it is an intensely crowded one. In all the folds of Labor's continuous interest in the industrial struggle, in internal affairs and in world affairs—happenings and interests actually jostle one another.

THE INDUSTRIAL STRUGGLE

The industrial conflict rages this month as always on all fronts. But this time, the fields of internal affairs and world events have contributed so much of outstanding interest that the items of the economic struggle appear to loom smaller than usual. Differences in degree, however, have worked no significant change. Strikes, 'aw, Congress, the Railroad Labor Board, the courts, the all fronts continue to the journals. Few of us know that printers are still on strike for the harvesting of an implied promise made by the employers in 1919 when the men agreed to defer agitation for the 44-hour week until May, 1921. Now the *Typographical Journal* reports that "General prosperous conditions in the printing industry throughout the United States have contributed to a reduction in the number of union printers drawing strike benefits in the strike for the 44-hour week in commercial printing shops." The strike has been proceeding for 30 months and 1,845 members drew benefits last month, a decrease of 111 from the previous month. Shops located in 66 cities are still affected. The sum of \$16,228,922.81 has been collected for the purposes of the strike since May 20, 1921.

A MASS MOONEY CASE!

The International Molders Journal contains a startling instance of the forces arrayed against Labor in its battles. The membership of the entire local union of molders in Montpelier, Indiana, are in jail! The circumstances behind this result are more familiar than the result. "On November 24, 1923, the membership of Local Union 357, of Montpelier, Indiana, went on strike against the introduction of piece-work in the foundry of the Montpelier Manufacturing Company. . . . Shortly after 1 o'clock, the molten metal, kept in a violent explosion took place in front of the hotel in which the strikebreakers were being housed. . . . Within two or three hours afterwards all of our members and the apprentice boys (some forty-seven in number) were arrested and taken to the Hartford City, Indiana, jail." It has been impossible to offer adequate bail for all these men, who are, therefore, kept in jail. A labor movement which has its Tom Mooneys and its Saccos and Vanzettis can well believe that the International Molders' Union has gathered evidence which shows "that desperate schemers took the occasion of a strike to carry a dastardly plot into effect, with the expectation that public opinion could be shaped to

place the guilt upon the strikers." It is up-to-Labor to help the Molders' Union nip this mass Mooney case in the bud.

ON OTHER FRONTS

Labor's agitation against Child Labor continues unabated. The Carpenter backs its exhortation, "Abolish Child Labor," with a statement of facts. More than 1,000,000 children from 10 to 15 years are at work in factories, mines, mills, and fields. More than 100,000 of these are between 10 and 13 years. The employment of such an army of "bots" makes us understand more clearly just who are involved in the oft-repeated statement that "we are the greatest and richest people the world has ever known."

Moreover these figures probably do not include such instances of child labor as those in New York's "East Harlem," described in the *Bulletin of the American Federation of Teachers*. Here "silk dresses and clock silk hosiery are embroidered in tenement houses in this city by women and children." Children as young as three years were found at work on artificial flowers. Little wonder labor's journals are a unit in urging the passage of a child labor amendment.

The New Majority prints a long review of the Coronado Case, which after almost ten years of litigation has ended in a complete victory for the miners—and for Labor. The Basche-Dennan Company failed to convict the International of guilt and responsibility for acts done by individual miners, and Labor is thus slowly establishing its right to collective action.

The railroad journals are frantically unanimous in their satisfaction with the Supreme Court's vindication of the "recapture clause" in the Transportation Act. Conservatives and radicals in the ranks of railroad labor show this satisfaction. For instance, both the *Railway Conductor* and the *Railway Worker* are jubilant over this decision that rich railroads must turn over to the government one-half of all profits made in excess of 6 per cent for the aid of weaker roads. Now railroad companies are finding that the arguments of the duties of public service industries do not apply only to workers.

The Railway Clerk continues its reports of the progress of its case against the Pennsylvania Company's company union and the Commercial Telegraphers Union spills its sarcasm on the much advertised distribution of excess earnings among employees of the Western Union Telegraph Company. This distribution increased the monthly pay of the workers by minuscule sums ranging from \$1.15 to \$3.83.

Last February's chronicle of the industrial conflict ended on a comforting note of solidarity. Numerous unions have declared their support of the "Kelly Bill and Fair Pay for Postmen." For instance, the *Railroad Trainman*, the *Signalmen's Journal*, the *American Federationist* and *Organized Labor* among others have declared for it in their journals, while the United Mine Workers of America recorded their approval of their recent convention.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

It may be the advent of "convention year" for so many of the unions

that has induced so lively a boiling in the kettle of internal affairs. Whatever the cause, the kettle hums. The accession of British Labor to governmental power has made the discussion on a Labor Party in America sound above the rest. We may take the extreme positions on that discussion as explanatory of the whole.

On the one side, the American Federationist finds little parallel in the British and American situation to argue for our adoption of independent political action because of British labor's success. In a leading article, Charles Edward Russell hammers this point. The editor prefaces an article on Italy's post-war labor experience to interpret the Italian unions' eclipse in terms of "partisan politics and fanciful philosophies which in themselves write factionalism and weakness." And a long editorial sets forth British labor's electoral success as a test for the future of Labor's ability to succeed politically and economically at the same time.

On the other side, every issue of the *New Majority* insists upon Labor's need for an independent political party. The possibility of the transformation of the Conference for Progressive Political Action into a third party supporting LaFollette for President is discussed. The predicament of the American Federation of Labor policy of "rewarding friends and punishing enemies" before such a candidate as Senator McCormick, anti-Labor yet formulator and chief counsel for the "quasher" of the child labor amendment, is pointed out.

And between the two extremes come events. The *Railway Carmen's Journal* reports the organization of McAdoo-for-President club by members of the sixteen railroad organizations of Kansas City. It advises similar clubs everywhere among railroad men. But this was before Mr. McAdoo became smeared with the oil spilling out of Teapot Dome.

Closely connected in interest with the political question comes the problem to which the *Locomotive Engineer's Journal* dedicates its issue. Should we have a Labor day? It presents discussion of this problem by men who have had experience in this field—men who have worked with the *New Leader* and the *London Daily Herald* and others. These men give the feel of the difficulties involved, (cf. Mr. Ameringer's interesting article). But there is no voice raised in the negative. Finally the *Journal* presents answers to its query received from "six prominent editors," among whom are the editors of *Justice* and *Advance*. All these editors explain why they say "Yes."

The *Shoe Workers' Journal* reports with joy the disappearance of the United Shoe Workers of America through the realignment of the

organization into the parent body. Workers' education and labor banking receive their usual attention. The *Seamens' Journal* gives a full review of the outline of Dr. Carman, published by our Educational Department.

Finally conventions and announcements of conventions fill the pages. The reports of the important misc workers' convention given by the *United Mine Workers Journal* proved rather disappointing to your reviewer, who felt again the force of a remark made in the editorial columns of *Justice*. Just as the convention reportedly did not give adequate hearing to the rebels within it, so the *Journal's* reports contained almost no adequate statement of the issues brought forward by the opposition. Consequently the full reports of the official speeches and position lost some of their comprehensibility. However, perhaps, the Proceedings, when available, will remedy this and no one interested in the union movement should miss the editorial issue of the *Mine Workers Journal*.

Announcements of conventions are many. *Advance* reports its union membership's choice of Philadelphia for the forthcoming convention of the A. C. W. A. Elections of officials have been completed by the Bakers. The *Bakers' Journal* announces the election of the following executive officers: International Corresponding Secretary, Charles F. Hohmann; International Financial Secretary, Henry Koch; International Secretary-treasurer, A. A. Myrup. All power to them and their members in their stern battle against the Ward Bakery interests.

And, in passing, may we point with pride to the favorable mention and quotation which the *Bakers Journal* gives of the monthly review devoted by *Justice* to the labor press of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union to the articles of the labor press. . . .

AND THE WORLD

As usual this review finds space crowding as it approaches the final field of Labor's interest—world affairs. Once more we can do little more than recount the items that win the bulk of attention here from the labor press. This month the deaths of Nicolai Lenin and Woodrow Wilson, the accession of Labor to control the British government, the Teapot Dome Scandal, the crisis in the German unions, and our duty to aid them, and the Mellon tax scheme, receive the bulk of the space devoted to world affairs by Labor. While there are conflicts of opinion on the first two of these matters, there is entire unanimity on the last three.

And this ends Labor's short but crowded month. Let us, too, ask "If winter comes, can spring be far behind!"

JOURNALIST.

"THE LECTURE-IN-PRINT"

"If I could only gear my lectures to a battery of linotype machines," Dr. Charles Beard once said to a friend who was deploring the fact that this gifted and original scholar was coming into contact with only a few hundred students each year. A group connected with The People's Institute, New York, which has made an historic role for itself as a pioneer in the field of popular education has now translated Dr. Beard's semi-jocular remark into an actual and practical achievement.

Under the formal title of The People's Institute Publishing Company, this organization has now undertaken to issue to the public in pamphlet form the stenographic transcriptions of the lectures of prominent scholars. It believes that through the medium of "The Lecture-In-Print," which will carry over to the reader much of the personal and individual quality of the lecturer's approach and which will be published at a minimum cost, it is

possible to do for contemporary science what Haldeman-Julius has done for many literary classics.

The first series of lectures in print is being given by Everett Dean Martin at Cooper Union for The People's Institute. The course is entitled "What Psychology Has To Teach You About Yourself And The World You Live In." In these lectures he demonstrates his ability to relate the new science of the mind to common problems of the hour. Mr. Martin's special effort in this course is to show the man or woman without academic or technical equipment how to differentiate between the pseudo-psychology disseminated so freely by quacks and sensationalists and the knowledge which has been established and developed by scholars of established authority.

Following Mr. Martin's course, The People's Institute Publishing Company will issue lectures by Dr. Joht B. Watson, the exponent of Behavior Psychology, and other courses in biology and evolution.

LABOR THE WORLD OVER

FOREIGN ITEMS

HOLLAND

WAGES AND WORKING HOURS OF PAINTERS.

The International Secretariat of Painters and Kindred Trades issued in December, 1923, a questionnaire concerning working hours and wages in the countries affiliated with the International. The questionnaire was sent to twelve countries, and it shows that working hours were longer in 1923 than in 1922. Finland stated that in 1922 the working hours per week were 46 and in 1923, 46½; and Holland, that the 46-hour week of 1922 had been extended to a 48-hour week in 1923. In Austria, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia and Hungary the eight-hour day was often exceeded in concerns where no collective agreements are in existence. A few towns of Germany and Switzerland worked less than 48 hours per week. In Great Britain the eight-hour day was universally observed. The United States reported that in New York and Boston 40 hours were worked per week, but in Pittsburgh, Chicago, Milwaukee and all other large towns the working hours were 44 per week.

The painters obtain paid holidays in four countries (Germany, Finland, Norway and Austria). Only in Finland and Sweden is apprenticeship regulated by law. Works' Councils are established by law in three countries (Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia); in Finland the question of their establishment is settled in the wage agreements.

Unfortunately the information obtained is useless for the purpose of comparing wages in the different countries, as only the cash wages were given.

AUSTRIA

SERIOUS ATTACK ON THE EIGHT-HOUR DAY.

The first serious attack on the eight-hour day in Austria has recently been made by the Alpine Montangesellschaft, which has been acquired by Stinnes, the well-known German magnate. Discussing with the workers' organizations a proposed rise in wages, the secretary of the company remarked that the rise would only be made provided the union representatives consented to a longer working day. The secretary persisted in this suggestion, although he was well aware that the Austrian law expressly forbids any lengthening of working hours, except in very exceptional cases, affecting no very large number of workers, and even then the rate of wages for overtime work must be 50 per cent above that of ordinary work. The negotiations were therefore unsuccessful.

But it marked the commencement of a new epoch. The various Works' Councils of the Montangesellschaft have held a meeting, and they are convinced that the whole of the Austrian working classes is with them. The journal of the Austrian Miners' Union makes the following comment on the situation: "Austrian workers must expect frontal attack which may even come next month. The rise in prices which is due to the Government's new taxation compels the workers to demand an increase of wages; and the present method of dealing with such demands is to urge the abolition of the eight-hour-day. Such methods cannot but lead to social conflict. The workers must close up their ranks; and no effort must be spared to prevent the abandonment of what has been won only by thirty years of struggle and sacrifice."

Representatives of the unions affiliated with the Austrian National Federation held a meeting last week, in which they too passed a resolution expressing their firm determination to resist to the utmost this attack upon the vital interests of the workers. They call upon all the unions to make preparations for resistance.

ENGLAND

SOCIAL ATTACHES.

It is reported that the new British Government intends to appoint social attaches to the various embassies, to deal with labor matters. The idea of social attaches, which was adopted by Germany, Norway and Sweden immediately after the war, and which has since then been gradually dropped, now seems to be again to the fore. It would be a good thing if the International Trade Union Congress of Vienna were again to discuss this subject.

INDIA

THE TEXTILE STRIKE IN BOMBAY.

The great strike of textile-workers in Bombay broke out chiefly because the employers suddenly declared that the annual bonus, which on the occasion of the great strikes of 1919 and 1920 was regarded as a permanent part of the workers' wages, is now to be made contingent upon profits. Another irregularity is the fact that the employers announced the withdrawal of the bonus in the course of the year, although this should have been done at its commencement.

Against this proceeding the Trade Union Congress of the Province of Bombay protested in vain. In December, therefore, a strike broke out, which however has not yet succeeded.

The abolition of the annual bonus is equivalent to a cut in wages of about 8 per cent. It is true that the industry is less prosperous than in former years, but as its total profits within the last five years amounted to \$25,000,000, it should surely be able to bear the charge of \$400,000. As the workers are very inadequately organized, and the work of organization is much hampered by their illiteracy, the employers feel themselves to be masters of the situation, and do not seem inclined to give in.

INDIAN TRADE UNION CONGRESS.

The Fourth All-Indian Trade Union Congress will meet at Calcutta. The preparations are well in hand, and commissions have been appointed to deal with financial questions, propaganda, etc. The congress leaders nominated at the time of the convening of the Congress all have Indian names.

Press Bureau, International Federation of Trade Unions

DOMESTIC ITEMS

BAKERS WIN IN EAST.

Organized bakery workers in Springfield, Mass., and in Holyoke have won their fight against the Massachusetts Baking Company. It is agreed that on May 1 the union shop will be inaugurated.

HUMAN EYE IS TAXED.

The stress of modern civilization is unduly taxing the human eye, Dr. Emil Arnold of Ann Arbor told optometrists at their state meeting in Detroit.

"Nature intended man to live in the open, amid green fields and trees, where the light is soft and diffused," said Dr. Arnold. "Instead, he is now crowded into cities, facing the unnatural glare from stone buildings and pavements, straining his eyes with close factory work and placing perfect vision, nature's priceless possession, in constant jeopardy. Even the schools are demanding more eye work and the present generation is reaping the harvest of the sown seed," said Dr. Arnold.

TO PROTECT BUILDERS' LIVES.

Organized labor is urging the Louisville, Kentucky, legislature to protect building craftsmen by compelling the use of scaffolding and counter-foors in construction work.

UNABLE TO PAY RENTALS.

The housing situation is no longer just a question of numbers, but of price as well, according to State Architect Sullivan Jones, of New York. He said 73 per cent of the people of this state are unable to pay for accommodations in new houses.

The rentals required are too much for the pocketbooks of workmen earning \$2,500 a year or less, Mr. Jones said.

JUICY PROFITS ANNOUNCED.

A clear profit of \$2,703,206 last year is announced by the American Metal Company. Officers predict that "profitable operations" will continue. The Buckeye Pipe Line Company places its 1923 net profit at \$1,041,570. During the year the company paid \$1,350,000 in cash dividends to stockholders. According to this bookkeeping it has a deficit of \$308,430 for the year.

The Phoenix Hosiery Company made a net profit of \$915,794 last year.

BAKERIES MERGE.

The Ward Baking Company is merged with the Ward Baking Corporation. The first named concern has been warring on the Bakery Workers' Union for several months in an effort to establish the anti-union shop. The new concern is a sort of Ward-family affair. Regardless of amalgamation, the bakery workers will resist anti-union efforts.

URGE DRUG CONTROL.

Officers of the United States public health service and the navy medical corps urged the passage of the Rathbone-Copeland bill, which is intended to check the fake vaccine and serum traffic.

Dr. McCoy of the public health service said that all influenza vaccines brought to the attention of the public health service are worthless, yet under the present law the health service has no power to decline a license for the manufacture of such serums. Dr. McCoy was bitter in explaining to members of Congress the fraudulent representations which unscrupulous manufacturers advance for their vaccine and serum products. The witness said some of these fakers "are in this room."

Dr. Butler, navy medical corps, said he knew of deaths caused by ready-mixed vaccines, and he was willing to produce such records for the committee.

DEATHS IN INDUSTRY.

During the month of January 133 workers in New York State lost their lives through industrial accidents, reports the State Department of Labor. The metal industries reported the greatest number of fatalities during this period. Construction work, service and transportation followed closely.

HIGHER UPS OPPOSE INCREASED WAGE FOR POST OFFICE WORKERS.

The administration is against wage increases for postal employees. This attitude is contrary to that party's last national convention, which declared in favor of this wage increase.

The administration's views are expressed in an inspired newspaper story from the White House and in a letter by Postmaster General New which was read to the house committee that is holding hearings on the Edge-Kelly wage bill.

The postal workers are desperately in need of higher wages and will continue their fight, despite their added handicap. No wage movement has received such universal sympathy.

The service no longer attracts young men because of its low wages and limitations for advancement. This is destroying the department morale and affects the service. As a result, business men and the public press have joined with the trade union movement in supporting the postal employees.

POWDER BONDS RETIRED.

Du Pont Corporation, manufacturer of powder and numerous commodities, will redeem \$10,000,000 of its 7½ per cent bonds, issued three years ago. This redemption is possible because of the company's fabulous profits the last few years. The company showed a surplus last year of more than \$7,000,000, after every charge was made.



EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES

A Course in Trade Union Policies and Tactics

By DAVID J. SAPOSS

Given at the

WORKERS' UNIVERSITY

of the

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

Seasons 1922-23 and 1923-24

LESSON I—(Continued).

- II. 1. The development of national markets and avenues of communication has made it necessary for unions to organize on national rather than local and sectional lines.
2. Technical and industrial development made it possible to carry on production with semi-skilled and unskilled workers, as well as in large scale and trustified plants, and has therefore forced many unions to abandon strictly craft lines and to either amalgamate or federate into Department and other intercraft alliances.
3. The rapidity with which unions adapt themselves to new conditions depends very largely upon the personality of the leaders and the understanding which the rank and file has of the problems confronting them. Traditions and social ideals of members and leaders will determine whether a union is militant or cowardly, conservative, liberal or radical. An articulate and intelligent membership can force its leaders to follow certain policies and tactics. On the other hand, shrewd and calculating leaders can frustrate the wishes of the rank and file. Where the membership is wholly unacquainted with social and political philosophies, the leaders naturally dictate the outlook and activities of the union at will.

What Some Distinguished Educators Say of Dr. Carman's Outline

[Outline of a Course on "Social and Political History of the United States" given at the Workers' University, Season 1921-1923]

Enthusiastic comments were received by our Educational Department on Dr. Carman's outline on "Social and Political History of the United States" from men and women of prominence in the academic world. The limitation of space will not allow us to do more than quote from some of the messages.

(Continued)

T. W. Van Metre, Columbia University:

"It almost goes without saying that work of this kind represents one of the most hopeful signs of the present time. If we are to emerge safely from the web of difficulties which our exceedingly complex social organization has created, it will only be through a more intelligent understanding on the part of everybody of the fundamental nature of these difficulties. This means education. And in particular it means the study of history, for it is only through a knowledge of what has occurred in the past that we are able to understand the conditions of the present."

Harry E. Barnes, Smith College:

"Thank you very much for sending me a copy of the syllabus by Professor Carman. I regard this as an admirable piece of work, and congratulate you upon it. It is an excellent testimonial to the high grade of work that you are carrying on in your Educational Division."

Mollie Ray Carroll, Goucher College:

"Thank you very much indeed for sending me the pamphlet on the 'Social and Political History of the United States' used by the Workers' University of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. I was impressed by the scholarship and good psychology of the outline and congratulate you on doing so thorough and distinguished a piece of work."

Preparations in Full Swing for the Get-Together of Students, Their Friends and Teachers, Saturday Night, April 5

The Get-Together of our Students, their friends and teachers which will take place on Saturday, April 5, at 7 p. m. keeps the Arrangements Committee busy.

It was definitely decided that this will take place in the dining room of the Washington Irving High School.

The place will be specially decorated, reminding our members of spring. These entertainments are always memorable, because of their informal character, and the fact that the teachers and the students of our Workers' University, Unity Centers and Extension Division have an opportunity to exchange views and to spend a few hours in sociability and good fellowship.

After the audience will have partaken of refreshments, the audience

will proceed to the gymnasium for dancing. The full program of the evening will be announced by the committee later.

As previously announced, the Arrangements Committee decided to charge a minimum admission fee of 35 cents to cover some of the expenditures incurred in connection with this entertainment.

Reservations can be made now at 3 West 16th street, either in person or by mail. Preference for the time being will be given to students of the Workers' University, Unity Centers and to those of our members who attend the courses given in the Extension Division.

REMEMBER! The students' Annual Get-Together is Saturday, April 5, 7 p. m.

Weekly Calendar

WORKERS' UNIVERSITY

Washington Irving High School

Irving Place and 16th St.

Room 529

Saturday, March 15

1:30 p. m. J. H. H. Lyon—Social Forces in Contemporary Literature—The Modern Novel—Dostoevski.

2:30 p. m. Stuart Chase—The Labor Situation in Basic Industries.

Sunday, March 16

10:30 a. m. A. W. Calhoun—Social Institutions—Institutions as Superstitions.

11:30 a. m. H. J. Carman—The Development of Modern Europe.

UNITY CENTERS

Monday, March 17

Brownsville Unity Center—P. 8, 159

Christopher Avenue and Sackman Street, Room 204

8:00 p. m. Sylvia Kopald—Economics and the Labor Movement.

Tuesday, March 18

Bronx Unity Center—P. 8, 61

Crotina Park East and Charlotte Street, Room 511

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

Wednesday, March 19

East Side Unity Center—P. 8, 63

4th Street near 1st Avenue, Room 404

9:00 p. m. A. L. Wilbert—Modern Economic Institutions.

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

EXTENSION DIVISION

POLISH

Friday, March 14

Russian-Polish Branch—315 E. 10th Street

8:00 p. m. The Worker and His Health. (Lecturer to be announced.)

YIDDISH

Saturday, March 15

Local 9—228 Second Avenue.

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

Sunday March 16

Club Rooms, Local 1—1581 Washington Avenue

10:30 a. m. President Sigman—Does the Union Equally Protect All its Members Under the Present Trade Arrangements?

Clinton Hall—151 Clinton Street, Room 47

12:00 M. H. Rogoff—Civilization in America.

Tuesday, March 18

Local 21, 103 Montgomery Street, Newark.

8:00 p. m. Dr. E. Goldston—The Worker and His Health.

ENGLISH

Thursday, March 20

I. L. G. W. U. Building—3 West 16th Street.

6:00 p. m. Lecture for Shop Chairmen and Executive Members, Local 91 and 62.

6:15 p. m. Sylvia Kopald—Economics and the Labor Movement.

Local 17—Reefers Makers' Educational Center

142 Second Avenue

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

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

Friday, March 14

Labor Lyceum, 219 Sackman Street, Brooklyn

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

Saturday, April 5

Washington Irving High School

7:00 p. m. Get-together, Students of the Workers' University, Unity Centers and Extension Division and their friends. Teachers will be guests of the student body. Reservations can be made now at the Educational Department on payment of 35 cents.

MISS KOPALD TO CONTINUE HER COURSE FOR SHOP CHAIRMEN OF LOCAL 62

The course on "Labor and Economics," by Sylvia Kopald, given for the shop chairmen of Local 62, is a great success.

Many of the shop chairmen and executive members of that local have assembled for the last few weeks at

the I. L. G. W. U. Building and with interest listened to the presentation of the subject by the teacher, after which a lively discussion followed.

All of the lessons are prepared in sets, a copy of which will be given to those attending the lesson next week, Thursday, March 20.

Review of the Month

Although employment and average weekly earnings decreased slightly in many parts of the country and in a number of industries since the beginning of 1924, the new wage contracts that were negotiated revealed a decided tendency toward higher scales. The Brotherhoods announced new agreements at advanced rates of pay with three railroads, and the mine workers stabilize conditions in the Central Competitive Field by agreeing to a three-year continuation of the highest bituminous rate ever in effect.

In the meanwhile there has been but little change in the cost of living and the slight decline in the food items that consume such a large amount of the whole budget augurs well for the future distribution of the pay envelope.

There usually is a slump in the volume of manufacturing in December and January and that naturally means a slackened demand for labor. Nevertheless production in December was a little above that of November, and January registered a larger improvement. Industrial activity generally picks up in the spring months, and even though it may not develop to the high pace of last year, present indications are very favorable for a normal rate of sustained production.

Orders have been coming in more rapidly, the volume of manufacturing has grown and prices for some commodities have become noticeably firmer, especially where they were out of harmony with the prevailing trend. Demand for iron, steel, lumber, shoes, and sugar has increased. The unfilled orders on the books of the United States Steel Corporation as of February 1, an excellent register of the construction requirements of the country as a whole, has increased 350,000 tons above the level at the end of December.

Increased buying has naturally been accompanied by a rise in the manufacturing and mining output. Some of the increases were seasonal, but even if due weight is assigned to this influence the gains that were made were large. The trend of increased activity did not prevail uniformly in all industries. Although lumber manufacturing was about 21 per cent above normal, leather production fell off to about 92 per cent of normal. Motor cars and truck output continued at a high rate and total automobile production was approximately 12 per cent larger than last month and a good deal more than that above last year. The heavy car loadings thus far this year indicate a wide distribution of commodities and a well maintained demand for goods.

The increase in business failures which occurred during January seems at first thought a rather surprising concomitant to the otherwise favorable business manifestations. But careful analysis reveals in part a seasonal concentration and a predated aftermath of the depression of 1920-

1921. Liquidation of concerns in financial embarrassment for the past two and a half years had been delayed because of the period of extended financing and easier credit facilities under the Federal Reserve system. The more fortunate of these concerns which might have been forced into bankruptcy under our former banking system, were able to rehabilitate their finances. However, after the full reports of 1923 operations became known, individual enterprises were forced to admit their insolvency. February shows a decided drop in failures.

We pointed out in our last month's review the dangers of over inflation. This possibility was further enhanced during February by the \$45,000,000 of gold imported. More than half—\$22,939,710—of this gold was imported from Great Britain in payment of interest on her debts to the United States. New stocks of gold, which increase the reserves of banks, may thus lead to an expansion of bank notes in circulation and a consequent loss at a more rapid rate than the demands of consumers warrant. The result would be rising prices and production beyond the immediate market demand. If the gold could be held out from such misuse and instead used as a basis for sound loans in Europe where industrial rehabilitation is needed, all might benefit. Germany is in a state of financial chaos and is in need of a stable currency to restore its industries. The Dawes Committee may recommend a loan with Germany's railways as a collateral.

The potential effects of the long delayed and much to be desired recovery of Europe might indeed be far reaching. But of more immediate interest to this country are the occurrences in the House of Representatives. The drastic Mellon surtax reductions have been defeated and some fairly radical legislation lost only by a very narrow margin. The proposed gift tax, designed to prevent the circumvention of estate taxes, and an increased inheritance tax rate are incorporated in the present schedules.

The recent political agitation in connection with both taxation and the oil scandal has had somewhat of a sentimental effect upon Wall street and was reflected in the decline in stock prices which occurred at a time when a boom was expected on the exchanges. However, this can hardly have a real or far reaching effect on labor's interest as long as fundamental conditions remain intrinsically sound. There seems to be nothing in the domestic situation to upset the present equilibrium or menace the general level of production. The current industrial developments are encouraging, the stability described last month is still uniformly manifest and employment, output and consumption are moving at a favorable pace toward increasing activity in the spring months.

—Facts for Workers.

РУССКО-ПОЛЬСКИЙ ОТДЕЛ

На массовом собрании Русско-Польского Отдела в Краковском собрании состоялось 7-го Марта, 1924 г., в 8 ч. 315 Нст 10-ой ул., в порядке дня разобрались очень важные вопросы как по организационной так и по текущей работе отдела.

После открытия собрания президент отдела, товарищ Саушкин, заявил, что от безмерной душевной работы здоровье его настолько расстроилось, что он давал бы почти неслыханные обязательства Президенту Русско-Польского Отдела и просит принять его просьбу об отставке. Обсудив просьбу товарища Саушкин, собрание, ввиду творческого понимания ее, решило просьбу его принять.

Новым председателем был избран тов. А. Халезов, который после своего избрания сделал предложение, чтобы старый председатель довел до конца это собрание. Предложение было поддержано и товарищ Саушкин занял место председателя.

Протокол прошлаго общего собрания Русско-Польского Отдела был прочтен и принят с незначительными поправками. При чтении протокола собрания Исполнительного Комитета отдела, затронула необходимость разбирать несколько вопросов оставленных Испол. Ком. на рассмотрение массового собрания отдела.

1) О мерах и том, чтобы Русско-Польский Отдел был представлен на пленарной сессии 2-го июня Конференции "Интернационал Ларс Рейнхарт Юнгс". После продолжительных прений, секретарь был дан соответствующий инструктаж как поступить после того, когда вопрос о делегате от Русско-Польского Отдела будет внесен в повестку 1.

2) По поводу докладов делегата от Русско-Польского Отдела в Исполнительный Комитет отдела 25, что в этот доклад внесен вопрос о высылке членских взносов. Так как этот вопрос очень важный, а в порядке дня собрания не было, то собрание решило поручить секретарию для обсуждения вопроса созвать особый внеочередной комитет прессы.

3) По поводу доклада делегата Русско-Польского Отдела в Испол. Ком. отдела 1, относительно решения выслать из дел отдела по поводу заработной платы, чтобы от Русско-Польского Отдела был принят еще один доклад в Испол. Ком. Делегат доложил, что разобрались этот вопрос, Испол. Ком. отдела 1 решил принять от нашего отдела еще одного делегата, который может высказать за всех собранных как Испол. Ком. так и всех разрозненных их докладов, но без права ревизионного голоса. Выступил на протоколе доклад делегата в Испол. Ком. отдела 1, собрание поддержало предложение Испол. Ком. отдела не высылать второго делегата в доклад 1. Секретарию поручено написать в доклад 1 соответствующий характер письма.

4) После продолжительной и бурной дискуссии вышло заявление делегата в Джайот Борд от Русско-Польского Отдела о том, что они не имеют законных прав голосовать по финансовому вопросу. Присутствующий на собрании М. Эвренский, один из членских членов Русско-Польского Отдела и который раз делегат в Джайот Борд от Русско-Польского Отдела, заявил что это верно

и в истории Отдела, так как делегаты были избраны не по своим правам, а по своему выбору.

Собрание единогласно поддержало решение Исполнительного Комитета протестовать против этого ограничения членских делегатов в Джайот Борд.

5) При обсуждении вопроса о том как повысить членов Испол. Ком. Отдела, было сказано и поддержано предложение чтобы брать из списка кандидатов былых на общ. избирательное дело по хитрым генеральным выборам.

Так как ввиду вынужденности делегата по вынужденным вопросам было сказано, чтобы прийти к тому чтобы возможно было провести в этот вечер все намеченный порядок дня, то секретарию поручено созвать в один из ближайших дней внеочередное собрание членов отдела для того, чтобы закончить окончательно на этот день вопросы и выслать доклад делегата, секретаря и протокол Джайот Борд и Борд Директоров.

ПО ПОВОДУ 10-ти РЕКОМЕНДАЦИЙ.

Дискуссия между генеральными членами Джайот Борд М. Файбергер и мажоритаром доклад 17 Галлерин, известный место в Купер Юнгс, в субботу, 8-го Марта, по поводу пункта 4-го, из десяти рекомендаций Генеральных Исполнительных Комитетов членов для массовки в следующий доклад о политике.

Пункт этот гласит следующее: максимальная заработная плата (скажи) должна быть повышена и должна быть затребована только о защите этой максимальной платы.

Файбергер выступил в защиту этого пункта. Галлерин же наоборот выступил против этого пункта.

С точки зрения временного успеха — благодаря фразам, которые являются лозунгом — в большинстве случаев незначительный и истинный рабочий интерес в нем, Галлерин имел большой успех на этом диспуте.

С практической же точки зрения из аргументов Файбергера можно сделать вывод, что пункт 4-й предложенный в нем, имеет огромную ценность в конечном результате как большинство членов так и мажоритар.

Нет никакого сомнения, что большинство из поддерживающих Галлерин получают не только материальную плату и повышение 4-го пункта безусловно трудно бы их материальное положение.

Общая мысль можно сделать такая: массы в большинстве случаев относятся с недоверием по поводу предложения порождения незначительного от того как члену удавалось обмануть их его предложение в жизнь.

М. Шевченко, Секретарь.

ИНТЕРЕСНАЯ ЛЕКЦИЯ.

В пятницу, 14-го Марта, в 8 ч. веч., в помещении Русского Парохода Довна, 315 Нст, 10-ой ул., доктор Нестор Галлерин прочтет лекцию на русском языке по теме: ОУДОВОДСТВО, которая в том предположит себе от этой болезни. После лекции можно будет задать вопросы на русском и польском языках.

Вход бесплатный.

RAND SCHOOL NOTES

This evening at 8:40 o'clock, Mr. Joseph Jablonowier will lecture at the Rand School, 7 East 15th street, on the "Drama of Social Conflict."

On Saturday, March 16, at 1:30 p. m., Scott Nearing will discuss "Has England had a Revolution?" in his Current Events Class. At 4:00 p. m. on Saturday, March 15, Mr. Urban Ledoux will speak on "The Need

Revolution" before the Saturday Cameraderie.

On Wednesday evening, March 19, Dr. Alex A. Goldenweiser will give a general survey of field of psychoanalysis in the closing lecture of his course. Also at 8:40 p. m. on Wednesday, March 19, Mr. Willy Fogarty will discuss "The Development of Art."

On Thursday evening, March 20, at 8:40 p. m., Mr. Herman Epstein will lecture on "The Meaning of Music."

Scientists Back Labor's Fight Against Poisons in Industry

Ten physicians, including Dr. Gilman Thompson of New York, Dr. Alice Hamilton of Harvard, Dr. Frederick L. Hoffman, U. S. Dept. of Labor expert, Dr. C. E. A. Winslow of Yale, and Dr. Emery R. Hayhurst of Ohio State University, will support the 1,500 delegates from 100 labor unions who will appear in Albany on Tuesday to urge the passage of amendments to the Compensation Act providing protection against benzene poisoning and silicosis and other industrial diseases. Dr. Hoffman and Dr. Hamilton, as well as other experts, will appear in person at the hearings before the Joint Committee

on Labor and Industries to testify for the measures.

These measures include protection from benzene, "one of the most deadly industrial poisons," according to Dr. Alice Hamilton of Harvard, and for silicosis, a lung disease leading to tuberculosis, thus "killing off thousands of workers," according to Dr. Hoffman.

The bills were drawn up by the Workers' Health Bureau and introduced into the State Legislature through the efforts of the State Federation of Labor and the General Trades and Labor Council of New York.

The Week In Local 10

By SAM B. SHENKER

One of those record-breaking membership meetings took place last Monday night, March 10, in Arlington Hall, in response to the notice posted in these columns that nomination for delegates to the 17th Biennial Convention of the I. L. G. W. U. would be made.

Another reason which accounted for the large attendance was the news contained in last week's issue of this publication, that Brother Joseph Fish had tendered his resignation as secretary-treasurer of the local. Members, no doubt, were anxious to hear a report of all this and the action of the Executive Board with regard to the future arrangements for the charge of the Finance Department. All

all, it was a night in which important and interesting matters relating directly to the local were taken up.

As soon as that part of the Executive Board's recommendations contained in its report for March 6, which related to Fish's resignation, were read and accepted, President Ansel called upon Brother Fish to speak.

Fish originally joined the subdivision of the Cutters' Union in which were organized dress and waist cutters. And in 1912, when the amalgamation of all the cutters took place within Local 10, he became automatically one of the members of the present organization. In 1913, he served as a member of the Finance Committee. After the general stoppage of work in the dress and waist trade in 1916, he was elected business agent. Fish served in that capacity until 1918, when he was elected manager of the Waist and Dress Division. After the strike in 1919, he resigned and worked at the trade until 1921. During this time, in 1920, to be exact, he was appointed to the Executive Board and elected chairman of the Board. He served on this body until 1921, when he was elected treasurer of the organization. In 1922, when the office of treasurer was combined with that of secretary to the organization, he was elected to this post and served until the present time.

During the course of his talk, he ascribed to the organization the fact that he was able to be elected and serve in one of the highest offices within the gift of the Joint Board in the cloak and dress industry. Fish thanked the cutters, the active members of the organization, the Executive Board members and the Joint Board delegates for having made possible his election. However, he said, the lion's share of the credit is due to Manager Dubinsky, who has been tireless in his efforts to select him and make it possible to have a member of Local 10 serve in so high a position.

In view of the fact that Dubinsky's name was mentioned a few times by Fish, the chairman felt himself compelled to call upon Brother Dubinsky. The manager said that, while it was true that the delegates of the Joint Board and himself were active in their desire to have Fish elected to this post, it was nevertheless the organization proper which made this possible. In fact, he said, what prompted them to help in the election was the prestige which would accrue to Local 10 in the event that the election would be made possible. He pointed out that the local needs the cooperation of the Joint Board. This was made very plain when the cutters went out recently for increases in wages.

While the organization, as such, could not compel employers to grant these increases, still it could not be said that the Joint Board did not help, indirectly and unofficially. "Neither I, Brother Fish," Dubinsky said, "nor the delegates to the Joint Board,

made our election possible. It was the power wielded by Local 10 within the Joint Board which was largely instrumental. It was these large gatherings," and Dubinsky waved his hand at the closely-packed room, "which placed you in the position to which you have been elected and which makes it possible for Local 10 to boast of having one of its own ranks hold one of the highest offices within the gift of the Joint Board. It is the respect accorded the officers of the Joint Board by these large gatherings when they address the members, which makes this possible. Three months ago it was a dream of to be able to make such a report at this meeting."

It is only about two and a half years since Local 10 has been properly affiliated with the Joint Board, and in this short time it has gained for itself a reputation of power and respect which has accrued to most locals only after many years of affiliation. And not only this, the manager said, the local is represented on most important committees.

In closing his remarks Dubinsky repeated that the delegates to the Joint Board should not be deprived of their due share of credit but he could not help emphasizing the fact that it was the splendid attendance at meetings, the spirit and the unity which prevails in the organization at the present time, which have made the gains of the local possible. Dubinsky expressed the fervent wish that the spirit should not be impaired and that the union go on in its achievements for the benefit of its members.

Following the acceptance of Fish's resignation, the secretary read to the members the recommendations of the Executive Board governing the arrangements for the charge of the Finance Department together with the recommendations on the nomination and election of delegates to the International convention in Boston. In the communication notifying the union officially of this, it states that the convention, which is the seventeenth in the history of the union, is to be held at Convention Hall, in Boston, Massachusetts, beginning Monday, May 6, at 9:30 a. m. This convention is to be a historical gathering of the union, it marks the twenty-fifth year of its existence, "a quarter of a century," in the words of the communication, "of incessant struggle and unbroken achievement."

According to the number of good-standing members, the International has informed Local 10 that it is entitled to nine delegates. This is the same number to which we were entitled two years ago at the convention in Cleveland.

The recommendations of the Executive Board were that nominations of delegates take place at the meeting held on Monday; that poll clerks be elected who shall take charge of the election, and that Saturday afternoon, March 22, be designated as the day when the balloting for the delegates to the convention will take place.

When the recommendation with respect to the election of poll clerks was presented to the members by the chairman, the members decided that the same poll clerks who served at the regular elections of the local in December should be elected to serve in the election of delegates to the convention.

Attention was called by Manager Dubinsky to the fact that one of these poll clerks, namely, Brother Jacob Feischer, is now serving with the Joint Board in the capacity of business agent, and is therefore ineligible to serve as poll clerk now. Brother

Jack Goldstein, No. 686, was unanimously elected to serve instead. The full complement of the committee to serve as the Election Board consists of:

Emanuel Kopp, No. 8775; Nathan Saperstein, No. 762; Meyer Katz, No. 6709; Meyer Friedman, No. 9145; Abe Reiss, No. 9698, and Jack Goldstein, No. 698.

As soon as the chairman called upon the members to make their nominations for candidates as delegates to the convention, a mass of hands rose, the owners of which clamored for recognition to make their nominations. The result was the nomination of twenty-five candidates, from which nine are to be chosen. The nominees are:

David Dubinsky, No. 9016; Philip Ansel, No. 1929; Joseph Fish, No. 5136; Samuel Perlmutter, No. 1845; David Fruhling, No. 5447; Meyer Skluth, No. 336; Benjamin Sachs, No. 2770; Sam B. Shenker, No. 5057; William Fine, No. 84; Isidore Sfas, No. 1239; Harry Zaslowky, No. 1701; Isidore Nagler, No. 4107; Benjamin Ery, No. 6762; Nathan Starr, No. 9676; Louis Pankin, No. 3961; Louis Forer, No. 9884; Morris Jacob, No. 15125; Isidore Cohen, No. 2015; Ben Krakower, No. 3897; Sam Mendelowitz, No. 5117; Chas. W. Serrington, No. 282; Jack Kopp, No. 2495; Sol Levine, No. 188; Jacob Lukin, No. 9009, and Michael Ondusko, No. 237.

In the meantime, Manager Dubinsky, as a vice-president of the International, together with First Vice-president Salvatore Ninio, left late last Monday night for Boston, where they spent Tuesday and Wednesday making

ing the necessary arrangements for the reception of the delegates from the two weeks of the convention. Brother Dubinsky is on the Arrangements Committee.

Among the recommendations of the Executive Board was the report that President Ansel had appointed Manager Dubinsky at the Executive Board meeting to take charge of the Finance Department.

In accordance with the provisions of Local 10's Constitution and the requirements of the International, Manager Dubinsky was bonded, as are all managers and treasurers of the other locals. There are other small details to be worked out, such as the hiring of a dues clerk, etc. For this purpose a committee was appointed by the Executive Board, whose appointment was approved of by the members, consisting of Brothers: Harry Zaslowky, Samuel Kerr, Louis Pankin, Charles W. Serrington, Morris Jacob, Meyer Skluth and Benjamin Ery. This committee is to bring in a report with a view to finally disposing of these details.

The same committee mentioned above was also charged with the duty of making arrangements for the tendering of a suitable testimonial and send-off to the treasurer of the Joint Board, Brother Fish.

Elias Lieberman LAWYER

366 Broadway Tel. Franklin 2333

For many years manager of the Dress and Waist Makers' Union

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of our former brother, JACOB MICHAEL. Brother Michael joined our union on February 19, 1905, and was an active member of our organization. His record was a commendable one.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to his family in their hour of bereavement.

CUTTERS' UNION, LOCAL 10

NOTICE OF ELECTION

Of Delegates to 17th Biennial Convention of I. L. G. W. U.

To Be Held in Boston, Mass., May 5th, 1924

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 22

At ARLINGTON HALL, 23 ST. MARK'S PLACE

Polls Open at 12:30 and Close at 6 P. M.

Only those owing not more than 12 weeks' dues and who have been members of the Union for at least 6 months are eligible to vote.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

MISCELLANEOUS MEETING....Monday, March 17th, 1924

SPECIAL MEETING.....Monday, March 31st, 1924

Special Order of Business: Discussion on the report of the General Executive Board for the renewal of the agreement.

Meetings Begin at 7:30 P. M.

AT ARLINGTON HALL, 23 St. Mark's Place

14th ANNUAL BALL

AT TAMMANY HALL, 145 East 14th Street

(Near Third Avenue)

SATURDAY EVENING, MARCH 29, 1924

Music by Louis Zwerling's Orchestra

Tickets—50c in Advance 75c at the Door