

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

—Job 27.6

JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

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

Vol. VI, No. 14.

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Price 2 Cents

What Investigations Achieve

It is, perhaps, not the nice and proper thing to entertain doubts concerning the immaculate purity of the motives behind the various investigations which are rocking our country these days. How much we should like to believe that we have lived to see a new type of politician arise upon the national horizon—one who is oblivious to his own and his party's interests but who is wholly devoted to the bigger interests of his country and his people. How much we should like to believe that in our political life there has come into being a new genius to whom truth is paramount to everything else, who is actuated by one noble desire to remove the filth and muck which have eaten so deeply into our body politic! Yes, it would be wonderful to acquire the faith that finally there have appeared upon our surface spiritual giants who are ready to wage war upon the corrupt goss in our midst—no matter how great the risk and the penalty they themselves might pay for the risky adventure.

But the truth is that they are only few and far between who actually believe that these inquiries are inspired by pure motives. The majority—no matter to what class they belong—regard these investigations as mere clever political maneuvers, as a curtain-raiser to the coming political campaign. One hears at every step that the Democrats have obtained good campaign material by these revelations, while others assert that the Republicans are up against a stiff fight the coming fall—and so on and so forth.

Only the naive are inclined to believe that these inquiries spell the beginning of a new page in our political life. The man in the street takes neither the investigators nor the truly appalling facts of corruption and graft which they are unearthing with any degree of earnestness. He suspects them of political motives; to him their endeavors are only an attempt to build up reputations for themselves upon the ruins of their exposed rivals.

The big mass of the people, who are reputed to have a very short memory, have learned one unforgettable lesson in politics, and that is, that honesty and politics do not go very well together. Their experience is that an honest politician belongs to the realm of fantasy but not to the realities of life.

The man in the street has witnessed in his day a multitude of investigations that began with an accompaniment of popular storms and ended in perfect serenity. He had seen swarms of politicians emerging from these crusades into dazzling publicity upon a crest of radicalism and reform and watched them end their careers as lackeys of capital and handy-men of the "interests." He had seen these "saviors of society," after rising to the highest rung of the ladder, turn their back upon the people whom they had started out to emancipate from their oppressors.

Bitter, sober experience leaves but scant hope that these investigations will lead to anything tangible or concrete, that they will produce a change in our social life. The past smother this hope and would not let it rise.

How well this apathy and hopelessness play into the hands of the enemies of the people! It is remarkable how safely they count upon this callous indifference of the people and their suspicion of the motives leading to these revelations to come out unscathed from this calamity! They themselves are doing their best to spread the idea that the whole business is but a political game, that it is the old quarrel between the two political parties for the public trough.

If the mass of our people could free themselves from these paralyzing and demoralizing suspicions even for a while—if only for the purpose of defeating the crafty scheming of these vultures—what astonishing results that would produce! For, after all, no one can be entirely sure concerning the purity of one's motives. Who knows—perhaps, the trend of life has finally brought into being that rare specimen, the honest politician?

But regardless of the motives and our personal thoughts concerning them, the important thing is the facts brought out in the course of these investigations. The cardinal fact remains that it is the Dohenys and the Sinclairs who make our presidents, our cabinets, our judges, our laws, though ostensibly we are a democracy where every citizen is a sovereign.

These facts should be engraved in our memory. Their importance cannot be detracted from even though we might suspect that the motives of those who revealed them are not of the purest. Whatever their intentions, the credit is theirs for having brought home to the American people the great undeniable truth that the fate lies completely in the hands of the Dohenys and the Sinclairs.

S. Y.

All Other Union and Trade News on Page Two

Conference Begun With Cloak Manufacturers

Joint Conference Committee—President Sigman
and Secretary Baroff Represent International—
First Conference With the Jobbers

Last Wednesday evening, March 26, the conferences with the cloak manufacturers on the subject of the renewal of the agreements in the industry, which expire on June 30 next, were begun at a meeting between the representatives of the Union and of the Merchants Ladies' Garment Association at the Hotel Astor.

The present agreement with all the employing groups in the cloak industry contains a clause providing for beginning of negotiations for the renewal of the succeeding agreement, three months before its expiration. Two weeks ago, the International, together with the Cloak and Dress Joint Board, notified the three cloak employers' associations that it was ready to confer with them on the terms of the new agreement. This letter was forwarded to the Protective Association, to the Merchants Ladies' Garment Association, and to the American Cloak and Suit Manufacturers' Association.

The Merchants Ladies' Garment Association was the first to fix the date for the meeting, and it was the first association with whom the rep-

resentatives of the Union met. The conference committee of the Union was elected last Friday at a meeting of the Joint Board and consists of General Manager Israel Feinberg, the managers of all the district offices and departments of the Union, the chief officers of the Joint Board, the Board of Directors of the Joint Board, and the secretary-managers of all the locals. The International was represented on the committee by President Morris Sigman and Secretary Abraham Baroff. President Sigman will naturally be the leading spokesman for the Union at these conferences.

On Monday afternoon last, the conference committee of the Union held a preliminary meeting in the International Building where it discussed the details of the program of demands to be presented to the employers. In addition, several of the locals presented special demands pertaining to their own craft which in no way, however, affect the general demands. These special requests will receive their full attention from the conference committee, each according to its weight and importance.

General Strike of Tuckers Settled

Workers Win 42-Hour Week, Fixed Scale, Recognition of Union and Other Demands

A week ago Thursday morning, on March 20, the general strike of the tuckers, hemstitchers and novelty workers in New York City was declared, and in the course of one week, the strike came to an end, having won for the workers a great many concessions from their employers and having assured them a labor organization in the trade.

The Eastern Organization Department of the International first began organizing the tuckers two or three months ago. After several preliminary meetings with groups of workers, Vice-president Halperin, under whose management this drive was being conducted, reported that the novelty

workers were ready to form a union. Shortly afterward, a charter was granted and the workers began to flock to the new organization. Already at the first meeting of the new local, its members began to talk about the general strike in the trade. It was clear that only such a concerted move could bring proper results and unionize all the novelty workers.

At the beginning of strike talk in the trade, the novelty shop owners also began to organize. They formed an association and began to negotiate with Vice-president Halperin for a settlement. These preliminary

(Continued on Page 2.)

Union Health Center Dance

Tomorrow night, Saturday, March 29, the first annual ball of the Union Health Center will take place at the 71st Regiment Armory, 34th street and Fourth avenue.

This ball from all indications is bound to be an unusually interesting affair. The most active representatives of the labor movement in New York City and all the active workers of the International locals in Greater New York have promised to attend.

Remember, it is the duty of all of us to make this undertaking of the Union Health Center a success in every sense of the word. Do not forget that it is our own Health Center, a place to which we turn in time of need, an institution that we are obliged to generously support.

Chicago Dress Strike Vigorously Continued

Chicago Joint Board Gives \$10,000 for Strikers—Cloakmakers Pay Dollar a Week for Strike Fund—Chicago University Students Arrested on Picket Lines

In the course of last week no important changes have taken place in the Chicago strike situation. A few more small manufacturers settled with the Union and a number of workers returned to work, but the bigger firms belonging to the Association are holding out as stubbornly as before and against them the fight is being waged with as much energy as on the first day it broke out.

The strike is now nearing the end of the fourth week and as yet not a single break in the lines of the workers has occurred, this despite the inhuman methods adopted by the employers and the Chicago city authorities to break the morale of the strikers. Miss Mary MacDowell, Commissioner of Public Welfare of the city, last Thursday, after the dress manufacturers had refused to negotiate

with the representatives of the Union, appointed a committee to investigate conditions in the waist and dress trade and, after hearing both sides, took a stand with regard to the pending conflict. The committee consists of Father Siedenber, the chairman of the Citizens' Committee; Professor Todd, labor manager of the Kufelbeimer firm; Professor Mills, formerly impartial chairman of the arbitration board of the Amalgamated and the clothing manufacturers; Professor Squiers of the Trade Board; Anthon Johnson of the Committee of 15 of the Chicago Federation of Labor, and several others.

This committee has already held two sessions and listened to lengthy reports on the strike and its causes. The committee then forwarded a message to Mayor Dwyer containing a number of facts pertaining to the strike, and called his attention to the brutality of the police, asking him to interfere.

JOINT BOARD GIVES TEN THOUS. AND DOLLARS

On Friday night last, March 21, the Chicago Joint Board voted to give ten thousand dollars from its treasury for the support of the strike.

The Joint Board also plans to have a great protest demonstration meeting in one of the biggest halls in Chicago to express the indignation of organized labor and other right-thinking

INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR

By H. SCHOOLMAN

This Week Twelve Years Ago

Over 3,000 ladies' tailors assemble at Carnegie Hall, New York, to discuss the relations of the employers' association in their trade to the Union. A decision is adopted to ask the association to force the firm of Stein & Haines to conduct itself in accordance with the protocol agreement and, in case the association refuses this demand and sides with the firm, a general strike in the trade would be called.

Local 23 recommends that the Joint Board decide to celebrate May 1. It is also proposed that the Joint Board negotiate with the manufacturers' association concerning this point.

Local 9 decides to appoint two special organizers to organize the alteration tailors of New York and vicinity.

ing elements in the City of Chicago against the injunctions with which the Chicago dress manufacturers obviously hope to break the strike and which are being turned out for them wholesale in local courts. It is planned to have President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor address the meeting in addition to a number of prominent local leaders.

Last Saturday a number of students from Chicago University who are taking a sympathetic interest in the strike, were arrested together with the strikers on the picket lines.

Baltimore Locals Show New Activity

The Baltimore Cloakmakers' Union is showing more activity and interest in general affairs than it has for a long time past, according to correspondence received from Samuel Kaplan, the secretary of Local 4. The coming of Brother Sol Polakoff to Baltimore as resident manager representing the International Office has wrought a remarkable change in the organization in the opinion of Brother Kaplan.

The spirit at the meetings has changed entirely and, instead of the former slipshod attitude towards trade union matters and problems, the members are discussing their affairs with keen interest and a surprising amount of good sense. At the last member meeting, for instance, the discussion preceding the election of delegates to the Boston convention proved clearly that the members of Local 4 are beginning to take their obligations as members of the International quite seriously and their union affiliation as a very earnest matter. The local decided to send only one delegate to the convention so as to be able to apply whatever money they have towards the payment of all

their obligations to the General Office.

Problems that come up on the floor are taken up with the circumspection and attentiveness, and shop disputes are discussed in a spirit of wider fraternity than heretofore. The \$10 tax which the local recently levied upon the members is being collected with remarkable speed even in the shops where the Union has no full control, all this due to the new management of the local.

The local cloak employers, too, seem to have realized that there is a union in the trade that can no longer be ignored, and they appear to have made up their minds to no longer treat their agreements with it as a scrap of paper.

But the trade itself is by far not as good as could be expected for this time of the year. There is as little work in Baltimore as in other cities. Of course, that affects the local workers materially; nevertheless, they are determined to go ahead and, with the aid of their new manager, make Baltimore one of the best organized cloak cities in the roster of our International.

Cutters' Union, Local 10, Elects Convention Delegates

Local 89 Will Vote Next Thursday, April 3

Last Saturday afternoon, March 22, an election for delegates to the Boston convention took place in the Cutters' Union, Local 10. Nearly 900 votes were cast in this election and nine men were elected. David Dubinsky headed the poll with 747 votes. The other elected delegates are:

Sam Perlmuter, Isidor Nagler, Joseph Fish, Sam B. Shenker, Philip Ansel, Meyer Skluth, Ben Evry, David Fruhling.

The election for convention dele-

gates and also for manager and executive board in Local 89 will take place next Thursday, April 3.

Members of the local will be able to vote all day, from 9 in the morning until 7 in the evening. The voting will take place at the office of the Union, 8 West 21st street, in the district offices of the Joint Board, in the office of the Women's Trade Union League and in the public schools on 28th and 24th streets where shop meetings are held.

Tuckers' Strike Settled

(Continued from page 1)

negotiations, however, failed to bring any results and the strike took place.

About 2,000 workers answered the strike call. The response of the novelty workers to the call of the Union must have had the effect of a thunderbolt upon the employers as, before the first day of the strike was over, practically all the independent manufacturers applied for a settlement. A few days later, on Monday afternoon, March 24, the committee from the Union headed by Vice-president Halperin and a committee from the Tuckers' Association, met and effected a settlement. The collective agreement which was signed guarantees the workers a 42-hour week and fixed minimum scales for all branches of the trade, granting a substantial increase in wages. Above all, it recognizes the Union and es-

tablishes a system of union control in the shops, as in all other organized trades. On Tuesday afternoon, the settlement was enthusiastically endorsed by the strikers at a meeting in the Debs Auditorium. The strikers are already returning to work and the new Local 41 has every reason to be proud of its first achievement.

Aside from Vice-president Halperin, credit for the successful and speedy settlement of the strike is also due to Vice-president Samuel Lefkowitz, who acted as chairman of the settlement committee; to Organizer Philip Orelsky, the chairman of the picket committee; Organizer Julius Goldstein, chairman of the organization committee, and Brothers Herrlich and Kessler, active members of the new local, and several others who participated on the strike committee.

Local 25 Elects Convention Delegates on April 3

A meeting of the Waist and Dressmakers' Union, Local 25, will be held on Thursday, April 3, at 5:30 p. m., in the International Auditorium to elect delegates to represent the local at the Boston convention of the International.

The executive board of the local is very anxious that every member of the Union participate in the election of delegates to the jubilee convention and choose the very best men and women to represent it. They also con-

sider it important to have a large vote cast, so that the elected delegates represent a majority of the members and not a small group.

Local 25 expects a great deal from the coming convention and the waist-makers will watch anxiously for what their delegates will be able to accomplish for them at this biennial gathering of our Union. It is therefore of great importance that members of Local 25 take a close interest in this election of their delegates next week.

All members of the Locals of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union will meet at the

FIRST BALL OF THE UNION HEALTH CENTER

where surprises never seen at any other ball await them.

Remember the Date and Place

**SATURDAY
MARCH 29**
At the Armory of the 71st Regiment, 34th St. and Fourth Ave.

Tickets can now be obtained in all the offices of our unions. Do not fail to come to the ball. It is one of the healthiest ones to help those who are sick.

Dr. Geo. M. Price,
Director

Harry Wandler,
Chairman, Board of Directors

TRADE AND ORGANIZATION PROBLEMS

What the Next Convention Shall Do

LETTERS FROM MEMBERS

A PLEA FOR FINISHERS

Dear Editor: Our Boston convention should consider the problem of why a finisher should not be entitled to make a living exactly like an operator, cutter, presser or examiner. I mean by that that the operators should not be allowed to do the work which actually belongs to the finisher such as canvassing, the basting of quilting, the sewing in of collars and cuffs, the lining of jackets by machine and similar work.

The examiner marks the place for the buttons and sews them on at the same time; he also does the fixing without handing it over to the finisher. As a result, all the branches in the trade work overtime, except the finisher, who cannot even fill out the regular number of weekly hours to make a living of some sort.

I propose therefore that the next convention find a way to so subdivide the work on the garment as to leave the finishing of it to the finisher and give every worker in the trade a chance to make a living. Overtime, that damned feature of our trade, should also be abolished. If we plan to make the work-hours in the industry shorter, it would be well to abolish overtime first of all. We must also root out the individual agreements where they are found, which prevent a worker from getting a job even at the height of the season.

Fraternally,
J. JACOBSON,
Local 9, Ledger 2186.

OVERTIME MAKES SLAVES OF WORKERS

Dear Editor: At a special meeting of our local on March 10, which was attended by Vice-president Feinberg, we discussed the demand of the Union for a new minimum wage scale and Brother Feinberg's arguments have convinced me that it is not at all as bad as we imagined it was.

As we wound up the meeting after midnight, the question which I put to the chairman was left unanswered. I desire therefore to put it here: Would it be possible that, to the demands already prepared, another be added, namely, the abolition of overtime?

I believe that overtime robs many a worker of the chance of being active in his Union and makes him a slave to his job and employer. Many a man will take a job for low wages as long as the lure of overtime is held out to him. I do not believe that more than a fraction of the workers get paid in full for their overtime.

The employer in my shop wanted us to work overtime, but, as chairman, I declared to him that he should rather fill the vacant machines first before thinking of overtime. I need not tell you that I made enough enemies among the workers themselves. The boss also maintains that, right next door to us in another Union shop, they are working overtime though there are only three operators employed there.

Hoping to get a reply, I am, fraternally yours,

S. LEVIN,
Member Local 11.

CONCERNING ROTHMAN'S PROPOSALS

Dear Editor: In a recent issue of our paper Brother Rothman of Local 1 proposed

a number of recommendations to our next convention which touch upon some very vital subjects. Among these the most important in his opinion is the limitation of tenure of office for officials to not more than two years. To substantiate his judgment, he points to the fact that there is lack of harmony in the Union between the members and the officials.

Let us see if this is true. If there had really existed such a chasm between our members and their officers, I should be inclined to believe that the members would have gone a great deal further than merely suggesting that the time period of their holding of office be limited. The fact, however, that the present officers in the organization have been elected and reelected for so many years past is indicative that this "disharmony" is very much exaggerated.

Of course, there is some mistrust, which I would not deny, and the relations between the officers and the members are sometimes not as cordial as they should be. This, perhaps, inevitable, but it has nothing to do with us for a moment, assuming that the organization is not two years. This is brought on by various reasons—sometimes by bad conditions in the trade, or at times by a special situation in the shop which arouses a bitter feeling that is vented as a rule upon the officer.

At times this lack of harmony is made to order artificially by persons who concern themselves with everything in the world but their own union, and whose only object in life is to slant their organization and hurt it. But let us for a moment assume that Brother Rothman is right and the Union adopts his plan—how will it work?

Everyone will admit that it takes time for a "green" man to break into any business. It would therefore be a waste of time and effort to let a man go after he has acquired his first valuable experience. Again, if a short time-limit is placed, it can be easily imagined that no one would have any ambition to develop himself with the prospect of rising to a higher place in the Union. Our leadership would degenerate into a group of incapable and inexperienced persons.

But the most important thing is that, under the short term rule, we would take away from the officer the responsibility he should feel for his position. How can we expect him to feel such a responsibility, if from the beginning we make it known to him that his post will come to an end two years hence? No, it is not a question how long a man should be at his task, but how good he is. If he is not worth his post, he should not be allowed to remain at it even for a month.

Brother Rothman also complains why we do not demand anything new from our employers, and he maintains that we keep on repeating the same old demands over and over again. I think he is wrong. If he only gave more thought to what has taken place in our trades in the last decade he would have to admit that our Union has during this period put up many a graft and inspiring fight for new industrial conditions. The introduction of week-work surely was not an "old" standard of labor, nor are the present new demands of our International. They certainly at all times were honestly aimed at the so-

lution of the problems of our industry.

What concerns the problem of "amalgamation," this is still a long way off in a practical sense. I, for instance, am not at all convinced that I would not be a moral gain to us.

What concerns Local 48, it seems to me the idea of abolishing this local is laughable. I still remember well the time when the Italian members of our Union were scattered among the various locals. They were at that time the most backward ele-

ment among our members and the Union had a very difficult time to keep them in line. It was not, of course, their fault as we learned later. It was because they were isolated from each other by the various locals. After they had been gathered into one big organization they became much better union men, and today Local 48 is one of the biggest and strongest of our local unions.

Brother Rothman may see therefore that the question of "amalgamation" is not such a simple one and it will probably take more than one convention until it is finally decided.

S. BAYLINTON,
Member Local 22.

Brookwood Conference on Workers' Education

By ARTHUR CALHOUN

Professor of Sociology, Brookwood Workers' College

The conference on Workers' Education held at Brookwood on February 23 and 24 was a notable event in the progress of labor education. The personnel of the gathering represented many of the teachers in workers' education movement in New England and the Middle States and was made up entirely of actual teachers of labor classes. At no educational association meeting or learned society convention would one find a more distinguished group than this company of a score of men and women who met around the table in the Journalism room. Everything that was said and done conveyed the spirit of sincerity, earnestness, enthusiasm, and competence, and the proceedings as a whole gave good grounds for confidence that in respect to the teaching process Workers' Education is well abreast of the best attainments in other fields of education.

The conference was called by Brookwood Local 189, American Federation of Teachers, and attendance was restricted to actual members of the Federation carefully selected with a view to special contributions to the discussion. Such discrimination was made necessary by the limited accommodations at Brookwood, but it was also accepted as a definite policy for the conference, and results bear out the wisdom of so confining the participation. The teachers were free to work out the problems of curriculum and method with the minimum of attention to the problems peculiar to administrators, or to managers of popular lecture and entertainment programs.

Brookwood profited greatly from the presence of so many visitors, though their presence in the community life was made possible only by the self-denial of many of the students, who spent the week-end in New York in order that the guests might be accommodated. The visitors profited also by their contact with a growing concern occupied with resident education for workers in the labor movement. They benefited also by the informal association and rec-

reation in which a sense of comradeship in a great project grew up.

The conference brought clearly to the surface the fact that not only is a distinctive point of view and method being worked out within the movement itself, but also that the experience of the Workers' Education movement is destined to revise curricula, viewpoints, and procedure in education in general. The views developed at the conference with reference to the reorganization and redirection of the sciences dealing with man, and the stress on the outstanding importance of group participation and group achievement in workers' classes were especially stimulating. Some people carried away new ideas of the meaning of education, and of the relation of knowledge to life. Much value was contributed by those that dealt with the thought process and its expression in oral and written English.

It was decided by the conference that the proceedings should be published and that future conferences should be called to continue the stimulation and organization of thought achieved by this session. Certainly there seems to be good grounds for the belief that Workers' Education is approaching a sound professional basis from those that control the financial and administrative resources of the movement.

RAND SCHOOL NOTES

On Saturday, March 23, at 1:30 p. m., Scott Nearing will discuss "The Department of Justice," in his Current Events Class at the Rand School, 7 East 15th street.

At 3:15 p. m., the Saturday Afternoon Cameraderie will meet in the Debs Auditorium for tea and talk, to be followed at 4:00 p. m. by the usual discussion. The Hon. Victor Berger, member of Congress from Wisconsin, will speak on the topic "A Socialist in Politics."

On Thursday evening, March 27, at 8:40 p. m., Herman Epstein will give an illustrated concert, with violin, cello, and piano in his course on the "Meaning of Music."

JUSTICE

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The Home is Losing

By JOHN LA RUE

Machine production and the factory system of employment, although raising the living standards and making possible luxuries that the working class did not enjoy in the past, is inducing a great social change. There was a time within the memory of the present generation when only the man in the family—the father, husband or brother—went to work in the factory. Today it is common for the whole family—man, wife and children—to go out to work. Much of this is due to the changing status of the women in industry. The factories, the shops, the transportation industries, are absorbing married as well as single women to an extent which foreshadows the extinction of the home. Since women have acquired the right to vote, the political as well as the industrial fabric of our present society is also changing rapidly.

In past generations when the toll of the agricultural and town worker was limited only by the amount of daylight, and the working time extended from sunrise to sunset, the toiler still enjoyed a home life. His hours of work were not limited by the 8-hour law or the union rules. He worked 12 and 14 hours a day. Me-

chanics as well as farm laborers did not have to travel far to get home after work. Many hand industries were carried on in the home. The manual laborer who remained at home worked long hours, but leisurely and not with the breakneck speed of our modern factories or slaughter houses. They were his own hours. His wife and children toiled also but they regulated their own existence. There was no boss over them.

His hut was primitive, cold in winter, stifling in summer; there was no running water, little light, no ventilation. There were great epidemics of contagious diseases but he did not suffer from nervous disorders or the heart ailments traceable to the intensity of modern life, now so prevalent.

The modern era has transplanted much of the home activities into the factories. Workers no longer have homes. They have left them to go into the cities. There they are tenants in machine-made houses, moving from block to block and city to city with the industry. The factory system has made nomads of the toilers. There is no longer a family center, a community life, a village church or tem-

ple to give our people a common outlook. The crowds that jounce and jostle in our subways today get their social outlook mainly through the press. The children get contact with the world through the school. Adult workers have the union and their fellow workers in the factory to cling to.

Perhaps the most serious aspect of the destruction of the simple life by modern industry is the transition of married women from the home into the factory. There are 2,000,000 married women workers in the United States according to the last census, a vast increase in the last decade. In 1890 less than five of every 100 married women were gainfully employed. In 1920 nine out of every 100 married women were working. Most of these women went into transportation, elevator running, conductors, car-cleaning and similar jobs and into factories. The increase in these two branches was over 41 per cent in 30 years. Still more married women went into trades, including clerical work. The number of married women in domestic service declined 12 per cent. There are more than 500,000 married women in factories today.

This situation was found to exist

in the backward South as well as the industrialized East and West. In Alabama 77 per cent of the women employed in factories were married; in Kentucky, 19 per cent; in Missouri, 20 per cent. Most of their earnings were contributed to the support of their families; it was found. Many of these women after their day of factory toil were caring for small children at night and cooking, cleaning and washing for their families. The force that drove them into the factories was poverty and the desire to earn enough to help the family. New York City is one of the centers where married women go to work in textile numbers. Akron, Ohio, is another woman's town; so are textile centers like Manchester, Lawrence and New Bedford, Mass.

Recent studies have shown how poorly paid are these married women toilers. In South Carolina, one of the most backward States, about half of the women workers are married. Most of them are women under 40 years of age. Fully 80 per cent of them worked 55 hours a week in textile mills, cigar factories and laundries. Their average weekly earnings were about \$9.50. A 16-year-old girl entering a factory might receive \$7 a week. Advancement was so slow that, although she worked until 40 years of age, she could not be sure of doubling her salary in that time. There was no future and no possibility of saving.

The situation in South Carolina is such that only by pooling all their earnings can a wage-earner's family escape from the uncertainties and disadvantages of being in the dependent working class. In a less marked degree the situation is similar in advanced States.

Stenographers, teachers, clerical workers, store employees, the four groups mainly composed of women workers, in the larger cities have a large proportion of married women. In every case these women are giving up their family life to remain at work. The motives are varied. Among these is a repugnance for the drudgery of home living. Another is the insecurity of employment. Many of them are losing vitality and health in the process if they are trying to do double work. Some gain by leaving the home and in most instances the family gains through the increased earnings. A marked offset, however, is the development of modern life following the destruction of the home and the drift of more than 60 per cent of the total population into cities, is the restricted family life and the decreasing birth rate. Living costs are so high and life so intense in this day that children become unwelcome or too expensive. Furthermore there is little room for a child in a modern home, which is constantly becoming smaller.

These are surface indications of some of the social consequences of the trend in industry. Employment of women, single or married, is generally accepted. But since it has not yet been possible to develop a mechanical mother, what to do about the home life, now marked for extinction, remains a difficult question. If it were possible for a married man to support his family according to a decent American standard, many of these difficulties would be solved at once. The tendency seems to be in the opposite direction however, to make wage-earners of the entire family.

Among the Cloakmakers of Canada

By SOL SEIDMAN

They are having a good season in the Montreal cloak trade. Cloakmakers are working day and night, Saturdays and Sundays full blast ahead. They are not recently landed workers either, as practically all of them have been in the Union more than once and some of them can prove that they were old members of the "independent" union which existed here many years ago.

The Montreal organization is entirely disorganized. When Jewish workers are invited to a meeting, they offer the excuse that the French-Canadians who have entered the trade in recent years are in their way and that during the recent strikes conducted by the Union in Montreal, these French-Canadians have acted as strikebreakers. This is, of course, true. The French-Canadians are a big factor in the trade today, amounting to about forty or forty-five per cent of the total number of workers and they are a difficult element to organize. The Montreal organization for two years paid the wages of a French organizer, an able and loyal worker, but he did not succeed in taking a dozen men into the locals, except such as worked in the same shops as the Jewish workers.

Yet, with due allowance for this hindrance, we must not ascribe the full blame to the French-Canadians. The Jewish workers are not much better, for they are all former union men and they dropped out of the organization because the last few years had been very bad in the cloak trade. As a result, the Union was left with but a few shops employing about one-third of those in the trade, and in these too the employers succeeded through lockouts and enforced strikes in smashing the organization with the aid of strikebreakers, French-Canadians and Jews alike. Had the operators and finishers remained with the Union and waited for a better chance—to emphasize the operators and the finishers, as the cutters and pressers still have good locals—they could have made very big headway this season. But instead of sticking to their locals, they decided to desert their union and now, working eighty hours a week, they are lucky if they can eke out forty to fifty dollars for their work.

Everything that could be done was attempted to warn the cloakmakers,

through meetings, committees and circulars, that they will have to pay dearly for this neglect of their organization. But the appeal did not meet with response. Only a few weeks ago there began some talk of a "stoppage"; the Union called together a meeting which was rather well attended. But in the end it appeared that this was only the wish of a handful of fellows who thought that, through such a "stoppage," they might be able to get a few more cents for the garments and return to work by "putting it over" on the Union again.

There is only one thing that can help the Montreal cloakmakers and that is to get back into the Union wholeheartedly, with their minds made up to organize. There are signs of improvement even among the French-speaking workers; quite recently a whole group of them—former strikebreakers—came to the office pleading that they sincerely repent their former actions and promised that they would do everything in their power for the Union in the future. They were taken into the organization and now it remains to be seen how much they meant by it.

Brother Joseph Schubert is doing all in his power to keep up the organization under the present difficult circumstances. The present season, with its abundance of work and meagre earnings, certainly should serve as a stimulant for the cloakmakers who formerly belonged to the organization to rejoin it.

Toronto's cloak season this year is exceptionally bad. There is very little work; some shops are closed entirely and others went into bankruptcy on account of fighting the Union. The organization controls about seventy-five per cent of the trade, outside of the Katon Company shops which were never organized. Toronto is suffering also on account of Montreal. Both markets constantly compete with each other; during the strikes in these cities, the workers in each of them would indirectly act as strikebreakers for the other. Toronto is therefore very much interested in bringing it about that, for the next season, both cities shall be ready for a joint fight for union shops and union work conditions.

The Toronto locals are alive and

full of activity. The workers are paying up an assessment of fifteen dollars per head for an emergency fund and are also giving a half-day's pay to cover debts incurred in former strikes. Only one such strike had cost the local organization over six hundred dollars, the fight against the "Society Ladies' Wear Co." Charges against a number of good union men grew out of that strike, and they were put under heavy bonds. They were all freed, but the firm went bankrupt and is now out of business.

Our International has done a great deal to help the Toronto cloakmakers, morally and financially, to reorganize the local trade. Today, there are about eight hundred workers working in thirty unionized shops under standard labor conditions. The locals are functioning regularly and meetings are well attended.

They are planning to build a labor lyceum in the near future in Toronto, and our workers, together with those in the Amalgamated locals, are the main shareholders in this undertaking.

The Toronto locals have also elected delegates to the next convention of the International in Boston, and will be represented there by full quotas, notwithstanding the fact that the locals appropriated only seventy-five dollars for the total expenses of each delegate.

BITUMINOUS COAL AGREEMENT

An agreement between the coal operators of the Central Competitive fields (Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Western Pennsylvania) and the United Mine Workers of America, was signed on February 13. This agreement extends the existing wage scale for three years and provides for a joint meeting in Miami, Florida, in February, 1927, to draft another contract. The provision for this 1927 meeting is mandatory.

The length of time which this contract is to run represents a compromise. The miners' union contended for a four year agreement, the operators for one of a year's duration.

The extension of the existing wage scale is regarded as a victory for the miners and means the continuation of the rates of pay gained during the war and early reconstruction period. —Federal Council Information Service, March 23, 1924.

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Diaries and Memoirs

(Notes and Observations by a Journalist)

By L. M.

The last few years have seen a great literary harvest in memoirs and diaries. "Former kings, ex-ministers, princes of royal households that are no more, ex-revolutionists, and other 'has-beens'" are seriously turning to the pen.

Memoirs, as a rule, are the balance sheets of persons who have reached the end of their careers, who have to tell a tale of greater or lesser interest of the events in which it has been their fortune or misfortune to take part, and to give their retrospective opinion of men and things with whom they came in contact. But diaries are written in times of actual combat and the clash of living, when the soul is restless and seeks means of pacifying itself. Girls in the period of adolescence are assiduous diary-writers, but diaries are also written by persons who leave a mark after themselves in the affairs of the world during the most hectic moments of their turbulent activities.

Small wonder we have so many memoirs and diaries in our day. On the one hand, the crop of "finished" celebrities has never been as great as it is at this time, men and women who can safely strike a balance of their life achievements in the form of memoirs. On the other hand, never in the whole span of the world's history have so many events of great magnitude been crowded into one period as during the last decade, and these have served as a driving motive for many great and near great to record their impressions in the form of diary notes.

I confess, I always have had a predilection for this sort of literature. It is to me far more interesting to read what a mature and wise person has to say concerning his own life, joys and sorrows than what he might have to say about others. The keenest psychologist knows more about himself than about the soul and the mind of others whom he might attempt to describe. Memoir literature is also simpler in style and more sincere in its appeal, less dressed up, as it were, less "fixed" up and a good deal more intimate than other literary forms. The diarist or memoir writer is at home with his pen and he conveys this atmosphere to his reader.

Yet, I must admit that, while these qualifications apply uniformly to the

memoirs of yesterday, they do not hold good with respect to present-day memoirs. The memoirs of these turbulent days have a made-to-order physiognomy and lack the aspects which used to make them so attractive in the past. There is a big market for memoirs and this market is being satisfied in an artificial wholesale manner which is entirely devoid of the spontaneous, sincere flavor of old. Nevertheless, even these are worth reading and surpass in value many another book which in literary quality might greatly surpass them. One thing cannot be denied: they are human documents and the spirit of life permeates them throughout.

It is quite likely too that the penchant for diaries and memoirs of the present-day reader is explained on the ground of his state of mind in general. We care less for "fiction" these days, for the fabricated story that would take us away from realities. Somehow the fear of truth is less prominent in this epoch than ever before and the truth with all its naked harshness seems far more precious to us than the soothing lore of fiction. That's why diaries and memoirs attract today not only such as look to it for "mysteries" and things piquant, but also such as demand much more than that from their reading diet.

A considerable part of the memoirs written these days comes from the pen of generals, diplomats and princes—leaders in the last war—who would whitewash themselves of the bloody guilt attached to it. They would prove that they have had no direct part in wrecking Europe and they pile up mountains of exhibits to prove their alibis. You will search in vain in such memoirs for the truth, in these counter-charges and indictments brought by celebrated German and French memoirists. But the valuable thing about the times is that it is evident that they all feel guilty, that their conscience would not let them rest—their protestations to the contrary notwithstanding. The reader may derive, from reading these memoirs, at least this satisfaction,—that before the verdict of history these gentlemen tremble whether they say that openly or between the lines.

The impressions one gains from reading the numerous memoirs and diaries touching upon the Russian

revolution, however, are quite different. There is a great number of them and they grow from week to week. They are written mostly by former revolutionists, full-fledged and slightly tainted, some of whom are openly cursing the revolution and deprecating their former support of it, while others are singing its praises up to a certain period and its abominations after it had entered a later period. Others, on the other hand, are trying to prove that the revolution would have been a great success were it not for this particular X or that particular Z.

These memoirs, too, are interesting, not so much for what is written in them but for their tone, the way they are written—for the general chord of disappointment in that revolution. Like the war memoirs, these books also seek to find the guilty in this fiasco of the Russian upheaval, and, needless to say, they will have no difficulty in locating them as long as the inheritors of the Russian revolution sit in the Kremlin.

In these memoirs, you'll find idyllic descriptions of how sweet and lovely

Russian life was before the revolution, what a paradise for "one and all" that land used to be—and these emotional departures tend rather to nauseate the sophisticated reader who still remembers the Russia of the Plievs and the Pobledonostzys. The writer recalls in this connection a little incident which he witnessed on his way over to America many years ago in the steerage of a huge liner packed to suffocation with immigrants. The first few days the between-the-deck passengers were rather joyful, anticipating the landing in America, and were recounting to each other the causes and reasons which drove them from their homelands. But as the journey progressed and seasickness became rampant, there arose among the immigrants, particularly among the women, wailing and cries over sufferings they had to undergo until they could reach the promised land. They cursed the steamship agent who had sold them the tickets, and they deprecating the day they decided to make the pilgrimage, and they were all but ready to turn back home if the captain would only turn the ship. The captain did not.

Many of these memoirists who write about the Russian revolution remind me of these middle-aged steerage women passengers on their trip to this "land of freedom."

A Message to Members of Local 38

By B. DRASIN, Secretary

May 5 has been set as the day of the opening of the Seventeenth Convention of our International to be held at Convention Hall in Boston, Mass., and I believe that, as members of this organization, most of you realize the importance of this great gathering which takes place every two years. I personally believe that yearly conventions would be still better, but our International has grown too large,—the individual locals are spread all over the United States and even Canada, and it would be too expensive an undertaking to have yearly conventions, although there are so many important matters which come up and have to be held off until the convention takes place.

Our local has decided to send its full quota of delegates, that is four. This coming convention will take up many matters of vital interest for our local. Our active element are preparing themselves for this task, and there is a great deal of competition between

those who desire to serve as your representatives. Each and every one of them believes that he is the one who is the best fitted for that task and that he will represent the sentiment and express the will of the membership at large.

The final say is left to you—the individual member—who will judge and decide. You can do that by not failing to come with your union book to the office of the Union on Saturday, March 29, from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p. m. Realizing the importance of this as you do, I hope and trust that you will choose the men most able and trustworthy to represent you at this convention. Choose and vote for four delegates only out of the following list: G. Shuchman, J. Banach, M. Rosnikoff, M. Goodman, N. Abramowitz, B. Drasin, S. Edelstein, F. Interdonati, B. Chazanow, G. Beregovy, A. Torchinsky, N. Wilkes, D. Wisniewsky, H. Segal, F. Rosenfarb, L. Roud, S. Drezinsky, A. Slonimsky, A. Rose.

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EDITORIALS

OUR NEW DEMANDS FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE INDUSTRY

We stated several weeks ago that the General Executive Board of our International, in preparing the demands for the new agreement to be concluded between the Union and the employers, have had in mind not only the interests of the workers, but the interests of the industry as well, which to that extent are quite identical. We asserted that the members of our Board, as seasoned labor leaders, would never have advanced demands, the carrying out of which would eventually hurt the industry even if they might temporarily gain something for the workers. Now that the conferences between the Union and the cloak manufacturers are about to begin, we believe it is the proper moment to discuss this side of our demands in full.

One of the essential demands is the first of the series, relating to the limiting of the number of contractors and sub-manufacturers to be engaged by any jobber or manufacturer. We need not enlarge upon the importance of this demand. It is quite clear that the greater the control of the Union over the work conditions of its members, the stronger it is, and vice versa; and it stands to reason that, if the cloak industry is scattered over 3,000 shops, many of them of mushroom growth, even such a machinery as the Union has at its command cannot expect to fully cope with the control problem.

Yet, important as is this demand, it would not have been advanced if it contained actually or potentially any danger to the welfare of the industry as a whole. Quite to the contrary, by the introduction of this reform into the cloak industry, this industry stands to gain a great deal rather than to incur any losses whatever.

It is both abnormal and industrially wasteful and uneconomical for such an industry as the cloak trade, which employs in one city almost 50,000 workers, to be split up into 3,000 shops with a handful of workers in each of them. The cloak trade is one of the biggest industries in the country, and under normal conditions its production in New York City can be turned out in about 1,000 shops, including contracting and sub-manufacturing establishments. With that number of factories, the industry would not be compelled to fleece the workers and to sweat them in order to supply the necessary means for the upkeep of a 40-hour small shop all of them having to maintain one or two partners and a retinue of other middlemen and hangers-on. This abnormal splitting up of the industry into small units is bound to lead to frequent bankruptcies and a continuous transfer of shops from hand to hand. As a result, not only are the workers the sufferers, but the entire industry is demoralized from this incessant change of control of employment.

An industry which is carried on in small unsanitary shops cannot grow and develop because it cannot secure the confidence of the consumer, the buyer. The individual buyer of cloaks and dresses has no guarantee whatever that the article purchased by him was not made in an unsanitary germ-ridden milliner for a shop. The manufacturer or jobber who has only a show-room for his wares cannot certify as to where his products have been made, nor can the Union under present circumstances guarantee that the garments were made under fit sanitary conditions. Eventually, this must lead to the detriment of the cloak industry and it is therefore highly important for the trade as a whole to remove every suspicion with regard to the conditions under which its products are manufactured.

Leaving aside the huge waste of money which such an industrial arrangement must entail, we can only point to the unnecessary waste of human energy required to keep up 3,000 shops in a trade that can easily be satisfied with one-third of that amount. For the moment we shall not enter into a discussion of how this abnormal condition was brought about. It is important to know that such a state of affairs exists, that it hurts the industry, and it must therefore be abolished. True, in doing away with it, some individuals might be hurt. For instance, some jobbers, who, for the sake of additional profits, have been helpful in creating this abnormally large number of contracting shops in the trade, might not be able to make the enormous profits that they had made in the past. But these men never considered the interests of the industry in its entirety. They were on the lookout for their own gains all the time, and if, with this limitation of contractors, some of them might be compelled to leave the cloak industry, the better it will be for the industry in general.

The same is true concerning the hundreds of petty "employers" who might be materially affected by this demand of the Union to limit the number of contractors for each jobber. Some of these will be compelled to give up their so-called business. They will quite likely raise the cry that the Union intends to destroy them. In point of fact, however, the Union will only save them from their own folly and illusion. These men, employers in name only, have as a matter of fact been nothing more than the slaves of the jobbers, who have treated them accordingly. The truth is that most of the so-called bosses are worse off than their workers, and if they could only see a little farther than their own noses, they should help the Union to carry out this demand.

True, some of them will not be "bosses" any longer. But all of them can become loyal union workers, assured of a living wage, instead of continuing to be the playthings and tools of the unscrupulous profit-hunter. Of all the factors in our industry, the life of the petty contractor is, indeed, the least attractive and at times miserable beyond description.

Some of the jobbers and the manufacturers will doubtless make use of the old argument of freedom in industry in combating this demand. They will all protest against the Union's demand, limiting their right to give their work to whomever they might please and under whatever "free terms" they might choose. To this we say that such freedom, which results in a menace for the health and life of tens of thousands of workers and of the entire consuming public, is not freedom, but a license which cannot be tolerated in an organized community. Chemists are not allowed to sell poison indiscriminately, even though such a prohibition is likely to diminish their profits. Only the other day the United States Supreme Court ruled that the New York law prohibiting night work for women is constitutional, in the face of the fact that the right of contract between an employer and a working woman is still held entirely valid. The right of the jobber to break up the industry into tiny pieces for the sake of obtaining greater profits for himself must be checked, as ruinous for every other factor in the trade.

Every manufacturer and every jobber who is in the cloak industry not for a day or a season, will not fail to agree to this demand of our Union, that the number of contractors and sub-manufacturers to be engaged, by them must be limited to a number that would be able to meet their actual production requirements. What the Union desires to achieve by this demand is merely to take away the power from them to play one contractor against the other and foster ruinous competition.

And what is true of this first demand of our workers is equally true of all the other nine demands. They all aim to bring order into this industry, which has suffered more than any other from lack of system and industrial coordination. Of this more anon.

THE SETTLEMENT OF THE BOSTON DRESS STRIKE

We received too late last week the news of the end of the Boston strike to be able to congratulate the workers and their leaders upon its favorable outcome. It is, of course, not too late to send now to the members of Local 49 and to those who have cooperated with them in this fight our sincere felicitations.

True, the settlement of the Boston dress strike appears somewhat of a compromise. The principal demand of the Union was the 40-hour week and the new agreement was only for 42 hours. On the face of it, it would thus appear that the workers did not get all they came out to fight for, and the strike therefore was not a complete success.

Such a conclusion, however, is, in our opinion, entirely false. Of course, the Union had a right to demand a decrease of four hours per week, a demand which is now becoming general in all our trades. This, however, does not mean that under all circumstances can this demand be won everywhere in full and that we must persist in striking for months upon months until it is gained. Quite the contrary, as we stated more than once, this is not the policy of the International. We do not believe in long strikes to last until the maximum of the demands is attained. If we can win more or half of our demands, we are ready to stop and to keep our workers constantly in fighting trim and in readiness for future conquests.

That is why, even though the winning of a 42-hour week in Boston might be viewed as a compromise victory, it does not in the least detract from the importance of the brave fight which our Boston dressmakers have put up. But the members of Local 49 have won more than 42 hours. They have also gained a 5-day week, which means two days of complete rest, two days which they can devote to their health, pleasure and recreation. From this point of view, no one can deny it is an accomplishment worthwhile being proud of.

For the results of this strike, first credit is due to the strikers themselves. They have fought like true veterans in the army of labor and, without their unity and solidarity, the best efforts of their leaders could not have made much headway. Credit is also due to all those who have led the strike tactfully and with foresight, so as to be able to bring it to a settlement at the proper moment.

But, as both strikers and local leaders will admit, a full measure of credit is due to our International officers who were constantly with the strikers and gave them their full moral and material support. It was Secretary Baroff's lot to have been with the strikers during the last days of the fight and he has contributed materially to the conclusion of a settlement. On the whole, this conflict demonstrates once more that, when our workers are

Daugherty's Strike Report

By HARRY LANG

Attorney General Daugherty is daily becoming more and more popular. As a matter of fact, he has already outdistanced A. Mitchell Palmer, his predecessor in the Wilson administration.

And that is going some. For Palmer in his day, in the war days, was seldom mentioned in decent circles without scorn and sarcasm. Nevertheless, by this time it is generally conceded that the skill and the investigation of the Department of Justice now being conducted, have put Palmer in the class of a mere runner-up to the present incumbent at the office of Attorney General of the United States.

A few days ago, Daugherty added to the laurels which he acquired in 1922, when, at his behest, Federal Judge Wilkerson of Chicago made an attempt to break the railway shopmen's strike by an injunction. About two months ago, Congress had passed a resolution calling upon the Department of Justice to produce the records of the shopmen's strike and, in compliance with this resolution, Daugherty has now forwarded a report of that strike in which he gives an account of it from the point of view of the Department of Justice and the railway companies. But it is an account which limps woefully on one side and does not even lay the pretense of being impartial to the men who left the strike.

Daugherty's report "features" this strike as having cost close to one hundred million dollars in money and nineteen human lives. The fifty railway companies involved in the strike are supposed to have lost that much money, not including huge losses of property and of business. Stating it differently, the companies spent one million dollars to break this strike or at least to make it a partial failure inasmuch as it failed of resulting in a victory on all the involved lines. It does not require a particularly fertile imagination to guess how this one hundred million was spent. The organizing of a corps of strike-breakers and their protection is a very costly proposition, and the railways have obviously spent generously to keep their shops half-way manned. Daugherty states also that the Government itself spent two million dollars, not telling us for what. All told, the companies have spent one hundred millions, the Government two millions and the strikebreakers have sacrificed nineteen lives. And this item of the nineteen lives which perished in the course of that struggle is thus made to stand out even more prominently than the huge money expenditures, with the primary intent of casting a black shadow over the cause of the strikers.

And what about the strikers, the loss that they have suffered during those months of fighting, the loss incurred by their unions and the num-

ber of strikers' lives that were sacrificed? The report of the Department of Justice does not mention a word concerning it, for, in its very inception, it is a false report, a balance sheet which does not balance.

It can hardly be stated that this report lacks details; quite to the contrary, it is replete with minute incidents, but it is wholly and entirely against the strikers and against their unions. It is a voluminous charge, an indictment, against the strikers. The report tells us of 1,500 attacks made by strikers upon strikebreakers. It mentions sixty-seven cases of brutal kidnapping, eight instances of burning and festering of strikebreakers by strikers, fifty cases of dynamiting of railway bridges, 250 cases of arson and destruction of the property of railway companies or homes of strikebreakers, fifty cases of attempts to blow up trains, and hundreds upon hundreds of lesser crimes, among which there are cutting of telegraph wires, placing rocks on railway tracks, gun-play terror, stuffing up of locomotive smokestacks, loosening of locomotive parts, etc., ad infinitum.

Daugherty's report recites that, in the course of that strike, 705 mail trains were stopped, and 462 post offices were for a time isolated from the rest of the world. Fifty-three representatives of business institutions all over the country have testified to his Department that the strike injured their business and interfered with productivity in their respective industries. The delay in forwarding shipments of goods, that brought losses to the shippers caused by the strike was too general to mention.

In a word, the report is a bitter denunciation of the strikers and the railway shopmen's unions, and the question arises again, What about the other side? Were not the strikers terrorized? Were they not beaten, maimed and killed in the course of struggle? Anyone who has read the newspapers during that period can easily recall the accounts of how strikers were man-handled in every state and community, how in Arkansas they were lynched and in other districts they were driven out of their families and even their children bitterly assaulted by company guards? The groans of the strikers in these months resounded from one end of the country to another, and yet Daugherty's report does not mention a word about it. It is remarkable that, while the strike was going on, the companies were reporting daily that the walkout of the strikers did not affect them in the least, that everything was peaceful and serene on their lines, that there are hardly any men striking, and even Daugherty used to parrot these statements after them. Later he changed front when the railway companies applied for an injunction on the ground that the

country was "in danger," but shortly afterward, when the injunction was granted by his Chicago subordinate, he again joined the chorus of the railway magnates, that the strike had no effect whatever and that everything was as well as before. Now he himself provides Congress with an official report which puts the lie on the propaganda which the companies, supported by him, were issuing during the strike.

The revolting part of this official report, however, is principally that it gives the impression that the strikers were a crew of criminals of the worst type and that the strikebreakers were martyrs in a holy cause; that the railway companies were noble and public-spirited philanthropists while the un-

ions were just gangs of murderers and highwaymen. The old scandal will very likely force Daugherty out of office. What concerns the labor movement, however, it will not regard the oil revelations as the monument the country at large will place upon Daugherty's political grave. The organized workers of America will treat his report of the shopmen's strike, that ill-balanced, brutally one-sided accounting of a phenomenal struggle between capital and labor, as the fitting sequel to the career of this politician.

As against the one hundred million dollars and the nineteen human lives on the credit side of the railway companies, the striking shopmen and their unions could surely have presented a rejoinder of greater losses, of more instances of martyrdom and victimization of capital's brutality, had only their side been allowed to be heard in that report.

A Friendly Critic

Dear Editor:

The meeting of Local 132, held last Friday night, March 21, left a very bad impression on me, and, in my opinion, reflects sadly upon the intelligence of the members of the local. It lacked that spirit of unity which the Union stands for. It will be well for the members in the future to adopt parliamentary practice in conducting their meetings, rather than indulge in personal attacks, which serve no good cause for the progress and advancement of our Union.

The next thing that struck me forcibly was the lack of knowledge on the part of the chairman. This brother certainly does not possess the qualifications a chairman "W" moderator ought to have. He is not alive to the responsibilities of the chair, and it will be advisable that he take more interest in his office and in the future try to improve. It is the duty of a chairman to take the chair and call

the meeting at a proper time, to announce in its order each item of business, to state all proper questions, to put them to a vote, and to declare the results of the vote, etc., so that the entire house will be acquainted with each item.

But, I am sorry to say, he proved himself incapable, and ignorant of his duties. I hope in the future election for a chairman that this sad blunder will be remedied.

Judging from the entire conduct of the crowd assembled (with a few exceptions), it seems to me that they do not fully realize what is the meaning of the word "Union," or unity. Too much politics, too much personal interest, too much cliques, I say. And these will cause a dis-union and will serve as weapons to crush the progress and advancement of our Union.

FRANK T. DAVID,
Member of Local 132.

Help Make Women Citizens

A special benefit performance of "FASHION" will be produced at the Greenwich Village Theatre, on April 9, Wednesday evening, under the auspices of the Naturalization Aid League and the newly-organized Women's Citizenship Committee.

The play "Fashion" has had a most successful run at the Provincetown Theatre, but, owing to the small seating capacity of the latter theatre, the play has been moved to larger and more comfortable quarters at the Greenwich Village Theatre.

The special benefit performance on Wednesday evening, April 9, has been arranged for the purpose of raising sufficient money to carry on an energetic campaign among women for naturalization. With the passage of the Cable law on September 22, 1922, the naturalization of alien women will have to be realized independent from marriage, and hundreds of thousands

of alien women will remain non-citizens unless an educational campaign is conducted to awaken them to the importance of independent citizenship if they are to enjoy the privileges associated with same.

Tickets for this special performance may be obtained at the office of the Naturalization Aid League, 175 East Broadway; the Rand School, 7 East 15th street; and at the box-office. They may also be obtained through the mails at the Naturalization Aid League's office. Prices are \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00 and \$2.50.

The members of the I. L. G. W. U. are invited to a lecture on "The Mind of Man in Its Reaction Towards the Problems of Modern Life," to be given by Prof. J. Salwyn Schapiro on Wednesday, April 2, at 8 p. m., I. L. G. W. U. Building, 3 West 11th street.

united, when they are inspired by the issues of the fight and are led ably and loyally, they must in the end win every strike, all hardships, odds and injunctions notwithstanding.

THE CHICAGO DRESS STRIKE

The victory of the Chicago dress strikers is not yet complete. There are still a number of employers who rely upon the magic of court injunctions and the aid of the police to combat the Union and keep their strikebound shops going.

To be frank about it, it is quite likely that the Union will choose to bring the strike to an end before the obstinacy of this group is broken, rather than involve the majority of the workers in the trade into a protracted struggle that might last for months and might exhaust its own strength as well. With the majority of the workers returned to the shops, the Union might elect to declare the strike, as far as this group of die-hards is concerned, temporarily at an end. Under all circumstances, the Union will have fought and won as substantial a victory as was possible under the circumstances.

The solidarity of the Chicago strikers, it will be admitted by all, has been truly admirable. Neither can it be denied that the

Union has demonstrated beyond cavil its full control over its members. Three-quarters of the strikers are already back at work in union shops and, though we shall not rest content until the entire trade is organized, it can be honestly stated that the results already achieved fully justify the big effort made to raise the banner of revolt against the conditions of slavery which existed in the Chicago dress shops before the strike.

This, however, should not be understood as meaning that the fight in Chicago is already at an end. It is still going on full blast, each day bringing new gains and new difficulties to the Union. The Union alone will declare when the strike will come to an end. Until that time the strikers must remain as solidly knit together and as loyal to their cause as on the first day of the struggle. Our Chicago strikers, however, are not in need of any such admonition. They have amply proved that they deserve our full confidence and that there is not the slightest fear that they would run away from the battleground. If necessary, they will leave the fighting line, but they will leave it with the same firm, resolute spirit in which they entered it, and with a consciousness that they have done all they could and were called upon to do.



IN THE REALM OF BOOKS



As Others See Us

The Literary Renaissance in America. By C. E. Bechhofer. London: William Heinemann, Ltd., 1923.

By SYLVIA KOPALD

In 1492 Columbus discovered America. In 1862 the money-changers discovered another America. In 1922 America discovered herself. And thus for many years America has been the lusty child of the old-weary world. Like the mother who watches her child's amazing growth, thrills at its promise, grows uneasy at its rapid acquisition of independence and eclipsing skill, and finally gasps with dismay to find the loved extension of herself a separate, self-determining individual, so Europe and especially England has watched America's emergence first to physical and now to mental and spiritual self-sufficiency.

In America and Russia alone today is life in its spring. Elsewhere there has settled over the world the bleakness of winter, the gray desolation of an old age that has nothing but its past. Youth alone faces the future. The "Renaissance" today has touched over the "great lands" only the iron machines and the rushing railroads of America's millions. In the rest of Europe, at least, something old must die so that youth may emerge again—triumphantly facing the future.

There is a difference, certainly, in the Renaissance that has touched the East and the West. What is stirring in America is quite unlike the birth pangs wracking Pagan civilization. But beneath the difference, lies the fundamental similarities of birth; and however different may be the life that will emerge, old-weary Europe looks wistfully toward the East and the West.

We in America have been insisting for several years now that we had reached the end of an epoch. We had reached the physical maturity—the iron machines and the rushing railroads and the pulsing wires—and the glorious bridges had been built. We who had looked from within out for more than a century now saw nothing but external completion; we turned to look from without in. We began to ask disconcerting questions: what were the ultimate uses of this structure we had built; had it glorified or beautified the inner life of America in any way; had it given us anything but uniformity, ugliness, regimentation, coarseness, cowardice, misery? America is taking the leisure necessary to stand off and look at herself. And in this sudden stillness that has settled over the land after the rush of activity has exploded into silence—in this stillness, art has been born in America.

The chief importance of Mr. Bechhofer's little volume is that it marks a foreign recognition of what has been happening to America. Foreign recognition, and more important still, English recognition. When England lost the colonies she still kept for many years a cultural and artistic appendage. Until the turn of the twentieth century American artists wanted chiefly to talk, think, and see like English artists. Today, says Mr. Bechhofer, we must recognize that "whatever America may be, she is not Anglo-Saxon," and that American literature is the growing end of that part of the world's art that transmits itself through the English language.

And thus others are beginning to see us as we are. Because of the interest Mr. Bechhofer's book derives from this fact, one overlooks its intrinsic slightness, the violent exception it takes to many of his judgments, its journalistic essence. Apparently, Mr. Bechhofer knows modern American literature; well-known Guild Socialist that he is, one may be reasonably sure that he knows how research should be done, and how criticism should be written. That this volume is nothing more than a sign-post, that it embodies neither substantial research nor good criticism we may, therefore, ascribe to his deliberate intention to do little more than "direct my readers' attention to the American books of today and tomorrow as one of the most important and significant phenomena of our time . . ." (p. 134).

Mr. Bechhofer restricts his field to literature, because in his opinion it is through literature alone that the Renaissance is expressing itself. Personally, I believe that such a restriction is unwarranted. Robert Edmund Jones, Norman Bel-Geddes, Leo Simonson, Arthur Hopkins, Ralph Barton, etc., are expressing the new trends in their own non-literary media; a science which can claim Boas, Veblen, Ogburn, Morgan, Watson, Turner, Beard, etc., has certainly contributed its own momentous influence to the rebirth; and within the ranks of society's most important group, the workers, forces of new life, are undoubtedly stirring.

But literature without doubt contributes one of the most important channels through which the Renaissance is achieving itself. To Mr. Bechhofer the essential thing about our recent literature is the revolt in it against the intellectual standards that have for so long dominated American culture. Whether our new writers call them "Puritanism," "Philistinism," or "frontier, pioneer ideology," they are one and all engaged in demolishing the outstanding tenets of America's official philosophy.

And a glorious battle it is. As Mr. Bechhofer states behind the front he watches with great relish the sorties and gallant advances of swash-buckling General Mencken, and steady Van Wyck Brooks, and keen, detailed Sinclair Lewis and all the rest of the lusty band. Of course, no battle really is fought on the lines originally planned—Tolstoi punctured the Napoleon's legend long before H. G. Wells, but it is the privilege of historians to analyze the results. Thus Mr. Bechhofer, as historian, traces out five main lines in this battle royal.

In the vanguard, so to speak, he sees the charging critics. There is that enfant terrible, H. L. Mencken, his brother-in-arms, George Jean Nathan, Van Wyck Brooks, Harold Stearns, and—grudgingly—the late Randolph Bourne. Mr. Bechhofer's criticisms of brave, splendid Randolph Bourne, as a critic, let it be said in passing, are essentially just. Then come the slyly satirical romancers, James Branch Cabell and Joseph Hergesheimer. Eugene O'Neill receives a division to himself since Mr. Bechhofer does "not hesitate to say that,

In my opinion, he is the greatest living tragic dramatist." The charge from the Middle West, led by titanic elemental Theodore Dreiser, ably followed by Willa Cather and augmented by Sherwood Anderson and Sinclair Lewis, the newest "Blancher's" regiment, has the old structure "gloriously" tilted. Finally there are those, in which Mr. Bechhofer sees promise rather than achievement,—Floyd Dell, Henry Armstrong, Newton Fueselle, Ruth Suckow and others.

In his description of this literary charge against the old order Mr. Bechhofer has not, to my mind, written good criticism. It is not that his judgments appear mistaken to me—after all, his judgments express his adventures among masterpieces—or less. But criticism for him is too largely a mere summary of the thing criticized—a fault that appears doubly culpable in a description of the Renaissance his subjects are making. But Mr. Bechhofer's book is a sign-post—among the first of our foreign reviews, an index of how others are beginning to see us. And it does raise the pertinent questions suggested by our Renaissance. Is America a dominant Anglo-Saxon nation, or a south and east European? What

blend will its art be, distilled as it is in melting pot of creed and race and color and nationality? Is America an old nation or a young? Can our intellectuals continue to live in their self-created vacuum, in Olympian aloofness from the people? As we find the answers to these questions, let us drink with Mr. Bechhofer to the new America's working.

RAILROAD LABOR AND FARM INCOME

Several things about our railroads seem to be believed by large groups of organized farmers. First, costs and freight rates have steadily mounted under the type of government regulations afforded by the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Railway Labor Board. Second, railroad labor is the chief factor making for these increased costs. Third, these farmers feel they are bearing an undue share of these costs and are opposed to further wage increases, though they admit that some of the former increases were just and necessary. Fourth, railroad costs must be reduced so that freight rates can be lowered.

—Federal Council Information Service, March 22, 1924.

Things Worthwhile Knowing

COOPERATIVE HOUSING

An account of the development of cooperative housing in Europe and the United States by James and Agnes Warshaw, foremost authorities on the subject, appears in *Our World* for March, 1924. In Amsterdam "From 1918 to 1921 nearly four thousand houses were built by Cooperative Societies. . . . During the past few years 75,000 houses for working people have been built by twelve hundred Dutch cooperative societies and 174,000 dwellings for workers have been erected by the Government on a non-profit basis." The cooperative societies of Denmark are described as "no less resourceful." Activities in other European countries are described. Dr. and Mrs. Warshaw say that "although most of the apartments so-called cooperative in American cities are attempts to use the good name of corporation for speculative purposes, still there are some true cooperative apartments. In the United States most cooperative building activities resembling those of Europe have been confined to two centers—Milwaukee and New York. "Out in Milwaukee there is The Garden Homes Company—a cooperative housing association with plans for 500 workmen's dwellings on a plot of 28 acres. Its program calls for the expenditure of \$500,000. The city, the state and interested citizens are subscribing for one-half of the shares of stock, at 5 per cent interest. The other half is to be acquired as shareholdings by the tenant members. The Society as a whole owns all the property and buildings. Each member has a 99-year lease, which may be transferred to his heirs. This assures him of a permanent home as long as he cares to live in it. He may not, however, own or sell the house. Straight cooperative housing enterprise never provides for the title, ownership and control of a house to be given out and out to an individual. If the members had titles to separate houses, they might destroy the whole cooperative scheme by selling or sub-letting their homes at their own price. However, the member may at any time give up his home, if his trade or his family conditions require him to move elsewhere. He simply turns back his stock to the Society which refunds him all that he has paid. This allows the member freedom to move about without hindrance and yet retains the cooperative features of the enterprise.

"In The Garden Homes Company the tenant pays down at least \$500 for share capital. In addition he pays a fixed monthly charge which goes towards the full payment of capital stock which is equivalent to \$4,500, the value of his home. The monthly payment ranges from \$44 to \$50 for a five or six room house and garden. It covers the interest payments on the preferred stock and other operating charges, such as insurance, taxes, repairs, depreciation, etc. The insurance includes sickness and life insurance, so that if a member is incapacitated his insurance guarantees the family funds with which they may keep up the payments on their home.

As the preferred stock is paid for, the interest charges decrease. When all outstanding stock is paid for, the members' charges will be but a little over \$21 a month.

"New York City alone has over twenty genuine cooperative apartment houses for workmen's families. In the midst of the housing crisis, by their initiative and resourcefulness, these cooperators are proving that houses can be built and lived in at fair cost. Instead of \$20 or \$30 a month per room, cooperative apartments are costing between \$6 and \$12 a month per room. Five room airy apartments in Brooklyn, New York, erected in 1918, rent for \$27.50 a month today. Those erected in 1923 cost more but still guarantee great savings to the members.

"What is more, cooperators enjoy a sense of security and permanency in their homes, not to be found amongst tenants harassed by the uncertainty of landlordism. Yet so few in the United States know of the cooperative experiments among them that they believe it can be done."

—Federal Council Information Service, March 22, 1924.

THE GET-TOGETHER

The annual get-together of the students, their friends and teachers of the Workers' University, Unity Centers and Extension Division will be held on Saturday, April 5, 7 p. m., in the dining room at 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.



DOMESTIC ITEMS

NEW SAFETY DEVICE.

The Bureau of Mines has approved a new type of safety device, a "self-rescuer," designed as a means of escape for persons accidentally caught in mine or other atmospheres containing carbon monoxide.

The self-rescuer is a pocket-size canister with mouthpiece attached, filled with granular fused calcium chloride and granular holomite (mixture of special copper oxide and manganese dioxide) which causes monoxide in air to unite with the oxygen at ordinary temperatures forming harmless carbon dioxide. The weight is about one pound, and can be carried in the pocket or attached to the belt.

The self-rescuer may enable miners to escape from atmospheres containing carbon monoxide in mines following fires or explosions. It may also safeguard workers in industries above ground where carbon monoxide may be encountered, as around blast furnaces and metallurgical operations, or in the chemical industries.

WANT BOARD ABOLISHED.

Abolition of the Railroad Labor Board was urged before the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee by representatives of the organized railroad employees.

President Robertson of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen told the committee that the "uselessness of the Railroad Labor Board has been shown by the increasing number of violations by the railroads of its decisions."

The brotherhood executives declared that more than 200 decisions have been violated by the railroads, in several instances with the sanction of federal courts.

As a substitute for the Railroad Labor Board, the employees submit a plan to adjust disputes by mediation and arbitration.

PRINTERS LOCKED OUT TO EVADE WAGE AWARD.

The Morning Sun, of Long Beach, Cal., has locked out its composing room members of the Typographical Union and declared for the anti-union shop.

Many excuses are made by the proprietors for this move, but the printers point out that they are entitled to more than \$15,000 back pay through a wage award that was recently made. The newspaper hopes to evade this award, which is retroactive since last May.

HOUSE PASSES BONUS; PRESIDENT IS DIFIED.

The House passed the bonus bill by the overwhelming vote of 355 to 54. There were but 35 members of the president's party who supported him in opposition to the bonus. The vote would indicate that the measure can easily pass the House in the event of a veto.

WOULD ELECT JUDGES.

Amend the constitution so federal judges can be elected is proposed by Senator Dill of Washington. Members of the United States Supreme Court would be selected from the federal judges in lower courts.

EMPLOYMENT GAINS.

February employment in manufacturing increased 1.2 per cent, the first advance since June, 1923, reports the Department of Labor.

SEVEN-DAY WEEK ENDED.

Culinary workers in Henryetta, Okla., have abolished the seven-day week. They will work six days a week, with no wage cut.

PRESSMEN RAISE WAGES.

Web printing pressmen, in Los Angeles, have raised wages \$2 a week, with back pay from December 1 last. Improved working conditions are also secured.

ANTIS SMASH AGREEMENT.

Anti-union members of the Seattle chamber of commerce were powerful enough to smash an agreement between the scale committees of the building trades and local contractors.

A Child Health Day

American Labor's endorsement of the May Day Child Health program of the American Child Health Association has just been given in a letter addressed to that organization by President Samuel Gompers of the American Federation of Labor.

"I am sure," said President Gompers, in his letter, "that the organized wage earners throughout the country will be glad to do their full share in support of the work undertaken by your organization. It is one of the first concerns of the trade union movement that there shall be conditions established which make possible the proper care and development of child life and any additional effort in that

direction is to be welcomed and encouraged.

"It should not be necessary to set apart a day for this work, and the fact that it is necessary to set apart a day in order to stimulate public interest is an indication of the apathy of a large proportion of our people in regard to the welfare of our future citizenship. Nevertheless, we must work with conditions as they are and I am glad to give my endorsement to the plan to set apart the first of May as a day upon which to emphasize the necessity for the improvement and safeguarding of the health of children and the general conditions surrounding childhood, in order that the children may have a fairer and better chance."

COAL PROFITS TREBLED.

The 1923 profits of the Pittsburgh Coal Company were three times more than in 1922. Last year's profits totaled \$7,309,162, or \$16.15 a share. This was after all charges, depreciation and interest were met. In 1922 the net profits were \$5.02 a share.

ABSENTEE LANDLORDS NO MENACE IN AMERICA.

Absentee farm landlords are not an important factor in the agricultural situation in most parts of the United States, according to the Department of Agriculture. It is stated that not more than 10 per cent of rented farms in 1920 were thus owned. Little concentration of land ownership was found except in the plantation region of the South. Comparatively little farm land is owned by non-resident aliens.

More than one-third of the farm landlords are themselves farmers, another third are retired farmers and the remainder are mostly country bankers, merchants and professional men. Ten to 12 per cent are women, mostly widows and daughters of farmers.

PROFITS IN MOVIES.

The rich returns that are possible in the movie industry are indicated by the 1923 returns of the Famous Players-Lasky Corporation. The profits were \$4,245,783.93 after all charges and taxes were met.

FAVOR LABOR BANK.

At a conference of 150 trade unionists, called by the Connecticut Federation of Labor, it was voted to start a labor bank in this State. The question has been considered by the State convention, and it will be submitted to the referendum.

HOUSING HITS OFFICE MEN.

Office workers are badly hit because of housing scarcity, according to New York City's special housing committee. It was stated that "white-collar-men," who receive \$2,000 a year and less, are forced to live in neighborhoods that their wage does not permit.

This city exempts new houses from taxation and the commission says that because of this law more than 100,000 families have been housed in a decent manner. But for the tax exemption law, the report said, rents would be higher.

New York's chief need, the report adds, is homes of greater comfort, with hot water, heat and electricity. These homes can not be built to rent for less than \$15 to \$20 a room.

MAKE CHILD LABOR COSTLY.

Before its final adjournment, the New Jersey State Legislature passed a law allowing double compensation to injured minors illegally employed.

WANTS "CHEERFUL" STUFF.

The Wall Street Journal mourns that the public press prints too much all scandal and not enough "cheerful stuff." This mouthpiece for stock brokers says Teapot Dome is receiving a great deal more space than it deserves, and that newspapers are hiding their "bright stuff."

TRUST HIDES PROFITS.

Wall Street says that President Wood of the Woolen Trust has again concealed big earnings which made it possible for him to "clean up" in the stock market.

It is now shown that the trust's net profits last year were \$5,660,212 after depreciation, taxes and other funds were cared for. It has also been discovered that the \$4,000,000 added to special reserve last year came out of the earnings of that year.

These immense profits do not seem to satisfy the trust. Only recently it announced price increases next fall for certain lines of goods.

BUTCHER SHOPS INSPECTED.

New city legislation in San Francisco provides for rigid inspection of butcher shops. The plan, was urged by organized butchers and employers.

STEEL WORKERS TO MEET.

The forty-ninth annual convention of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Tin and Steel Workers will convene in Pittsburgh, Pa., Tuesday, April 1.

ROAD ENDANGERS LIFE.

The strike-bound New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad continues to endanger life and property. The latest wreck, near Whitinsville, Mass., injured 33 passengers, three of whom were injured seriously. Passengers said the trouble was due to the rear car coming loose from the trucks.

WANT EIGHT HOURS.

Street car men of Boston are urging the State Legislature to pass an eight-hour law for this calling.

THE RE-UNION

The re-union of the students and instructors of the Workers' University and Unity Centers will take place on Saturday, April 5, at 7 p. m., in the dining-room of the Washington Irving High School.

Tickets mailed must be paid for in advance at the office of the Educational Department, 3 West 16th Street, or on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning in the Washington Irving High School, Room 529. For detailed description look on page 10.



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

Weekly Calendar

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

Room 529

Saturday, March 29

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

2:30 p. m. J. P. Warbasse—Cooperation, a Plan of World Reorganization.

Sunday, March 30

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

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

UNITY CENTERS

Monday, March 31

Brownsville Unity Center—P. S. 150
Christopher Avenue and Sackman Street, Room 204
8:30 p. m. Sylvia Kopald—Economics and the Labor Movement.

Tuesday, April 1

Bronx Unity Center—P. S. 61
Crotona Park East and Charlotte Street, Room 511
8:45 p. m. Sylvia Kopald—Economics and the Labor Movement.

Wednesday, April 2

East Side Unity Center—P. S. 65
4th Street near First Avenue, Room 404
9:00 p. m. A. I. Wilbert—Modern Economic Institutions.

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

EXTENSION DIVISION

RUSSIAN

Friday, March 28

Russian-Polish Branch—315 E. 10th Street
8:30 p. m. P. A. Sorokin—Sociology of the Present Day Society.

YIDDISH

Saturday, March 29

Local 9—228 Second Avenue
1:30 p. m. Max Levin—Modern Economic Institutions.

Sunday, March 30

Club Segals, Local 1—1581 Washington Avenue
10:30 a. m. Dr. J. Regal—The Worker and His Health.
Clinton Hall—151 Clinton Street, Room 47
12:00 m. Max Levin—Economics of Present Day Society.

ENGLISH

Wednesday, April 2

I. L. G. W. U. Building—3 West 16th Street
8:00 p. m. Prof. J. Salwyn Schapiro—Modern Tendencies in History.

Thursday, April 3

I. L. G. W. U. Building—3 West 16th Street
6:15 p. m. Sylvia Kopald—Economics and the Labor Movement.
Local 17—Reefer 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 28

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. Re-Union, 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.

A LECTURE BY DR. J. SALWYN SCHAPIRO, WEDNESDAY EVENING, APRIL 2, IN I. L. G. W. U. BUILDING

Dr. J. Salwyn Schapiro of the College of the City of New York, well-known historian, will lecture on "Modern Tendencies in History" on Wednesday, April 2, at 8 p. m., in the I. L. G. W. U. Building.

At our request, Dr. Schapiro sent the following as a description of his lecture:

"One must get a rational idea of the past, otherwise a constructive future is incomprehensible. History is not only a subject of study, but often a philosophy of life. The various 'interpretations' or rationaliza-

tions of the past, have been the heroic, the political, the economic, and now the psychologic. Each one has served some human purpose or ideal. My chief interest is in the psychologic, or intellectual, which is the study of the mind of man in its reactions towards the problems of modern life."

DR. WARBASSE TO TALK THIS SATURDAY ON COOPERATION

Dr. J. P. Warbasse will lecture in our Workers' University this Saturday at 2:30 p. m. His subject will be "Cooperation—A Plan of World Reorganization." In this Dr. Warbasse will discuss the aims, principles, organization and methods of the cooperative movement.

LESSON II.—Industrial Evolution and the Origin of the Working Class.

- I. (a) To understand how capitalism functions, the beginnings of the working class and the policies and tactics of unions. It is necessary to understand industrial evolution and how the present capitalist system developed.
- (b) Other social forces like tradition, custom, institutions, leadership have also left their mark on the development of capitalism and the labor movement; the economic factors, however, are the most important.
- (c) These economic forces are at the bottom of the policies and tactics not only of unions, but also of business institutions, political parties and so on.
- II. These economic forces may be divided into three great categories. But this is done in order to better understand their various ramifications. It must be borne in mind, however, that they are interdependent and operate simultaneously.
- III. (a) The first of these great economic forces explains industrial evolution according to the manner in which man produces. It is the theory made famous by Marx and Engels and is known as the Production Theory, or the theory that explains industrial evolution on the lines of technical development.
- (b) Without technical improvements the modern factory system would not have been possible. It is the lack of technical improvements that has made it possible in the needle trades to produce wearing apparel in sweat-shops and contract shops, with their innumerable and baffling evils.

One Week Remains to the Reunion of the Students and Instructors of Workers' University

The reunion of the students, their friends and instructors of our Workers' University and Unity Centers will be held next Saturday, April 5, at 7 p. m.

For this occasion, our former and present active students, instructors, officers of our Union, and members of the local educational committees will assemble in the dining-room of the Washington Irving High School to celebrate the progress of workers' education in this country and to rejoice in the fact that it was the good fortune of our International Union to be the pioneer in this work.

The Arrangements Committee is busily engaged in making this evening a memorable one. The dining-room will be decorated with red and green that will be a combination of spring and the "workers' colors." Delicious refreshments will be found on the decorated tables. A musical program will be performed by an artist whose name will be announced next week. The get-together will be informal. Teachers, students and officers of the Union will spend a few

hours in sociability and good fellowship. The evening will end with social dancing in the gymnasium.

It is to be regretted that the seating capacity of the dining-room is limited and preference in making reservations will have to be given until Monday, March 31, to the students of the Workers' University, Unity Centers and the Extension Division and to members of the educational committees of the local unions.

In order to cover some of the expenses, the Arrangements Committee decided to charge the small sum of 35 cents. Those who wish to purchase tickets may do so either at the Educational Department, 3 West 16th Street, daily till 6 p. m. and on Saturday, till 1 p. m. From 1:30 to 2:30 daily, and on Sunday from 10:30 to 12:30, they may be obtained at the Washington Irving High School, Room 529.

Those to whom tickets were mailed are requested to pay for them at the place and hour above enumerated or return them to the Educational Department.

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

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)

Alfred L. Bernstein, The Labor Bureau, Inc.

"I want to thank you sincerely for sending me a copy of the outline of the course in Social and Political History of the United States, given by Dr. H. J. Carman, at the Workers' University. I have studied it with great interest, and as far as I am able to judge, it appears to me to be exceptionally well suited for the purpose for which it was intended."

Parker Thomas Moon, Political Science Quarterly, Columbia University:

"I am very much pleased with the outline of the 'Social and Political History of the United States,' by Dr. Carman."

The Week In Local 10

By SAM B. SHENKER

Last Saturday afternoon, March 22, witnessed the largest number of votes cast in two elections for delegates to a convention. Another record was established. The number of votes that Manager Dubinsky received was also the largest that any manager who ran for election as delegate ever received in the local.

Of the 852 ballots distributed, 832 were counted, only 20 having been voided. In the election for delegates to the Cleveland convention in April, 1922, there were 625 ballots distributed. In the election in March, 1920, there were 667 ballots counted.

Officers of the organization were considerably surprised at the number of votes received by Dubinsky. If a candidate would receive 60 or 65 per cent of the total vote, it was thought to be a fairly good sign of his popularity, particularly if that man led the ticket. For a candidate to receive approximately 90 per cent of the total votes cast is establishing a new record without a doubt. And that is the total that Dubinsky received, or, to be exact, he received 747 votes out of the 832 counted.

In the previous election for delegates to the convention, the leading candidate received 68 per cent of the votes, or 421 out of a total of 633. And in the election before that, for delegates to the convention of 1920, the leading candidate received a little under 50 per cent, or 325 out of the total of 667.

The lack of printed circulars and printed slates was evident also in this election, as in the election of officers in December, 1923. The election was conducted in a quiet and peaceful manner. It began very early. The members had formed a line in the election room before the official opening time. And at six o'clock promptly voting stopped. The counting began immediately and continued until midnight, when the results were announced.

The following is a list of the candidates voted upon, arranged according to the number of votes cast.

David Dubinsky	747 Votes
Samuel Perlmutter	691 Votes
Isidore Nagler	677 Votes
Joseph Fish	670 Votes
Sam B. Shenker	640 Votes
Philip Ansel	530 Votes
Meyer Skitch	522 Votes
Benjamin Eery	480 Votes
David Frubling	477 Votes
Isidore Cohen	241 Votes
Chas. W. Serrington	207 Votes
Sol Levien	192 Votes
William Fein	180 Votes
Jacob Lukin	155 Votes
Nathan Starr	92 Votes
Sam Mendelowitz	81 Votes
Ben Krakower	68 Votes

The first nine names appearing in ball-face type are those who have received the highest number of votes and will be declared elected by the Election Committee. This committee will render its report at the special membership meeting which will take place on Monday, March 31, in Arlington Hall.

The eight candidates whose names follow the above-mentioned will stand as alternates in the order in which they appear above. In the event that any of the delegates who will be declared elected by the committee will be unable to attend the convention, the candidate who received the next highest number of votes will go in his stead.

As was stated in these columns previously, the delegates to the 17th convention of the International will be faced with some of the greatest problems that the union has encountered since 1899. The special meeting this coming Monday night will have placed

before it the recommendations of the Executive Board in the matter pertaining to the renewal of the agreement in the cloak industry. As this will be an important question before the convention, the members will be afforded an opportunity to discuss this with the newly-elected delegates of Local 10.

An interesting case occurred at the Executive Board session on March 13 which afforded the members of the Board a half hour's diversion from the usual routine work.

Two cutters, Joseph Rudolph and Max Miller, of the shop of Louis Gersten, 105 Madison avenue, were summoned on a charge of having worked on Saturday afternoons. They at first feigned innocence and seemed to know nothing at all about the charge upon which they were summoned. Irving Rey appeared as a witness for the two men. His testimony cost him a small fine.

The two cutters presented what appeared to be on the face of it a logical story regarding their whereabouts on the particular Saturday in question. They said that they had left the shop at twelve o'clock and that they boarded a subway train. Miller said that he went as far as 125th street and Rudolph claimed he went up as far as 149th street. Rey, who was called to testify in their behalf, substantiated the stories of their trip to Harlem and the Bronx.

Everything would have gone off smoothly if Manager Dubinsky had not known that the men did work and he told this to Miller, who was the leading spirit of the trio and who the organization knew had to be watched. Rey and Rudolph were excused for a while and Miller alone remained facing the Board. Dubinsky offered him the alternative of confessing or else the Executive Board would act upon the evidence in its possession. He was warned that the union would deal harshly with him if he failed to make a clean breast of the entire matter. A few moments of deliberation made him see the light.

Brother Miller then testified that the story about his going into the subway with the other two men was "all wrong." He says he did go as far as the subway station. However, it was only Rey who boarded the train. He, Miller, and Rudolph returned to the shop and worked.

This statement was made by Miller, with the other two men in the anteroom. The two men were recalled. They did not know, however, that anyone would "spill the beans." So that when the three men were called together, two still maintained their innocence. One of these, Rudolph, began swearing that he was telling the truth. The manager, however, interrupted him and besought him not to answer, saying that he was not telling the truth. Finally, when they were told that Miller had spoiled their game, the other two men confessed.

Rudolph said it was the first Saturday afternoon on which he had worked. Rey, who was employed by Louis Gersten for one week only, said that these two cutters requested him to appear as their witness and framed up the story regarding their subway trip. It also developed during the trial that it was not Miller's first Saturday afternoon offense. And what is more, he did not receive pay for his overtime.

The fines imposed by the Executive Board ranged in proportion to the guilt of the men. A fine of \$100 was imposed upon Miller for having worked on numerous Saturday afternoons and an additional fine of \$50 for his

failure to receive pay for overtime. Rudolph was fined \$25 for having worked on one Saturday afternoon. And Rey was fined \$5 for rendering false testimony.

Another interesting case that appeared before the Board on March 20 was the case of Sol Abramowitz. He, too, was charged with working on a Saturday afternoon. When the committee which was sent by the union to investigate the shop of Philip Strassman, 256 West 25th street, entered the factory, they saw a hat and coat near the cutting table but not the owner of them.

Manager Dubinsky called the cutter who was employed in this shop to the office and the committee identified the topcoat and the mufler, which hung together with the coat. Of course, there was the usual denial of guilt. When the cutter appeared before the Board he stoutly denied having worked. He was asked how his overcoat happened to be in the shop when he was supposed to have gone home. He said that he could not understand how the committee saw his coat as he wore it when he went home.

The evidence which was presented to the Executive Board was, in the opinion of the members, sufficient to warrant the levying of a \$35 fine. However, Dubinsky did not press the case solely on what the committee had reported to him. It was brought out by him before the Board that one of the firm had learned of the committee being in the shop on the Saturday afternoon in question. Before the com-

mittee had time to come to the cutting table at which Abramowitz was working, the employer let him out through another door. And thus the firm thought that he had "put it over on the union."

Very often the trials and tribulations of a shop chairman are unbearable. Members have the habit of thinking that the responsibility for the enforcement of union conditions should rest entirely with the chairman. Active members, therefore, when they accept such positions, realize this.

However, where members appreciate such activity, the task for the chairman becomes lighter. This happened in the case of Milton Cavin, who up to a week ago was the shop chairman of the cutters of A. Portofolio. Brother Cavin decided that he would resign his duties and Business Agent Nagler presided over the meeting of the cutters, where the resignation of the chairman was tendered. During the course of the election of a new chairman a committee presented Cavin with a handsome gift and in that way expressed their appreciation of the services rendered to the cutters of Portofolio's shop by the outgoing chairman.

The committee consisted of M. Krulowitz, who was chosen as the new chairman, Frank Jiano, Albert DeBois, Chas. Silpatrick, and Nat. Linsow.

There is no doubt that the action of the cutters was an encouragement to the new chairman.

Birth Control

A bill has been introduced in Congress (in the Senate by Mr. Cummins, in the House by Mr. Valle) legalizing the giving of information of a contraceptive nature to the end that parenthood may be voluntary rather than largely fortuitous. By the terms of the bill, transportation of information with respect to contraception is prohibited "except as to such information of such means as shall be certified by not less than five graduate physicians lawfully engaged in the practice of medicine to be not injurious to life or health. Whoever shall knowingly aid or abet in any transportation prohibited by this Act shall be deemed guilty of a felony, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not more than five thousand dol-

lars or imprisoned for not more than five years, or shall be punished by both such fine and imprisonment." In addition, the words "preventing conception" are stricken from the five Federal obscenity statutes all of which include a prohibition of contraceptive knowledge or means. Control is therefore provided for and the subject is removed from the realm of obscenity.

—Federal Council Information Service, March 22, 1924.

Elias Lieberman LAWYER

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

CUTTERS' UNION, LOCAL 10

Fourteenth Annual Ball

SATURDAY EVENING, MARCH 29, 1924

AT TAMMANY HALL, 145 East 14th Street

Tickets—50c in Advance

75c at the Door

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

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.

Report of Committee on Election of Delegates to 17th Convention.

REGULAR MEETING.....Monday, April 14th

MISCELLANEOUS MEETING.....Monday, April 21st

Meetings Begin at 7:30 P. M.

AT ARLINGTON HALL, 23 St. Mark's Place