

"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."

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RECOGNITION

There are no sweeter moments than those in which a man receives the recognition of his fellow-men for the things he has done and the part he has played in the game of life.

This is his greatest and finest reward.

Those who are thus rewarded, however, are but few and far between.

That's why so many are discontented with life. That's why so many are plagued by the thought that life has cheated them out of their due, that the best in it has been denied to them.

In the big modern city, filled to suffocation with jostling in-different multitudes, men and women feel as lonely as in a desert. They are hungry for a friendly, warm handshake but seldom get it. What a pity!

There is no money compensation that can take the place of sincere appreciation on the part of a fellow-worker for the share one contributes to the whole of human achievement. A money reward is nothing but barter and exchange. It is a return for so much labor or product exchanged—without the tinge of friendliness. It is the very opposite of the spirit of friendliness. And while the hunger for sympathy, for friendliness, for genuine recognition is as strong as physical hunger—how little is this spiritual craving satisfied in this hard-driven, matter-of-fact world of ours!

Pity those whose noble impulses are thus starved among us, "where one man to the other is a wolf,"—where sympathy of man towards man is such a rarity!

Of course, there are individuals who neither care for nor require the recognition of their fellow-men. There are giant men, the towering spirits who find satisfaction in their own recognition of the greatness and importance of their lives for their contemporaries and the generations yet unborn. These individuals care little whether achievements are either recognized or justly appraised by others. They are equally impervious to attack and calumny by detractors. Persecution makes them stronger and more determined to follow their chosen course. They find within themselves that great force of resistance which makes recognition by others quite superfluous, as they go on proudly and courageously with their life-work. There is only one voice which they obey, and that voice is dictated by their own conscience, their own sense of justice and usefulness.

These persons, however, are the exceptional among us. The ordinary human being is not built along such lines. The everyday person finds it hard to live and do his or her work without the recognition, the sympathy and, yes, the love, of his fellow human beings.

How many of such persons who start life with the finest of impulses and under promising auspices fall before their road is half traversed, disappointed and embittered because they fail to get enough sympathy and recognition at the proper moment! The freezing indifference that breathes at them at every turn and angle, far more than the hard knocks and bumps of life, is responsible for their leaving the path they once thought was the noblest of life's roads and the best fitted for their mental and spiritual expression. This coldness smothers their zeal, and destroys them as social assets.

These are the victims of lack of recognition. These are the myriads of starved souls among us, and they are one of the many causes that make the van of our progress move so slowly, so tortoise-like.

We are ready to extend a slice of bread to a famished human being—but how tardy we are in giving even a mite of sympathy, a fraction of recognition to those who have picked the thorny course in life, those who would live not only for themselves but for their fellow-men as well. A warm handshake, a hearty word in time—that is all they silently ask for. This is the spiritual food after which their souls hunger. Give it to them without stint, if only they deserve it.

S. Y.

Sub-Committees Continue Negotiations With Jobbers

Met Last Wednesday—Will Meet Again Next Monday

On Wednesday afternoon, April 23, the sub-committee appointed by the Union and the Merchants Ladies' Garment Association, the jobbers, to continue conferring on the demands presented by the Union to the Jobbers' Association, met at the Hotel McAlpin.

The sub-committees discussed for three hours the major points of the Union's program, and without coming to definite conclusions, adjourned after deciding to meet again on Monday afternoon, April 29.

Preparations for Convention

Credentialed

Complete Work

The preparations began about two months ago for the arrangement of the next convention of our International Union, the Jubilee Convention, are almost completed. The Committee on Arrangements, of which Vice-president Nardo is chairman and Vice-president Dubinsky secretary, has visited Boston several times and made all the necessary arrangements to insure the smooth running of the convention.

Now the Credential Committee, appointed by President Sigman at the last meeting of the General Executive Board, is in session in the International Building. The chairman of the committee is Vice-president Breslaw and the secretary Vice-president Dubinsky, who were also members of the Credential Committee of the Cleveland Convention two years ago.

This committee has a great amount of work before it, and its sessions might last until the convention begins its actual work in Boston. It is the duty of this committee to examine the good-standing membership of each local so as to decide the number of delegates it is entitled to. The Credential Committee is also charged with the business of investigating the in-

admissibility of each local to the International and has a right to recommend to the convention whatever suggestions it deems proper with regard to the admissibility of delegates from such locals. The Credential Committee also takes up objections from individual members or locals against any elected delegates. These objections are investigated by the committee and it takes considerable time until the charges are sifted through and decided upon.

Secretary-Treasurer Baroff forwarded an announcement last week to all the locals, which reads as follows:

"The Credential Committee of the Convention of our International Union elected at the last meeting of the General Executive Board, began its sessions on Tuesday morning, April 23, at 3 West 16th street.

"Local Unions and members having any business with this committee, whether with regard to debts unpaid to the International or delegates that are or might be objected to, are requested to communicate either in person or in writing with this committee."

Our Locals Will Celebrate May Day Next Thursday

Locals 1, 9, 11, 17, 22, 25, 35, 38 and 90 Arrange Special Features

Notwithstanding the fact that our locals in the Greater City are quite preoccupied at present with preparations for the next biennial convention, they are not overlooking the celebration of the international holiday of the workers, the First of May, which takes place next week.

An impressive number of mass meetings, concerts, and festivals have been arranged by practically every one of our organizations in New York to commemorate this day of solemn protest and the demonstration of working-class solidarity the world over. We are presenting below a list of the locals of the International in Greater New York which are taking part in these celebrations.

Local 1, the Cloak Operators' Union, will celebrate May First, on

Thursday next, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon at Town Hall, where a classic concert will be heard by the members of the Union. The International Chorus, under the direction of Mr. Leo Lior, its leader, will take part in this concert. Brother Levy, the manager of Local 1, will preside and will deliver a short talk on the significance of the day.

Local 9, the Cloak Finishers' Union, will celebrate the event at the Central Opera House, 67th street and Third Avenue, a concert will be given, followed by a special feature, a one-act comedy played by the "Free People's Stage."

Local 11, of Brownsville, will celebrate May Day at a concert in the evening, at the Brownsville Labor

(Continued on Page 2)

Bertrand Russell to Debate With Morris Hillquit

On Monday evening, May 5, at 8 o'clock, Bertrand Russell, of England, well known scientist and philosopher, will debate with Mr. Morris Hillquit the question:

"Is the British Labor Party Revolutionary?" Mr. Russell will take the negative and Mr. Hillquit the affirmative.

The debate will be held at Carnegie Hall, 57th street and Seventh Avenue, under the auspices of the Rand School of Social Science. The chairman will be Dr. Percy Sweeney Grant, well-known liberal clergyman.

Tickets are now on sale at the Rand School and at the Forward Building.

All Other Union and Trade News on Page Two

Chicago Federation of Labor Calls for Aid to Dress Strikers

Other Strike Occurrences of the Week

We have mentioned already in these columns the fact that the Chicago Federation of Labor appointed a Committee of Fifteen to cooperate with the dress strikers of that city and to render them whatever aid they possibly could. The committee has now completed a report which has been rendered to the public and to organized labor in Chicago on the situation of the strike. Among the most salient points in that report are the following:

The Committee of Fifteen find that, after eight weeks of striking, the Union has succeeded in signing up with eighty shops employing 1,200 workers, while 1,300 workers are still out. Eighty per cent of the strikers are women.

The demands of the Union are: (1) A ten per cent increase in wages, (2) a 40-hour work week, and (3) a collective agreement in the industry.

Sixteen of the biggest employers formed an association and are supported by every anti-Union element in Cook County. These employers are forcing their workers to sign the so-called "yellow-dog" individual con-

tracts and, if they are not willing, they are put on a blacklist.

Judge Sullivan has issued a sweeping injunction to this employers' group against the Union prohibiting any form of picketing. Dudley Taylor, attorney for this group and for the Citizens' Open Shop Committee, is the chief opponent of the workers in the State's Attorney's office and in Judge Sullivan's court.

Private guards are employed by the bosses to browbeat and intimidate the girls.

Over five hundred arrests of strikers have already been made, Judge Sullivan having sentenced twenty-six girls for contempt of court in the course of twenty minutes on one occasion. Ninety strikers were fined by the same judge sums aggregating \$40,000, while the jail sentences for the girls ranged from thirteen to fifty days. It appears that the machinery of justice is well-greased against the workers in this strike.

The International Ladies' Garment Workers will maintain the fight until collective bargaining is established in the Chicago dress industry. The

Committee of Fifteen has called upon all labor unions in Chicago to help these women workers financially to continue their brave strike. The report is signed by fifteen members of the committee, among whom there are some of the most representative labor men and women in Chicago.

VICE-PRESIDENT PERLSTEIN DELIVERS TO THE STRIKERS

GREETINGS FROM
G. E. B.

Upon his return from New York, where he attended the last meeting of the General Executive Board, Vice-president Perlstein arranged for a big mass meeting at 180 Washington street, where he reported to the strikers the decision of the Board to go on with the fight and to levy an assessment on the members of the International for the purpose of financing the strike.

The enthusiasm of the workers was unbounded. It looked like the first morning of the strike, so general was this outburst of fresh determination to keep up the conflict until victory is assured.

INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR

By H. SCHOOLMAN

This Week Twelve Years Ago

Samuel Gompers attends meeting of New York Cloakmakers' Joint Board to which he was invited to give an opinion on the "White Label" plan by the Joint Board together with J. J. J. Board of Sanitary Control, to be introduced in the industry. After speeches by John Drye, J. F. Fink, Meyer Leiden, Herman Grossman and Jesse Cohen, Gompers delivers a two-hour address in which he favors strongly such a label.

Miss Gertrude Harnam informs the Joint Board that she had succeeded in creating strong sentiment among many organizations for a boycott of garments produced in Cleveland in non-union shops, but it has been impossible to materialize this sentiment, as there is nothing by which a union-made garment can be distinguished from a garment made in a non-union shop.

Cloakmakers and Ladies' Tailors' Union Local 22, celebrate their first anniversary at a mass meeting addressed by Meyer Leiden and Sol Polakoff.

Shop chairmen of all cloak shops in New York meet and elect the following committee: one to see that no work be done on Saturday afternoon and all workers (except laundries) another to organize the shop chairmen that they might exercise better control over the workers; a committee to work out plans for adult labor education for our members, and an executive committee of the shop chairmen to see that all these committees do their work promptly and properly.

blind. I wish you another sixty years at least. B. C. VLADECK.

"I am proud to be considered as one of your scholars and loyal friends. On the occasion of your sixtieth birthday, I greet you as my teacher and the leader of my thoughts. Live long. Live in happiness. The fight for high ideals in life needs you."

HARRY LANG.

Telegrams were also received from the Peretz Writers' Club, of which Brother Yanofsky was one of the founders—from H. Weinberg, chairman of the Workmen's Circle; Ossip Weinberg on behalf of the International Pocketbook Workers Union; from the Freie Arbeiter Stimme; R. Guskin on behalf of the Hebrew Actors' Union; Dr. Michael Cohn, Solomon Schiman, Samuel Lefkowitz, Aaron Gordon, Morris Linder, Saul Rifkin, Ida Miller, Sarah Fromkin, William Eisner and Nathan Pomerantz. The composing room of the *Gerechtigkeit* also sent a message of warm congratulation.

Saul Yanofsky Sixty Years Old

Last Friday, April 18, was the sixtieth birthday of Brother Saul Yanofsky, the editor-in-chief of the publications of our International Union. Brother Yanofsky carries his threescore winters with enviable ease. As a matter of fact, few of the multitude of his friends and admirers would suspect that this wiry, energetic and wide-awake veteran of Jewish journalism was anywhere near the 60-year mark.

Yanofsky's sixtieth birthday was widely celebrated in the Jewish labor and general press, which contained editorials, biographies and an appraisal of his long years of activity in the labor movement and in the special field of labor literature, as editor and journalist.

Space does not allow us to quote in full the avalanche of messages of congratulation which poured upon Brother Yanofsky when it became known that he was sixty years old last Friday. We shall only mention some of the most conspicuous ones, sent by his friends and colleagues and those who in the course of the almost forty years of his work in the labor movement, have been his steadfast admirers and comrades.

"Heartly congratulations upon your sixtieth birthday. Yours has been the life of an inspiring teacher and leader in our movement, and I eagerly join the wishes of your great talents to the cause of our workers for many more years to come."
MORRIS SIGMAN."

"The General Executive Board of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union desire to extend to you their sincere greetings on the event of your sixtieth birthday and wish you many more years of happy life and distinguished service in our great movement, to the cause to which you have dedicated your wonderful abilities throughout your life."

ABRAHAM BAROFF,
On behalf of the General Executive Board."

"The Forward staff congratulates you upon your sixtieth birthday and wishes you continued success in your service for the cause of Labor and Socialism. We like you. We admire you."

ABRAHAM CAHAN,
HARRY ROGOFEE,
B. C. VLADECK,
and the entire FORWARD staff."

"Heartiest congratulations on your birthday. May you live to see good results of your achievements."

National Executive Council,
THE WORKMEN'S CIRCLE."

"Sincere and warm congratulations on your sixtieth birthday. Many more decades of useful service to the labor movement, hand in hand with your comrades in the cause of the emancipation of the workers. ABRAHAM BAROFF."

"Felicitations upon your sixtieth birthday. The few years that I have been privileged to work side by side with you have given me an opportunity to admire your outstanding worth and your unique place in our labor movement. I am confident you still have a long and enviable road to achievement before you."

MAX D. DANISH."

"I congratulate you and Mrs. Lisa Yanofsky and all your family on your sixtieth birthday. I wish you good health and cheer for at least another two more sixties. With love, comradeship and true friendship. LEO FINKELSTEIN."

"Please accept my sincere and hearty congratulations upon your sixtieth birthday. There is no real good reason why I should like you so much but love, as you know, is

Our Locals Will Celebrate May First At Meetings and Concerts

(Continued from page 1)

Lycium, 219 Sackman street. The International Chorus will take part in this concert as well. Brother Shipkoff, former Socialist and Labor assemblyman, will speak on May Day.

Local 17, the Reformer Makers' Union, will meet on that day at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, at Stuyvesant Casino, Second avenue and 8th street. A concert will be given in which some of the leading performers of the East side stage will take part. Brother Heller will preside and will deliver an address on the significance of May Day.

The Dressmakers' Union, Local 22, will celebrate May Day together with the Waitresses' Union, Local 25, at Cooper Union, at 130 in the after-

noon. A very attractive program has been arranged and the following speakers will address the audience on the meaning of the workers' holiday: President Morris Sigman, General Secretary Baroff, and Vice-president Feinberg.

The Cloak and Dress Pressers' Union, Local 35, will celebrate the First of May at a concert and dance at Tammany Hall, 14th street near Third avenue. The concert will begin at 4 o'clock in the afternoon lasting until the evening, when the dance will begin. Brother Joseph Breslaw, the manager of the local, will preside. Ad. dresses will be delivered by President Morris Sigman and B. C. Vla-

The Ladies' Tailors Union, Local 28, will commemorate the First of May on Thursday morning, at 10:30, at Laurel Garden Hall, 75 East 116th street. A concert will be given and speeches on the importance of the day will be made.

Local 90, the Custom Dressmakers, will celebrate the day at a Spring Flower Dance, on Wednesday evening, April 30, at the Park View Palace, 110th street and Fifth avenue.

Tickets for all these concerts are free to the members of the locals. They can be had at the offices of the locals, and members are asked to provide themselves and their families with tickets on time.

Dance of Local 90

On April 30, 1924, Local 90, the Custom Dressmakers' Union will have its annual Mayflower Dance—for its own members as well as for the members of other locals of our Union. They expect to meet there, as they do every year, hosts of friends from the labor movement of New York City in addition to all the members and their personal friends. Remember, it is April 30, at Parkview Palace, 3 West 116th street.

The Importance of An Employment Bureau to a Trade Union

By CELIA CHANOWITZ
(Member of Local 25)

How strong and of what value is an agreement between a trade union and a manufacturer, when the manufacturer can take full advantage of the over-supply of workers in the trade?

As a worker in the shop, I have had the opportunity to observe the actual situation. Even in the busy season the workers are put under great disadvantage when they have to go around to look for jobs. In our trade, which is highly seasonal, the workers are afraid to lose too much time in looking around for better jobs. Then comes the famous promise from the employer or manager "we have steady work," and the worker who has probably been out of work for a long time and is afraid to lose more time, believes the employer and accepts the job even though it pays a little less than he or she expected.

This is true in season. Let us see how it works in the slack time. A number of people are out of work—a manufacturer needs a finisher. A fifty-cent advertisement in the paper brings him the next morning from ten to twenty-five finishers. The unemployed are eager to get the job and they all flock to answer the advertisement. The workers, finding so many unemployed, are greatly discouraged, and unwilling as they are to compete, nevertheless are forced to compete for the job. The employer

er, finding so many people unemployed, knows that now is his chance to pay the least and get the most. Thus we find that workers who are paid the maximum wage in the busy time get less than the minimum during slack time. This condition has a bad effect on agreements and wages.

Another great disadvantage of looking for work is this—the workers who go out in slack time to look for work accept temporary jobs most of the time and have no interest in the new shops, and as was said before, they accept lower wages than they should, thinking that it is better than nothing, and that they will go back to their own shops when the season begins. Meanwhile, they have lowered the standard of wages in the shops where they have worked temporarily and the scale of wages which the agreement provides becomes a dead letter under the present system of securing employment, due to the failure in our unions to take control of the supply of workers.

Hence, in order to abolish this evil in our trade, we must assume the control of this supply of labor and bring out the benefits of the agreement between the employer and the employee. We know that in many cases the workers have to struggle many weeks and sometimes months until they achieve the right for collective agreement and all precautions shall be taken to safeguard the agreement and thereby

strengthen the organization, instead of having to start all over again in many cases, at the expiration of the agreement.

In order to assume the control of the supply of labor an organization has to do two things, first, to establish an unemployment department under its own control, and secondly, to make the department so efficient that the workers can get jobs when jobs are available, and the employers can get workers when they need them. Such an employment department will make possible an orderly distribution of jobs and will prevent the competition for jobs which lowers wages and weakens the unions.

The expenses of the employment department must be regarded as an investment and not as an expenditure. It is an investment that should bring great profits to the organization, both morally and financially, morally because it would strengthen the unions and give the organization a high sense of dignity and more protection to the workers; financially, because it would do away with many strikes because of union preference. Above all, an employment bureau in a labor organization should be considered as one of the union's principles, as an employment bureau is actually the heart of the organization. The union's control of the supply of the workers tends to do away with the desperate hunt for

Jobs and with the competition among the workers for the jobs, and furthermore, it would create harmony and cooperation among the workers and would greatly strengthen the unions' control over the industry and the conditions in the shops as a whole.

I have recently returned from Chicago where I had the opportunity to study the Employment Bureau of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, and there is no doubt in my mind that the success of the Amalgamated in Chicago is due to their perfect control of the supply of the workers in their industry, through their employment bureau.

At first their bureau was functioning with little satisfaction to both the employers and the union, and at one time the employers had requested to take that employment clause out of the agreement, but instead of doing that the union has promised to make that employment bureau function efficiently.

In August, 1922, Mr. Bryce Stuart was asked to take charge of the employment bureau and through his efficient management and through the proper requirement of that bureau the Amalgamated Clothing Workers in Chicago controls 95 per cent of the supply of their workers in their industry. As a result of that control of the supply of the workers in the clothing industry, the union grew morally and financially.

I therefore urge that our members and officers should stand by our employment bureau, that of Local 22. I also want to appeal to the members of the Dressmakers' Union to come to the employment bureau for their jobs and help to improve the heart of the organization.

In Local 38

By B. DRASIN

My last report mentioned the preparations of our local for the next convention of our International; a joint committee has been elected of the Executive Board and the local and branch meetings, which was to work out the instructions and resolutions to be given to our delegates in order that they may guide themselves at the convention. At present the Resolution Committee has completed its work and will present these resolutions at the coming general member meeting for approval. This meeting will take place at the Harlem Socialist Educational Center, 62 E. 106th street, on Tuesday, April 29, 8:00 p. m. sharp. The meeting is of such importance that we are sure that not one of our members will fail to be present.

Further progress in our organization work is noticeable. The well known Richard Hickson who for years conducted a business at Fifth Avenue and 52d street under the name of Hickson, Inc., and which was afterward turned over to Singer Bros., opened a new tailoring business on 57th street and Fifth Avenue. Every one in the trade knows how much trouble this firm used to give the Union. It is, therefore, natural that when Mr. Hickson opened his new business, he should try to avoid the Union.

The office took this matter in hand. An agitation was carried on among the tailors, to join the Union and to demand union recognition by the firm. This alone, however, did not promise to bring the expected results, so an unexpected treat was arranged for both Mr. Hickson and the tailors of the shop. Last Thursday morning an unusually large committee appeared outside the shop early in the morning, and succeeded in taking down almost the entire staff of workers. This worked effectively and the firm, being rushed with work which had to be finished in time, could not afford to

wait very long. After a few conferences held with Mr. Hickson—while the people were kept in the office for a period of a day and a half, with the assistance of Brother Feinberg—the firm was compelled to sign an agreement with the Union. At present more than twenty people are employed there. Further organization work is on hand and success is foreseen in a few other shops, which are on the way to being organized.

Another thing which the office is glad to report is the decision of the Executive Board to arrange for an unusually interesting celebration for the first of May. We have arranged for a number of entertainers who will play, sing and recite. The admission is free and you are cordially invited to come with your families and spend a few pleasant hours, and meet your fellow-workers in the trade.

The following are only a few of those who will appear: Isiah Zeligman, pianist; Geraldine Lee, violinist; Mary Froberg, dramatic soprano; May Serr, dramatic soprano; Helen Beregovy, recitation; Dave Resnik, recitation.

In a few days the arrangements for the entire program will be completed and every member will receive an invitation to attend this gathering. The names of the speakers will also be given. The concert will take place at Laurel Garden, 75 East 116th street, on May 1, at 10:30 a. m.

The attention of our members is called to the Ball which has been arranged by our sister local, the Custom Dressmakers' Union, Local 90, which is to be held on April 30, at the Park Palace, 3-5 West 110th street. Our Executive Board has invited our members to come and help them make their affair a success. Tickets can be obtained at our office or in the office of Local 90, at 744 Lexington Avenue. May 1 is a paid holiday for our workers. No one is allowed to work on that day.

Miners' Cooperative Huge Success

Clarence, Pennsylvania, has one of the most successful cooperative stores in the country. When Cedric Long, executive secretary of The Cooperative League, visited this society on an organizing trip, he found a thriving and progressive store that had done business with very little.

This cooperative has a membership of Slav miners, who were driven to open their own store when the private storekeepers of the town refused credit to striking miners during the coal strike of 1919. When the strike was over, 135 families put up at least

\$10 each to open a store. Some money was borrowed from the local miners' union.

Then came a series of strikes and hard times in the coal industry. In spite of that fact, however, the cooperative store has cleared itself of debt, has bought its own building for \$7,000, free of mortgages, has turned over to the local union as a gift \$13,000, has \$1,000 cash in the bank, and thousands in accounts receivable. In addition, members have received during the past two years \$5,000 in cooperative patronage rebates.

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JUSTICE

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National Committee on Prison Labor

The National Committee on Prisons and Prison Labor, of which Adolph Lewinsohn is president, and Hugh Frayne is vice-president, was established in August, 1909, for the purpose of studying the problem of Labor in prison and with a view to causing the abolition of the vicious contract system of convict labor. The scope of its work is continually expanding as a logical result of successful achievement. A brief survey of some of the Committee's accomplishments in 1923 can best indicate its importance to the growing movement that aims to make of prisons communities in which prisoners may become self-supporting, law-abiding members of society.

"Work with Wage" is the key to the adequate development of the prison system. Prison products must be successfully marketed if work is to be had for every prisoner and wages paid for this work.

The reason for the failure to permanently reform prisons is the lack of the development of a proper method of marketing prison products. The committee, therefore, through 1923, centered its efforts on working out a practical method of marketing prison products, and in bringing about nation-wide study and experimentation with this method.

PRISON INDUSTRIAL CONFERENCE

A Prison Industrial Conference was held in Washington, in March, at which were present the men directly in charge of the prison industries of some seventeen states and cities.

The survey, made by the committee in 1922, of the market for prison products in the commodity requirements of state institutions and departments was presented to this conference and discussion had of marketing such products under the "States' Use" method, which the committee advocates as a result of its survey. This "States' Use" method calls for the purchase by a state, in its own institutions and departments, of its maximum requirements of the products of its prison industries before the sale of surplus products can be made to other states for use in their institutions and departments.

The Prison Industrial Conference endorsed "States' Use" but held as essential to its development:

Standard specifications for commodities consumed in state institutions and departments in order that commodities produced in the prison of one state may meet the requirements of the institutions and departments of another state.

Allocation of prison industries in order that diversified lines of commodities may be produced by the different states.

An example of the practicability of "States' Use" can be given in the case of the State Department of Institutions and Agencies of New Jersey, which at the beginning of 1923 found itself burdened with a large inventory of shoes, as the state market is not large enough to consume the output of its efficiently operated prison shoe shop. The committee cooperated with the Associates for Government Service in making arrangements for the sale of these shoes which were sold for institutional use to some seventeen states; the Associates for Government Service also arranged for the manufacture of the Virginia automobile shop and made small sales to other states of furniture from the Virginia prison and aluminum ware from the Massachusetts prison.

WORK FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FEDERAL PRISON SYSTEM

The President of the United States, in his message, laid before Congress the three pressing requirements of the Federal Department of Prisons:

1. Adequate work with wage for every man and woman confined in a Federal Prison;
 2. An Industrial Farm Colony for Federal Women Prisoners;
 3. An Industrial Reformatory for young men, first offenders.
- The twelve thousand five hundred women's clubs federated in the General Federation, were circulated with the full facts in regard to these bills and are active in their support, over 350,000 women having already urged their passage by Congress.

STANDARDIZING THOUGHT FOR HUMAN PRISON METHODS

"The Whipping Boys," a motion picture depicting the horrors and brutality attendant upon convict slavery was endorsed by the committee and at its request by the General Federation of Women's Clubs. The picture is based upon the "Talbert Case" in Florida, which resulted in the abolition of the lease system in Florida for county as well as state prisoners.

Three organizations are cooperating in the effort to bring about such wide viewing of the picture, that conditions such as were disclosed by the Talbert Case will never again be tolerated in any State in the Union.

WORK FOR DELINQUENT WOMEN AND GIRLS

The Standing Committee on the Care and Training of Delinquent Women and Girls held its fourth annual conference at the New Jersey State Home for Girls in Trenton in May. It was attended by the superintendents of eleven state institutions for women and girls and other representatives from sixteen states.

Special emphasis was placed on:

1. Physical defects as a cause of abnormal behavior.

2. The necessity for examination and classification of every inmate and for specialized training to meet the needs of the individual.

RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF PRISONERS DEPORTED FROM CANADIAN PRISONS

Many young Americans find their way into Canadian prisons, are deported from that country and returned to this. For the past four years the committee has been working to re-establish these unfortunate citizens. During 1923 the United States Commissioner of Immigration reported to the committee ninety-five such cases. The present status of these cases is:

Fifteen helped back to their homes and work found for them.

Twenty-two — transportation and work ready when their sentences expire.

Forty — negotiations under way although sentences will not expire for some time.

Fifteen required no assistance.

INCREASE OF MEMBERSHIP

The growth of the committee during 1923 was marked, membership increasing from barely 2,000 to over 2,700 and now including persons living in thirty-eight of the States, the

Districts of Columbia, Honolulu and Porto Rico.

PROGRAM FOR 1924

1. The abolition of the prison contract system and every other system which exploits his labor to the detriment of the prisoner; and the gradual development of prison industries producing commodities for consumption under "States' Use."
2. The payment to prisoners of wages based upon the prevailing rate of wages in the vicinity in which the institution is located, the pro rata cost of maintaining the prisoners to be deducted from their wages.
3. Development of methods of making the wages of prisoners available to the wives and families of prisoners.
4. Organization of methods for correcting defects, mental and physical, in the prisoners and preparing them by training through labor to return to society.
5. Continuation of research into the special problems connected with the care and training of delinquent women and girls.
6. Development of a nation-wide campaign for the removal of sentenced prisoners from county jails and their commitment to industrial farms under state control.
7. Cooperation with religious organizations in developing adequate opportunity for spiritual development for every prisoner.

A Unique Labor Union

An account is now at hand of the remarkable farm workers' strike in Norfolk, England, last year, written by Mr. Paul Blanshard, field secretary of the League for Industrial Democracy, in the Labor Age for March, 1924. Mr. Blanshard's recent investigation of the union yields the following interesting information: This organization had 10,000 members in the spring of 1923, when it conducted a strike which lasted a month and resulted in winning more

respect for the union and a small wage gain. The union scale of wages is now "86 a week of fifty hours, with overtime of four hours at straight pay when absolutely necessary and Saturday half holidays." During the strike of 1923, 5,000 new members were enrolled. "The strike was a marvel of modern methods." Two illustrations show the changed attitude of the Church of England toward the unionization of British farm labor. "In the seventies, Sidney Webb tells us, the Bishop of Gloucester suggested that the farm agitators be ducked in the horsepond. In 1923 the Church of England at Castlereagh reserved half of its pews on three Sunday mornings for parades of strikers." In regard to the attitude of the Government, we read that, "In 1872 British troops were sent to the farms as strikebreakers. In 1923, although 400 policemen were shipped into the strike area, the farm workers were allowed to maintain their cycle squads which scoured the countryside and 'notified' workers of the existence of the strike." At an outdoor union meeting attended by Mr. Blanshard were signs with the following words: "They allow thirty-five shillings a week for horses in the army. They allow twenty-five shillings a week for you and your wives and children." "The Duke of York got 25,000 pounds when he took a woman. How much do you get when you take a woman?" "Fifteen peers own one-seventh of your country." The British farm workers are not like our typical "hired men," living at the farm house, getting their room and board. "They live in separate cottages which are often clustered in little villages some distance from the farm." Cottages are usually owned by the landowners. Hence the large British manor somewhat resembles the company owned mining towns of Pennsylvania and West Virginia. "The strike of these Norfolk farm workers was a protest against the whole British land system." The leaders of the union say that their ultimate aim is the control of British land. They recognize they cannot make much progress without the prevailing land system which in many cases includes an idle owning class, the tenant and the worker.

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CALL AT THE
BANK FOR A
BARREL, OR
ASK THE SEC-
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YOUR LOCAL
TO GET ONE
FOR YOU

Labor's Stake in Cooperation

By ALBERT F. COYLE

(Editor, Locomotive Engineers Journal; Executive Secretary, All-American Cooperative Commission.)

What does cooperation mean to you? Is it just a new fad, the idle dream of a few visionaries, or a vital, practical concern which means more bread and butter for your family, better clothing, and a higher standard of living,—in short the most important movement in the world to you, next to your union itself?

The Labor movement is like a man with two arms, both of which are necessary if he is to make a decent living and enjoy the blessings of life. Its right arm is cooperation. Its left arm is political action. Look around you, and you will find that where Labor is making the greatest progress, it is using both of these arms; and wherever it is standing still or slipping backward, it is neglecting to use these two powerful aids.

A national labor leader said to me not long ago: "If the American Labor movement had spent half the time in expanding the spending power of the workers by cooperation that it has in battling for an increased wage, it would be twice as far along as it is today. For too often increased wages have brought only higher living costs, so that the workers' wage increases have gone into the pockets of the profiteers, leaving their standard of living lower than it was before."

Our European comrades have long since learned the tremendous value of cooperation as the ally of trade unionism. In the words of Fred Bramley, secretary of the British Trade Union Congress, "The trade union official who forgets that the worker is not only exploited as a producer but also as a consumer, will not render adequate service to his organization; and trade union members making the same mistake will continue to demand increases in wages as the only and final method of improving their conditions."

WHAT COOPERATION MEANS

What is cooperation, you ask, and how can it help me secure a better living? The word "cooperation" simply means working together, which is just another way of defining teamwork and brotherhood in action. As applied to production and distribution of the necessities of life, it means the organization of a group of producers or consumers to manufacture or distribute food to eat, clothes to wear, houses to live in, or credit to do business with, on the basis of service instead of profit, of democratic instead of autocratic control. The Rochdale pioneers, who started the cooperative movement in Britain, declared as their broad purpose "to arrange production and distribution, education and government." Robert Owens, the father of producers' cooperation among English-speaking people, prophesied for the future "unrestricted cooperation among all men and the enjoyment of life." Today both of these predictions have come true, for thirty million co-operators in fifty-eight civilized lands are now supplying practically every conceivable human need, from beef-steak and buttons to houses, schools and hydro-electric power by various forms of cooperative enterprise.

There are also several things that cooperation is not. It is not a mere penny-saving device, enabling you to squeeze a cent or more out of every dollar. It will do this for you, but it will also achieve something infinitely greater by building up a group of brotherly-minded men with the common purpose of helping each other, instead of exploiting the weaker fellow. This is the essence of the cooperative ideal for every business, every industry, every activity of life. Think of the marvelous civilization we could

create if the cooperative spirit pervaded our daily life.

Neither is cooperation a job-getting agency for your friends. The cooperative enterprise depends upon superior efficiency for its success, and can go ahead only if competent men are in positions of management and control. Nor is cooperation a substitute for unionism. Quite the contrary, it depends upon unionism to help it solve the problems of production at the same time that it aids the union worker to lengthen his pay envelope as a consumer.

By the negotiation a reformist device for tinkering up the capitalist system so that it will work a little better. In the trenchant words of President M. Llewellyn Davies at the Fifty-fourth Congress of the British Cooperative Union:

"These two ideas, democratic control of industry and the abolition of profit-making, mark out cooperation as nothing less than a revolution, as fundamental, vital, and transforming as the change it is effecting in the economic structure of society. It is obvious that cooperation is far more than a reformist movement. We are working for no patchwork modifications, for no 'reconciliation of capital and labor,' for no 'infusion of a better spirit' into old foundations. We are laying the foundations of a new industrial civilization. Cooperation is surely subversive enough for the violent revolutionary, orderly enough for the pacifist reformer. It holds the glamor of future possibilities for the idealist, while the most practical materialist could not reasonably be dissatisfied when he notes what has already been accomplished."

Let us now turn to the positive side! What does cooperation promise to you as a worker? What has it already accomplished where it has been tried?

For cooperation is no longer an experiment. Consumers' cooperatives alone embrace thirty million heads of families in all parts of the world. There are whole communities in Europe where cooperation has put private profit business out of existence. Even in the British Isles, where private profit-making is most strongly entrenched, the cooperatives feed and clothe more than one-third the total population.

LENGTHENING YOUR PAY ENVELOPE

First let us take a look at what cooperation does for the pay envelope. The pioneer of modern cooperation was the cooperative society founded at Rochdale, England, in 1844, by a little group of twenty-eight disaffected weavers who had just lost a strike for better wages. If they could not increase the amount of money they received, the only alternative to starvation or the poorhouse was to lengthen the pay envelope by getting more for their money. They started a one-room cooperative store, open two nights a week. Today these twenty-eight pioneer cooperators have increased to four and a half million, while the \$130 stock of that little store has expanded to an annual trade of more than a billion dollars, returning in one year \$65,000,000 to the people in cooperative dividends, besides an equal sum placed in a surplus reserve for the expansion of the movement.

This substantial success is by no means confined to Europe. A chain of six cooperative grocery stores in the city of Cleveland, Ohio, last year did a quarter of a million dollars'

worth of business on a \$25,000 capital, with an earning of \$8,000, or over 30 per cent on the investment. In the same city are the thriving cooperative dairy and company, each doing a business recently made by million dollars annually. In some cases the cooperative is the biggest business of its kind in the city, as witness the powerful Franklin Cooperative Creamery of Minneapolis, with its trade of over \$3,100,000 a year. Hundreds of similar cooperative successes could be named in other American cities.

American workers have long been forced by securing a few more dollars in their pay envelope when the cost of the necessities of life has mounted faster than their earnings. We have yet to learn that wages are only worth what they will buy, and that the worker who gets a dollar a day more at the cost of paying \$1.25 for increased rent, food and fuel, is merely going from bad to worse. A study of wages recently made by William M. Maule, former Joint Chairman of the United States War Labor Board, reveals the astonishing fact that, with the exception of the worst paid and most unskilled workers, large groups of skilled workers are actually getting less real money, measured in buying power, than they were in 1900. Take the engineers and the conductors, the two best paid groups in the railway field: they received an average of \$1,161 and \$1,000 respectively in 1900, which had actually dropped in purchasing power, despite the "increases" in the number of dollars received, to \$999 and \$909 respectively under the wage schedules existing up to the first of this year. In other words, because their cost of living increased faster than their pay, the engineers were worse off by \$162 and the conductors by \$95 than they were in 1900. Similarly with the miners: although their actual money wage had increased from 52 cents per ton in 1900 to an average of nearly \$1.12 a ton in 1923, their real wages had fallen in buying power from 52 cents per ton to less than 43 cents per ton in the same period. As Dr. Paul H. Douglas' able study of wages for the American Economics Association concludes: "The purchasing power of full time weekly earnings in 1918 was 28.6 per cent less than in the period from 1890-99."

This matter is of vital concern to you. It proves, whether we like to admit it or not, that trade unionism alone is not even holding its ground so far as getting better wages is concerned. Until labor organizes cooperatively to control the prices it must pay for bread and meat, and shoes and coal, it will continue to enrich the profiteers by centering its energies on merely getting more dollars instead of getting at the cause to which the value of its dollar. And cooperation is the only weapon which will enable labor to rent the profiteer.

QUALITY ABOVE PROFITS

The cooperative movement also insures the honest worker pure and honestly made clothing at actual cost. Cooperation always places quality above price, for in the long run the best is the cheapest. Thus a cooperative dairy in one of our large cities gladly lost \$2,000 during a recent milk shortage in order to secure pure, fresh milk for its customers, rather than use the milk powder and other substitutes passed off on the public by some of its competitors. There is absolutely no incentive to adulterate or defraud yourself when you and your fellow-workers supply your wants by cooperation.

SETTING YOUR OWN WAGES

In the third place, the cooperative movement demands a decent standard of living for all workers whom it employs. Instead of trying to beat down wages to the lowest possible point, the cooperative enterprise strives to pay the highest wage possible and still meet competition. Thus the milk wagon drivers and dairy employees of Minneapolis, where the Franklin Cooperative Creamery sets the pace, enjoy the best wages and working conditions of any similar dairy employees in the country. In the case of producers' cooperatives, the men themselves decide what wages they are to receive, elect their own manager, and determine their own conditions of labor democratically. Think for a moment of the enormous gain to the American labor movement if wages and working conditions were based on the cooperative basis for all industries.

(To be continued)

Bertrand Russell on Patriotism

Bertrand Russell, England's brilliant Socialist, mathematician and philosopher, present here to one of the oldest cardrooms in England, where he was imprisoned during the War because of his Socialist and pacifist views, and is now lecturing in the United States, presents a striking article in the May Century. Mr. Russell has embodied in this article the ideas on which he is basing the lectures he is giving throughout the country. He analyzes the chief causes of war and the steps we must take if we are to prevent the next war. He denounces patriotism, and says in part:

"If the existing system of production for profit were superseded, at least as regards fundamental raw materials, by a system of production for use, there would no longer be so much money spent on bribing newspapers, schoolmasters, professors, and parsons to extol bloodshed under the name of patriotism. In that case, the opinion might be changed by the operation of reason. It might come to be understood that patriotism is the blackest crime of which a man in our age can be guilty. A man who murders one man with his own hands is executed by the law, but a man who, by preaching patriotism, causes millions to kill millions, is usually respected and even statues put up to him when he dies. Those of us who do not wish to see our whole civilization go down in red ruin have a great and difficult duty to perform—to guard the door of our minds against patriotism. This is part of the larger duty of pursuing truth; nationalism cannot survive without false beliefs. If we can learn to serve truth, to be truthful in our thoughts, to avoid the flattering myths in which we like to disguise our passions, we shall have done what we can to save our world from disaster. For this creed it is worth while to suffer, and indeed those who have it must suffer, for persecution is as bitter as in the days of the Spanish Inquisition. But in the very suffering there is happiness and a promise of better things in the time to come."

IN MEMORIAM

He, the Executive Board of the White Goods Workers' Union, Local 62, I. L. G. W. U., at a meeting held on April 4, 1924, express our deep sorrow over the untimely death of your young sister, Miss Frieda Bernstein. May her dear memory be a consolation to her family and all her friends in their bereavement.

M. ZATAY, Chairman.

JUSTICE

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EDITORIALS

CONVENTION THOUGHTS

Next week the delegates to our Boston convention will quite likely be too busy getting ready for their trip to allow time for quiet, deliberate thinking. It might therefore be the proper thing to call their attention to some very pertinent matters in connection with this convention at this rather early moment.

It stands to reason that, if the leaders and doers in our Union could foresee what might come to pass in our trades years in advance, we would have little use for conventions or periodical gatherings of any sort. Were our International managed on the principle of dictatorship, with one person as the all-wise and infallible guide and leader, such conventions would have been equally superfluous.

But as no one in our International pretends to be a seer to whom the books of the future are open, conventions of our Union are a vital necessity. In point of fact, it happens that even in the course of the two short years, from convention to convention, which no one can foresee, the General Executive Board is at times compelled, in dealing with decisions of the convention, to put its own construction upon them as the course of events fast modifies the environs under which a convention resolution is often adopted. Life frequently plays such tricks upon us, that not only do we find it impossible to carry out some convention decisions but are forced to act contrary to them.

Labor organizations cannot get along without conventions. In our case, the past two years' experience has enriched our stock of information and we must have appeared as desirable in 1922 might be impracticable and wrong in the light of the new events and the new surprises which life brought to us.

Our conventions, therefore, are not gatherings where all and everything is cut and dried in advance. Our conventions are conducted in an atmosphere of genuine democracy. At our conventions it is accepted as an axiom that each delegate must understand the problems before the entire body, must have his or her own opinion concerning them, and must possess enough common sense to change an opinion upon finding that he or she had made a mistake.

Coming to conventions with rigid opinions disqualifies the delegate in more than one way from being a useful member of that body. We doubt whether the presence of such a delegate at a convention serves any purpose at all either to his local organization or to the International as a whole. If the convention is to achieve any good at all, it can come only through a free exchange of opinion. Out of such an exchange of views, come decisions which are based on facts primarily and not on mere theory or dogma. To be open to conviction the delegates must come to conventions with open minds, and those of them whose minds have been locked before they enter the convention hall, are willy-nilly incapacitated from taking part in such a deliberative body, and their contributions to the convention, instead of being of use, are only of hindrance and harm.

In our Union, there are no two conflicting economic groups or parties, each striving to capture power for itself. If this were the case, debates and discussions would be a mere formality. All would be reduced to a question of power, the stronger side prevailing over the weaker.

As we understand it, we have no parties in our Union. We have differences of opinion, as any other organization built on democratic bases where freedom of expression is unrestricted would have. But we are certain that our whole membership and its leaders and representatives have only one interest to advance, and that is the steady and unbroken growth of the influence and the usefulness of our organization as an instrument for the betterment of the condition of the workers in our industry.

We may have differences of opinion concerning the best ways and means of achieving our purpose and that is why we are meeting every other year to thresh out these differences, and to arrive at a common understanding. Delegates, no matter what their opinion on subjects of policy and practice may have been before they came to conventions, have a right or, rather, a duty to change their opinions and to vote in accordance with their new convictions, if after a discussion or an exchange of opinion they have truly changed their minds concerning this or that question.

More than once have we declared in these columns, and we say it now again: our International does not recognize the distinction between "left" and "right," and every one of its members is fully entitled to his or her convictions, political, social and religious. The left and the right are both desirable members in the Union as long as they consider the Union as the organization for the defense of which they are ready and willing to give their all.

And we say it once more,—the International does not recognize the division of its membership into lefts and rights. But, in the course of the last few years, a part of our membership has been demoralized through the mischievous influence of outsiders. They were misled to believe that the Union is only a means to some ulterior end, that it is only a place for the carrying out of plans and schemes dictated by some outside organization. They have sworn allegiance to that other organization and are utilizing the Union as a tool for its purpose.

Within our Union they acted more as spies than as loyal members. In everything they did, they thought more of the interests of that outside group than of their own Union. The General Executive Board found this state of affairs to be a menace for our Union, and in conformity with the spirit and decision of the last convention, it made it impossible, inasmuch as it could, for these elements to continue their undermining work under the instruction of their tutors.

These "lefts" were disciplined for no reason other than that they were bad union people. And we hope that among the delegates to the convention, no matter what their political and other convictions, there will be found no one to whom his or her Union is not of primary importance. Once our delegates are united on this common ground, all other considerations, motives and theories will not hinder an honest, open-minded discussion of the problems which confront us and a successful solution of them.

We should regard it as a sign of true success if at our convention this year there will be no such thing as a "left" vote or a "right" vote, if the delegates vote not in accordance with a certain gospel of this or that saint or authority, but form their own convictions on matters that the convention will first thoroughly and impartially discuss. We should regard it as a sign of genuine achievement if the utmost degree of tolerance towards the opinion of others would prevail at our convention, and the spirit of vindictiveness and spite be entirely alien to it. We shall regard it as a sign of real progress if throughout the sessions of our convention, wholesome common sense will rule supreme and all its decisions will be aimed, not at the satisfaction of personal grievances, but the welfare of our entire Union.

We appeal, therefore, to the delegates. Leave all your personal grievances behind. Your responsibility is too big to allow personal considerations to control your conduct at the convention. As delegates you will have to decide upon the fate of almost a half million human beings for the next two years, and your role is too big to permit yourselves to become the blind tool for this or that politician, inside or outside the convention hall.

And when our delegates will come to the convention with such a decision firmly set in their minds, we are certain that this jubilee convention of our International will be an epoch-making event for our workers and for their industry. For never has it fallen to the lot of a convention of ours to solve such vital problems as will come up before the gathering in Boston. Neither has such a thorough reevaluation of all our achievements for the past quarter of a century been attempted.

But this is not all. Our convention will concern itself not with our past achievements alone. It will have to write a page of our current history. It will have to say the final words concerning the big and fundamental changes our Union is determined to introduce into the terms of Labor under which our workers are employed. This the convention can solve, provided the delegates will treat every question that is brought before them with all the earnestness, zeal and honest judgment which they possess.

It is concerning these matters that we should like our delegates to think as hard as they can during the next few days before they leave for the convention.

FOR MAY DAY

Many of our unions will surely celebrate the First of May—as they have celebrated it in former years, since May Day was proclaimed as a holiday of Labor.

Indeed, there exists no reason whatever why our workers should give up celebrating the first day in May as a day of the solidarity of the workers. Quite to the contrary—never was it so important to stress the idea of internationalism, which is the basic idea of May Day, as now, when the whole world is submerged under a flood of vulgar chauvinism. Never was it so necessary to the more enlightened workers to proclaim their union with the workers all over the world as today—when our masters and industrial overlords are doing their worst to fan the feelings of hate and contempt between nation and nation.

The second fundamental idea of May Day was the removal of every incentive that leads to wars between nations and races, and make way for the establishment of peace all over the world. And the proclamation of this thought was never as important as it is today—when the dark clouds of a new human holocaust are still hanging over our heads, when the devil of militarism, for the destruction of which we ostensibly fought the last great war, is again holding the master whip in all our so-called civilized countries. More than ever the workers, who always are the first and last victims of war, raise their voices in a huge protest against these vicious and horrible devices of our present rulers.

We know well that as yet the great mass of the workers remains indifferent to the fearful menace which threatens to destroy them. We are fully aware that as yet the workers who

The Railroads and You

By LOUIS F. BUDENZ

"Politics," a syndicated joke column avers, "is the effort to please the West."

Never was truth more simply told. It is to the "wild and woolly" section of America, that the eyes of that master politician but small statesman, Calvin Coolidge, are turned with a troubled gaze. With the Cleveland nomination securely tucked away in his vest pocket, he scents motor difficulties for the future in those thousands of acres of waving grain, with the mortgages hanging over them.

Two weeks ago he sent a "confidential observer," Mr. Washburn, out to the land beyond the Mississippi — to learn what the folks were thinking and talking about out there. Mr. Washburn reported softly but unerringly, as a "confidential observer" should do. "It is a thick ticket in the field that is to be drealed in November," said he. "Such a ticket, headed by La Follette, could sweep nine Western States, and throw the election into the House of Representatives." Or words to that effect.

"It is not with the personnel of the present administration that they are discontented out West," he continued diplomatically. "But it is general economic conditions that are the root of the difficulty."

And in these "general economic conditions," which are hitting more farms under the hammer this year than perhaps ever before in American history, Calvin happens to be on the wrong end of the gun. They think so out there, at any rate; and that is

pretty convincing, politically speaking.

Looking big among these "general economic conditions" — as has been stated before — is the railroad situation. The farmer is "dogged tired" of paying out his profits to the railroads and grain elevators, in order that the bankers can come in and foreclose on his home and workplace. Of course, the railroads declare with all the brass bands of publicity at their command, that carrying wheat is not as profitable for them as carrying ore or lumber or other products. But that does not help the farmer a bit. To him, in his present mood, the railroad should be a public service, helping rather than hindering his existence. It is on that common ground of "government ownership" that he finds his first meeting point with the organized workers.

New, how do the railroads themselves stand? What are they planning in the way of public policy? What have they to offer, against "government ownership"? Therein you and I and every one else in America come into the picture. For the railroads, their rates, their good or bad condition, and all the other things about them, affect everything we eat and drink and wear.

Since the seventies of the last century we have been regulating the railroads. It was the voice of the middle Western farmers, after the panic of 1873, that made the State legislatures get into action. The demand then was for low rates, as the farmers were confronted with one of

their frequent "down and out" periods. It was the business man and shippers who continued the agitation for regulation, the cry changing from "low rates" to "no discrimination."

By 1887 the regulation wave had surged into Congress, when the Interstate Commerce Commission was given power to look into the industry. On through the years, this Federal Commission was gradually given more and more power, the State railroad commissions were reformed into Public Service Commissions, covering the municipal and inter-urban utilities largely, and the railroads became a "national problem."

Though railroad regulation has occasionally clipped off an illegitimate profit here, adjusted an unjust rate there, thrown open a terminal in another case, it has on the whole been an "opiate" cheerfully administered to the people. They have been blindfoldly imagining that they were securing the impossible — public service through private ownership. The conflict between service and profits is an unceasing conflict. So much so, that after a number of years of regulation, the Great War found the transportation system of the country totally disorganized. Only Government operation could make it meet the emergency.

That is where the railroads find themselves caught or the horns of a dilemma today. When they took back the roads in 1920, the superior economy of unified operation was so clear that they were forced to put a little hocus-pocus over on the dear people. The Esch-Cummins abhor-

red a consolidation of complementary roads into regional organizations. That is what the roads are offering the people now. It is what Mr. Coolidge, always mimicking the Big Interests, declares in his program.

Of course, the financial experts see ahead of time that this will produce nothing in the way of economies for the farmers and workers. That is not what it is aimed to do. No railroad magnate lies awake at night worrying about these folks. But what it will do is to aid railroad investors, by putting all road on the same earning basis. It is purely a move for the welfare of Profits, with no thought of Better Service. As was forcefully said at the recent American Economic Association meeting: "Certainly the economies of consolidation are not going to be sufficient to fulfill the hopes of President Coolidge that rates on farm products may be reduced after consolidation is accomplished."

And what applies to farm products applies to every other product you buy. The National Railroad Consolidation, the pet policy of the railroad-owned White House, will do nothing for the common people — save prepare the structure for eventual Government ownership.

In other words, it is merely an effort to postpone "the evil day." The answer of the organized farmers and workers in the coming campaign will be: "No more fake remedies. Public Service demands Public Ownership and Operation of Our National Transportation System." Canada has already made such an answer — and the National Canadian Railways is the result. Our Northern neighbor might well say to us: "Go you and do likewise."

Two Cents' Worth

By PAULINE M. NEWMAN

In Nurnberg I awoke to the patter of a drizzling rain. From the windows I saw the sky still grey — just as it had been the night before. The clouds were dark still but not as heavy. There was hope that they would break by noon, perhaps, and make way for muchlonged-for sunshine. I went into the street. Drabness and gloom everywhere. The grey above, the wet and the cold below, depressed me. I could not help but think how truly the weather reflected the mood and temper of the German people — dark and hopeless, waiting for the sun to shine again.

Along a main street I observed many attractive modern shops. Looking into them I could see a few women behind counters, but no one to wait upon. The wares, so finely displayed, seemed lonely. They, too, were waiting, as it were, for some one to come and take them away to homes more cheerful, to people more hopeful. Both the stores and the wares spoke of a prosperous past.

I went further toward the old city. I passed the market. A lovely spot! In fact it was here about that I saw a bit of color and life. Out flowers, fresh vegetables and fruits lent a brightness to the otherwise dismal day. It is here also that the foreigners as well as the natives gather at one minute to twelve to see the "mov-

ing clock" on the old church tower. Every noon a hidden mechanism causes the little figures on its face to march by in procession. With a great ringing of bells and sounding of musical instruments, there appear the Lord and his twelve apostles.

Beyond the market are the churches and the houses which date back to the eleventh century. Quaint old houses they are indeed. The roofs of these houses are red. Little windows, like birds' nests, add a certain charm to their already quaint appearance. The outside stairways, especially, made me think of Peter Pan's house. Here also stood the simple abode of Albrecht Dürer. Except for a withered wreath on the door there was no evidence of unoccupancy. The green shutters were open. In the windows were two geraniums in bloom. . . . Over all these houses and churches towered the ancient castle with its "Fünfeckiger Turm" where, according to Baedeker, the "finest" collection of instruments of torture in the world is still retained, including the "famous" Eiserne Jungfrau. I visited to see this collection. Why I know not. For the light it illustrated me, and before the guide was through doing his duty, I left in disgust at the same time wondering at the strength of human audacity.

On my way to the hotel I remem-

bered that I needed some German money. I went into an exchange bureau. As a rule these places are crowded, and one may expect to stand in line a long time. On entering, however, I was relieved to find only one woman in front of the cashier's window. I could not help overhearing the cashier say: "I am sorry, but all I can give you today is twelve million mark." Nor her reply: "Yes, but this, this money should give me more; it's American money, and American money should enable me to buy bread for my children. No, twelve million is not enough for American money!" I was curious to see the "American money" for which twelve million mark was not sufficient. I made a step toward the cashier's window and on its sill I beheld two rusty American pennies! So that was the "American money" which she evidently considered a fortune! Twelve million marks for two cents! And even that was not enough to buy a loaf of bread! I told the cashier to give her the sum she wanted (even poor Americans can be generous in Germany!) While waiting for the money she told me her story. It is the kind of story that one hears from women of the masses. It does not matter in what city one is, the story is the same. Her husband had been out of work for a month and got sick from worry. He is unable to work should he be lucky enough to find a job. There are three children who are hungry and naked. They cannot go to school because they have no shoes or clothing. There is

no coal in the house, and winter is here. She talked on and on, forgetting that she did not know me, forgetting that as an individual I can help but little, whether it is her or her kind.

I looked at her while she talked to me. She could not have been more than forty, but she looked every bit of sixty. Her hair was grey. Her eyes had the kind of a look that comes to people who are haunted by fear and uncertainty. Her dress as well as her whole appearance was the embodiment of all the poverty, wretchedness and sufferings of her people. I left her counting the wad of paper with an appressed expression on her pale and careworn face.

The rain had ceased. A heavy sea was struggling to avoid two dark clouds that were bent on overtaking him. For a moment he would emerge victoriously from their grip and a beam would light up the faces of the people. But only for a moment. Then he would disappear once more behind the clouds. Walking down the street Baedeker's phrase, the "finest collection of instruments of torture in the world," came back to me. I wondered — was it up there, in the Fünfeckiger Turm, or was it, after all, in these little houses with the red roofs, where the old wither away, and where the young are condemned to cold and starvation?

Perhaps a future generation will answer.

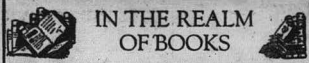
are not blind to this menace are few in number. This, however, should not deter the enlightened minority from making their protest even louder and farther reaching.

Neither does it matter whether the volume of this protest will be heard everywhere as strongly as we should like it to. The workers who know the meaning and significance of May Day should not fail to give expression to the lofty ideas which it represents. The trouble is that in the last few years the festive, solemn idea of May Day has been somewhat vulgarized, the flame of its early inspiration has evaporated somewhat, leaving only the shell of what once was a robust movement behind it.

But, it appears to us, the time has now come for the more intelligent of the working class to infuse new and greater en-

thusiasm into the May Day idea. It will, at least, prove to the ruling classes here and everywhere that they have not succeeded in drugging the whole world with the opiate of their chauvinism, that there are tens and hundreds of thousands of workers who are ready to fight back and oppose their pernicious schemes and devices.

We wish to hope that our own unions, at least, will celebrate in such a spirit the First of May. They will gather in their thousands and loudly, without fear, proclaim themselves as convinced internationalists, as inveterate opponents of the present economic and social order and as fighters in the army for a new world and a new deal to humanity.



IN THE REALM OF BOOKS

Thumbs Down!

The Decay of Capitalist Civilization. By Sidney and Beatrice Webb. New York. Harcourt, Brace & Company, 1923.

By SYLVIA KOPALD

Only the timid and unknowing are deceived by the thunder of present-day capitalism. The bravado of Fascism, the bellowing of hundred-percent Americanism, the noises of anti-Semitism are merely confusions of fear. In such fanfare capitalism seeks to drown out both its own small still voice and the sound of the onrushing tides of revolution. Those whom the gods would destroy they first make noisy. A bully's fear is always blusterous.

The latest book of Mr. and Mrs. Webb is, or should be, another warning to the Capitalist Canute. The tides which our dying system has unleashed are irrevocable. The forces which pull them onward proceed from capitalism itself. And that has always been the greatest irony in this fest of the gods. Cockatrice capitalism creates its own executioners. It moulds the economic and human forces that will slay it.

Mr. and Mrs. Webb pen their indictment of capitalism in the measured tones of scholars. Their pages are weighty with facts that have long been muffled over, with knowledge that has been carefully accumulated. Yet even their measured phrases ring with a passion that will not down, with a passion that is born in every human heart as it ponders aghast over the awful, senseless, prideful cruelty of the insane dark age in which we live. Yes, indeed, "history" will regard capitalism, not as an epoch, but as an episode, or dark age, between two epochs—"a dark age that blindly accepted its tragic night for carousing dawn; that justified its squalor, greed, ugliness, cruelty as natural law; that dared be prideful and aggressive and unmanured as the nouveau-riche who were its outstanding human products for many years.

It is a stinging indictment the Webbs draw up. Topping their toll-measure years of minute research, it wears an importance that perhaps exceeds that of any pronouncement of those Bolshevik warriors who have always marched under the banner of the irreconcilables. For to hear the cautious Webbs speaking of the "capitalist dictatorship," of the "typical phenomenon of twentieth century democracy in which private wealth, concentrated as to direction in relatively few hands, is seen very largely to control, by its dominion over the newspaper press, the mental environment of the whole population; and by its power in this and various other ways, even to nullify universal suffrage, and dangerously to influence, in the interests of private gain, the executive government and the legislation of every advanced industrial community," is to realize how far the times have roved.

For these are significant words. They are also more than words. The open recognition of "the capitalist dictatorship" underlies every page of the 242-page volume in which the Webbs have arraigned capitalism before the bar of civilization. There is throughout an unequalled determination that capitalism must go—completely. One wonders whether such a philosophy will not in time produce changes in the Fabian opportunism of the Webb program—although the

book itself contains little evidence of such change.

In their first three chapters the Webbs attack capitalism in the name of humanity. And what the system has done to people may well be the most serious charge against it. Say the Webbs: It has divided men arbitrarily into two classes, one owning and inheriting the tools of production, the other—the mass—slaves to their separation from the tools. It has enabled the owners (unintentionally) to plunge the mass into the meanness of slum life, to pollute the air they breathe, contaminate the water they drink, adulterate the food they eat, crowd the rail-holes in which they live, rob them of the sky and the grass and the hum of nature. It has enabled the owners to create not only their workers' physical environment, but their mental and political as well. It has cheapened manners, restricted the selection of mates to tight money circles, set mankind apart in separate money classes distinguished sharply one from the other, distinguished by manner of life, opportunities, compulsion to work, liability to law and justice, authority or status. And it has done these things according to no rules of worth or merit. Its success has depended upon the efficacy of the whip of starvation, upon "the law of nature and morality that if a man does not work neither shall he eat." Yet it has placed one class above the law and prevented the other from enjoying its fruits. Men have begged for work so that they and their families might eat. But the god of "market conditions" said "No!"

Capitalism has justified these success as necessary prerequisites to its success. If true, this in itself is a terrific indictment. But the Webbs ride even this plea of success in appointed economic tasks. They make no attempt to belittle the success of capitalism. It did accomplish great things, as Marx and Engels pointed out seventy-five years before the Webbs. But it was merely an initial success. The Webbs place the heyday of its life approximately at the middle of the nineteenth century. Since that time its decay has been steady and sure.

The decay has revealed itself in many ways. The waste of competition with the rise of monopoly, the waste of the human instruments of production, the ruin of natural resources, the rise of the brain-worker, also separated now from the tools of production as are the manual workers, the increase of mere "living by owning" (what Veblen calls "absentee ownership"), the worsening of conditions, the dominance of the selling phase over the productive, the increase of the calamitous national and class wars, etc.—in these things sounds the knell of capitalist civilization.

The Webbs end with a plea. Let the capitalists beware. If they do not learn wisdom, if they do not learn to read the signs of the times, the onrushing tides of revolution will engulf them. Russia, making a revolution in an undemocratic country had to resort to violent proletarian dictatorship; Germany, making revolution while uncertain how to use democracy in its new-found dictatorship,

lost both the democracy and the dictatorship. " . . . In the hope that it is not always inevitable that Nature should harden the hearts of those whom she intends to destroy," the Webbs offer their latest book. Workers here, have only one quarrel with it. Strong as the Webbs make their arraignment, it still is not as strong as it might be. Why is there no word of the dominance of finance and the making of the credit structure, why nothing of the role of the investment banker, why nothing of the meaning of the repressive environment, why nothing of the whole challenge of waste, why nothing of

how business enterprise is tangling up the machine process? The indictment of capitalism is moral, aesthetic, humane, psychological, it is true. But the strongest challenge should be made on that field where capitalism stands most proudly sure of itself—the economic. And lest we forget! The Russian Revolution chose violence only after the capitalist counter-revolution turned machine guns upon it.

But be that as it may. The capitalist thunder of today is a mere harbinger of the revolutionary storm that will engulf it! That cardinal fact the Webbs can help us realize.

The Dawes Report and Peace Prospects

By NORMAN THOMAS

The most interesting thing about the Dawes report is the evidence it gives of the impossibility of a decent European settlement so long as three major ideas are dominant in the organization of the world. Those ideas are capitalism, nationalism and the myth of a guilty nation. The Dawes report, as we have argued elsewhere, may be the basis of negotiation. It is not the basis of a decent settlement.

In the first place, it is a thoroughgoing capitalist document. It assumes, as does our whole present civilization, that it is fit and proper for the workers to go on and on tilling to pay interest on mortgages and bonds held age after age by absentee owners. In the case of Germany these absentee owners will be foreign governments and bankers. The Dawes report proposes turning over all the German railroads to a private corporation in which foreign governments will be interested. Before the war the German railroads were efficiently nationalized. Since the war the general confusion in Germany has been reflected in the management of the railroads. But instead of improving the management, the suggestion of the Dawes report is that the railroads must be turned over to a private corporation. One can just see men like General Dawes with his anti-union, anti-public ownership record chuckling as he thinks that he has put one more nail in the coffin of public ownership and democratic control by making it impossible for the people and workers in Germany to assert such control over their own railroads. Moreover, it is to be observed that although the report talks plausibly about decent wages it is based on the notion of getting the maximum profits out of industry and out of the railroads. Already the effect of French occupation of the Ruhr has been to reduce wages, lengthen hours and break down the safeguards round the workers. The effect of foreign control by business interests will be to continue this effort to force down wages. (That may be why some German capitalists are so favorably inclined to the report!) No Labor party or Labor government of any hue from the mildest pink to the deepest red can consistently regard such a proposal as just or advantageous to the workers anywhere in the world. Nor forget that the competition of enslaved German workers makes it easier to enslave British, French and American workers. Their poverty is the world's poverty, as our own farmers have been learning.

The second notion that makes a really just settlement impossible is nationalism. Because we personally name as individuals, we think calmly of sentencing the German workers and their children for an indefinite period of time to enforced toil to pay off national debts. We do not even stop to see whether the effect of this is good upon the creditor nations. We forget the brotherhood in work, aspiration, hope, that ought to exist between all those men and women by

whose labor of hand or brain our complex civilization is carried on.

Closely allied to the notion of nationalism is the myth of the guilty nation. It cannot be too solemnly asserted that even if the German government had been solely responsible for the war, the American nation was committed by President Wilson to the idea that we had no quarrel with the German people. But as we now know through the history of the last generation and especially the revelations of the secret archives of Germany, Austria and Russia, the fundamental cause of war was an economic imperialism backed by great armaments in which Germany was neither more nor less guilty than Russia, France, England, Italy. For the crooked diplomacy that immediately led to it, the overwhelming evidence of the documents is that the primary responsibility falls not on Germany but on Austria and Russia. It was the recalcitrant attitude of Austria and the mobilization of the Russian army that precipitated war. In this pre-war diplomacy we now know that Poincaré played as dangerous a role as the German statesmen. These are hard sayings but they are true sayings. The evidence on the subject has been admirably summarized by that very competent historian, himself once a believer in German guilt, Harry Elmer Barnes, in *The New Republic* for March 19.

By all means Germany ought to have given reparation for damages to civilian populations, especially in Belgium and Northern France. To that and only to that was she pledged by the Armistice. That she was willing to do and could have done this, save for French politicians and imperialists who while they (or some of them) grafted on the restoration of Northern France adopted a policy to ward Germany making payment well nigh impossible. The course of those politicians whether in France or elsewhere has only been made possible by the dominance of the ideas to which we have called attention. Workers on farms and in factories who would be free must first break the chains of the false ideas which bind them.

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FOREIGN ITEMS

SWEDEN

HOTEL, RESTAURANT AND BAR EMPLOYEES.

The National Union of Hotel Employees has had a very bad year. The employers have done all that they could possibly think of to destroy the union. All these assaults have, however, been successfully repelled. The union, which now numbers 27,491 members, has lost 1,199 of its male and 4,452 of its female members.

LAND WORKERS.

An inquiry has recently been instituted by an official commission on the subject of the wages of wood cutters and other forest workers. The replies to the questionnaire sent show that wages have risen about 6 per cent on an average, as a result of the general improvement in trade conditions. On an average, wages of forest workers are now about 60 per cent higher than before the war. The Danish Government has granted immigration permits to 1,000 Polish seasonal workers, who are to be employed in the beet sugar fields.

STONE WORKERS.

The Swedish Stone Workers' Union increased its membership in 1923 from 3,156 to 4,052.

ARGENTINE

METAL WORKERS.

The Metal Workers' Industrial Union of Argentina has voted by an overwhelming majority to abandon its policy of isolation and affiliate with the Union Sindical Argentina, the largest federation of unions in the republic.

GERMANY

BOOT AND SHOE WORKERS.

The Boot and Shoe Industry of Germany has for some years past had a national wage agreement, which provided for a 47-hour week, and a minimum wage of 40 pf. (about 5d.) an hour for male workers. A new agreement has just been made, which provides a 48-hour week, and a rise in wages of 5 pf. (1/4d.) an hour.

CARPENTERS.

The National Union of Carpenters and Allied Trades now numbers 82,564 members, 48,931 of these or 58.34 per cent were unemployed on February 23, 1924.

BELGIUM

THE PROMISES OF THE NEW BELGIAN MINISTER OF LABOR.

Teehofen, the new Belgian Minister of Labor, has recently given an interview in which he has made the following statements concerning his future policy. The Government, he declared, will endeavor to get the Bill for Old Age and Miners' Pensions passed before the dissolution of Parliament. It will also devote special attention to the question of workers' insurance, the amendment of the Workmen's Compensation Act, and the improvement of vocational education. It will insist upon the observance of the Eight-Hour Day Act and will shortly appoint a commission of inquiry, to conduct an impartial investigation into the results of the eight-hour day, both as regards production and as regards the moral and economic effects of the shorter working hours upon the workers. Industry and Labor will be jointly represented on the Commission, which will also be able to cooperate with members of parliament and experts. There is also to be an immediate re-examination of the decree on unemployment issued by the late Government. This decree constitutes a threat to the trade unions, inasmuch as it deprives them of a voice in the allocation of trade union benefit.

CZECHO-SLOVAKIA

THE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT.

A meeting was held on March 2 of the executives of the Czecho-Slovak Federation of Trade Unions. This meeting devoted its attention chiefly to questions of organization. It was stated that the Federation now numbers 350,000 members, and that the membership in many of the unions is steadily rising. Various proposals were made with regard to the State contribution to unemployment benefit, the principle of which was established by law in 1921, but which is only now about to take concrete shape. One of these proposals was to the effect that the State should contribute a sum equal to that granted by the organization, and that the State contribution should continue to be payable after the unemployed person had exhausted his right to union benefit. As a bill regarding old age and disablement insurance will shortly come up for discussion in parliament, a proposal is to be made for the introduction of a uniform system of insurance for workers and civil servants alike. The Government was also requested to facilitate trade with Russia.

GREAT BRITAIN

WORKING HOURS.

An inquiry has recently been instituted by the British Trade Union Congress on the working hours of members of the affiliated organizations. The results show that three and one-half million workers have a 48-hour week, and eight hundred thousand a 42-hour week. Of the fifteen million British workers, some ten to 12 millions work 48 hours a week or less.

Press Bureau, International Federation of Trade Unions

DOMESTIC ITEMS

OPPOSES WAGE INCREASE.

Postmaster General New opposes proposed salary increases to post office employees. He said it will cost too much. He favors a \$200 yearly increase in first-class post offices having an annual revenue of \$600,000 and over, and a \$100 yearly increase in first-class offices having an income of less than \$600,000.

Under this system Newark and Jersey City postal workers would be the only ones in New Jersey who would receive a \$200 increase. In New York State there would be but nine cities affected.

PRINTERS RAISE WAGES.

A new wage agreement between New York Newspaper Publishers and Typographical Union ("Big Six") calls for a wage increase of \$5 a week after January 1, 1925.

Dating back to the first of this year, wages will be increased \$3 a week. Next July, another dollar will be paid, and the first of the year the fifth dollar will be paid.

With the \$3 increase, dating back to January 1, the new scale is: Day work, \$58 a week; night work, \$61; third shift, \$64.

"NEUTRAL" ARBITER SUPPORTS RAILROADS.

Ben W. Hooper, chairman of the Railroad Labor Board, appeared before the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee in opposition to the Howell bill, which would replace the Esch-Cummings bill. Mr. Hooper is supposed to hold a neutral position, but once again he is found lined up with the railroads.

He said the bill would provide for arbitration and the non-partisan member would likely be without experience. Mr. Hooper did not explain how he, a lawyer, gained his experience—if any.

Representatives of the Union Pacific Company "union" acknowledged that the railroad's representatives drew up their protest against the Howell bill, and that the railroad is paying their expenses.

The company "union" of the Pennsylvania Railroad and other company "unions" were also dutifully lined up against the measure, and in support of the railroads.

BACK FARM BILL.

The Senate Agricultural Committee has ordered a favorable report on the McNary-Haugen bill, which would take the marketing of wheat and other commodities out of private hands and place them in control of a government commission. The proposal, while classed as an emergency measure, is one of the most radical and far-reaching ever proposed in the Senate. It overturns all theories of "less business in government." The power behind this bill is the unrest of farmers. Because of this unrest some of the nation's most prominent standpatters are supporting the bill.

TUNNELERS STRIKE, RISK LIVES DAILY.

Workers who are digging the deep tunnel under the Hudson River suspended work following a blowout when thirty-five men narrowly escaped death.

Through some one's criminal carelessness the pressure of air supplied these workers became so strong that it blew a hole in the tunnel roof. Water rushed into the high space and endangered the lives of two-score workers. The explosion threw a Niagara of water nearly 100 feet in height from the surface of the river.

These tunnel workers are called "sandbags." They labor in constant danger far down below the bottom of the river. They work under high air pressure, and are subject to a painful occupational disease called the "bends." Many of the workers are now in the infirmary because of conditions which permit of but one hour's labor where the air pressure is between forty and fifty pounds. Eight hours is the rule where the air pressure is up to twenty-one pounds, but these workers say hours should be reduced to six.

UNION ACTORS ARE LOYAL.

A dinner recently tendered State's Attorney Crowe, at Chicago, proved a "front," as far as organized labor is concerned. Crowe has turned the machinery of his office over to anti-union employers. He permitted the employers' attorney to stage a raid on strikers' headquarters. The unionists were examined by this attorney. Crowe's admirers arranged the dinner and secured the Duncan sisters, Taylor Holmes, Vivian Tobin and other well known actors and actresses to provide entertainment. The entertainers, however, didn't entertain. They are members of the Actors' Equity Association, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. When they learned of Crowe's doings they staged a walkout.

STEEL MAKES RECORD UNDER SHORTER HOURS.

Steel production last month reached new heights. The average daily output was 159,455 tons. The previous high record, made under the long hour system, was 157,776 tons, in April, 1923.

Steel publications make extensive comment on the new production mark, but they overlook the fact that this record is under the shorter work day. These publications voted "aye" when Judge Gary declared the shorter workday would "ruin the industry."

And "we are not in favor of ruining this industry," said the worthy man.

PREDICT FOUR-HOUR DAY.

The four-hour day in the near future was predicted by Arthur B. Jones at a "human engineering" conference in New York City, which was attended by 159 delegates from thirteen eastern colleges. Mr. Jones explained that the present output of industrial concerns, if properly systematized with due regard to the workmen, would be produced in half the time it now takes.

Two Years' Work of the Educational Department

[REPORT SUBMITTED BY THE EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE TO THE
GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD, APRIL, 1924.]

(Continued from Last Week.)

Size of Classes

While large classes are useful for general cultural purposes and to instill enthusiasm, and while certain subjects lend themselves readily to large numbers as, for example, in the study of literature, all agree that in the study of Labor and economic problems, the best results are obtained when a comparatively small number of people participate in the discussion.

Accordingly, most of our classes in the social sciences numbered between twenty and fifty students, while our classes in literature and psychology had as many as 150 at a time.

Strike Activities

During the recent strikes of the Waistmakers' and Cloakmakers' Union, the Educational Department was active in arranging entertainments for strikers. Musical talent was secured. Lecturers addressed small as well as large groups of newly organized workers on various aspects of Labor problems. Lantern slides were used to illustrate the activities of the I. L. G. W. U.

Drama, and Music

The Educational Department has continued to provide the members with tickets to dramatic and musical performances of the highest character at reduced prices. This service is appreciated by our membership.

Books and Book Service

The Educational Department prepared a list of books valuable to our members. By arrangement with the publishers, these were secured at wholesale prices. The department assisted several of our organizations to purchase libraries at reasonable cost. Our members appreciate this service and take advantage of it in great numbers.

Social Activities

The social activities organized by our Educational Department are an invaluable feature of our work. They serve to bring together hundreds of our members, thousands of our members. A spirit of solidarity is engendered, and our members are inspired to contribute to the growth and development of this organization.

The opening exercises of our educational activities were held in different cities. They were attended by many thousand men and women, young and old, representing our local unions. These exercises were a source of inspiration to our members. In each case prominent artists and speakers were on the program. Other gatherings on a smaller scale were equally powerful in bringing pleasure into the lives of our members and creating greater solidarity among them.

Although some who attend these gatherings do not participate actively in our educational activities, because of age and other important reasons, yet they take pride in the fact that with their financial support they are helping to develop an activity which will give strength and an intellectual meaning to the Trade Union Movement.

Reunion of the Instructors and Students

It was a delightful sight to view the gathering of about five hundred men and women, young and old, members of our International Union who assembled in the dining room of the Washington Irving High School in New York City on April 5, 1924, to celebrate the progress of workers' education in this country.

This was a reunion of our former and present students in New York City and of the instructors. The audience was animated by one thought, that the experiment carried on by our International Union was crowned with success. This affair was arranged by the Students' Council of our Workers' University, Unity Centers and Extension Division.

In short addresses, officers of our union, instructors and students, voiced the sentiment that our International Union had the vision to make an experiment in workers' education which will some day be one of the important forces within the trade union movement and that our plan was not only endorsed by the American Labor movement, but also accepted by it.

Committees of the Executive Boards of almost all of our local unions in the City of New York were represented there. Many officers of our locals and shop chairmen were also present. Through them hundreds of our members expressed their approval of the educational activities carried on by our International Union. At the end of the meeting the assembled unanimously and enthusiastically adopted by a rising vote a resolution expressing gratitude to the General Executive Board for carrying through the educational plan formulated by the last convention.

It can be seen from the above that an attempt was made to provide educational activities for as many different groups of our members as possible. Much more can and will be done in time.

Attendance

For the past two years, the attendance at our various educational groups was larger and more regular than ever before. This means that a greater number of our members became interested in our educational activities and attended them more regularly and systematically.

It is also important that while the number of women attending our activities has become larger, the proportion of men in the same classes has been even more so. In fact, many of our classes are attended mainly by men.

Our Unity Homes

The effort to develop the artistic sense of our members has resulted in the establishment of Unity summer homes, conducted

on a cooperative basis by our New York-Dress and Waistmakers' Union and the Italian New York Dress and Waistmakers' Union. In these, thousands of our members live in an atmosphere of perfect democracy and fellowship, in cottages surrounded by gardens and forests, and equipped with all the conveniences that one could desire.

Our Unity Village in Forest Park was built originally for the wealthy who can obtain everything in life that money affords. The workers who built it never intended it for their own use. Let us compare these beautiful cottages with the ugly, unspringing and unsanitary tenements of New York which so many workers inhabit and accept as the only kind of homes which they can afford and which society can provide for them. How much more can workers get out of life, even with their meager means, if they but learned how things can be done collectively through their Trade Union.

Our Instructors and Lecturers

Our faculty consists of men and women of the highest professional rank. They are interested in workers' education and contribute to it. Our Educational Department assisted these teachers to prepare their work, acquainted them with the interests, problems and background of our members, with the problems of the Labor movement and of the I. L. G. W. U., and suggested methods of presentation which appeal most effectively to our people.

In the work of a well known teacher, our Educational Department did more than any other agency to bring the intellectual proletariat of this country, the teachers, closer to the Labor movement.

Our teachers have a thorough knowledge of the Labor movement and the problems which it must solve, and they realize that this movement deals not merely with theories, but mainly with facts and conditions.

Since our members attend their classes when tired after a day's work, their interest and participation were secured by conducting our work on the general plan of a study class.

History of the I. L. G. W. U.

During the past two years special emphasis was placed in our classes on our own International Union. A special outline was prepared by Mr. Max Levin dealing with its history, aims, problems, policy and structure. Now that a history of the International is about to be published, our classes will use it extensively in their studies, and our members will become more interested in its past and will realize the tremendous importance of their organization in the history of the Labor movement in America.

In our classes on Labor Problems, after preparing the course, the instructors stressed carefully the aims, problems and tactics of the Labor movement with special reference to the I. L. G. W. U. They aimed to stimulate in our members an interest in the Labor movement. Prior to the opening of our bank, special discussions were prepared by the instructors in our Unity Centers and Workers' University on "Why Trade Unions Own Banks," and an attempt was made to explain in simple language the mechanism of the management and control that the State exercises over modern banks.

Out-of-Town Activities

It is natural that the bulk of our educational activities should have begun and developed in the City of New York. But we were ready to place the experience gained in that city at the disposal of our members in other places.

It is significant that this year more than ever we received requests from out-of-town local unions asking us to organize educational activities for their members. In our anxiety to make our work a success, we were very careful not to start educational activities in a city unless the interest of the local unions in adult workers' education warranted it.

Activities were organized in Philadelphia, Chicago, Cleveland, Baltimore, Cincinnati, Newark, Montreal, Worcester and Boston.

In cities where Trade Union Colleges exist and also where there is a movement for the organization of such Trade Union Colleges, we encouraged our union there to participate.

In Boston, where the Trade Union College is conducted under the auspices of the Boston Federation of Labor, our locals participated actively. Since the establishment of the College, a representative of the Educational Department was always invited to speak at its opening exercises. A group of our Boston members were students in the college, taking up various courses; their tuition was paid by the Joint Educational Committee.

In Philadelphia and Baltimore where Labor Colleges have been organized, our members were urged to join them, and scholarships were offered by our local unions, who were also represented on the Administrative Board of the College.

Outlines

Our students have been aided greatly by the outlines distributed with each lesson. These were prepared carefully by the instructors and contained a summary of the entire lesson. At the end of the season, these outlines constitute a syllabus or condensed text book, which our members can use for further reference and study.

These outlines are the basis for our publications of which Prof. Carman's "Outline of American History" was the first. We permitted the Workers' Education Bureau to reprint this outline and supply it to other American Labor schools which are in need of help and guidance.

A Federal Department of Education

The Sterling-Reed bill, introduced into both houses of Congress on December 17, 1923 (H. R. 3923, S. 1337), establishes a Federal Department of Education, the head of which shall be a member of the President's Cabinet. The bill provides for Federal aid to the States for educational purposes up to a total expenditure of \$100,000,000. The money so appropriated must be matched by the States, following in general to the fifty-fifty plan for State and Federal cooperative finance embodied in the Sheppard-Towner maternity and infancy act, and to be used for five educational purposes as follows: (1) Removal of illiteracy, \$7,500,000; (2) Americanization of the foreign-born, \$7,500,000; (3) equalization of educational opportunities, \$50,000,000; (4) promotion of physical education, \$20,000,000; (5) training of teachers, \$15,000,000. In order to participate in these appropriations the States must provide: (1) Public school opportunity for not less than twenty-four weeks per year; (2) compulsory attendance at school for at least twenty-four weeks in the year of all children between 7 and 14 years of age; (3) English must be the basic language of instruction in all schools, public and private, in the common public.

The advocates of the bill claim attention to the fact that there are 5,000,000 illiterates in the United States; that approximately 25 per cent of the men examined for the army draft were illiterate; that nearly one-half of the teachers in the public schools lack adequate training; and that the facilities for education throughout the United States are unequal. They state that a Federal department of education would make possible more effective administration of educational activities, now distributed through several departments of the Federal Government; education is of primary importance and should therefore receive primary recognition by having a place in the Cabinet; it would make provision for Federal leadership in educational research; many problems of national importance, not directly educational in their nature, are influenced by educational activities and the solution of these problems would be promoted by a secretary for education; such a secretary would also be in a position to assure our proper participation in the solution of international educational problems. In response to objections the supporters of the bill claim that it would not create Federal control of education because it expressly provides that all funds apportioned to a State shall be distributed and administered in accordance with the laws of that State in like manner as the funds provided by State and local authorities for the same purpose; that the State and local educational authorities shall determine the courses of study, plans and methods for carrying out the purposes of the act in accordance with State laws; that all the educational facilities encouraged

by the provisions of this act and accepted by the State shall be organized, supervised and administered exclusively by the legally constituted State and local educational authorities and the secretary of education shall exercise no authority in relation thereto; also that the act shall not be construed to imply Federal control of education within the States nor to impair the freedom of the States in the conduct and management of their respective school systems. They deny further that it does not interfere in any way with entire liberty of management of private and parochial schools.

The opponents of the bill declare that it will create Federal control of education which is contrary to the intent of the constitution for it would be illogical and impossible for the Federal Government to appropriate large sums of money without seeing to its expenditure within the individual States. They claim that it is only by the creation of a Federal department of education would insure good schools, but they maintain that it would create an army of bureaucrats, inspectors and other officeholders and bring about political interference in education and an annual demand on Congress to increase appropriations from the original \$100,000,000 to an indefinitely larger sum. They also maintain that it would weaken the educational work of the different States; would help to establish the principle of distributing Federal aid to the States on a fifty-fifty basis; would increase taxation; would standardize education and result in loss of initiative and freedom and responsibility. A Federal department of education is entirely unnecessary from their point of view so far as educational prestige is concerned, for they believe that educational leadership is a matter of personality and not of official position. And they believe further that no one man should be made a final arbiter of the important questions involved in educational problems, and that a secretary for education would tend to become such an arbiter.

The bill is supported by national organizations including: National Education Association, American Federation of Teachers, American Federation of Labor, National Council of Women, National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teachers Association, General Federation of Women's Clubs, National League of Women Voters, International Sunday School Council of Religious Education, National Council of Jewish Women, National Women's Christian Temperance Union, American Association of University Women, National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, National Women's Trade Union League, National Board, Y. W. C. A. and the American Library Association.

Among the opponents of the bill are: National Catholic Welfare Conference, The Woman Patriot, Massachusetts Public Interest League, Sentinels of the Republic, and American Constitutional League.

PUBLICATIONS

We take great pride in reporting the publication of the first series of outlines of lessons given under the auspices of the Educational Department. The "Outline of the Social and Political History of the United States," by Prof. Carman, has met with great success and praise from many authorities. It is the result of Prof. Carman's experience in our Workers' University and is the first publication of its kind. It is a distinct contribution to the development of Labor education. Outlines on "Trade Union Policies," by David J. Saposs, "Economics and Labor," by Sylvia Kopald, and "Social Institutions," by Arthur W. Calhoun, will appear in JUSTICE and will be published in pamphlet form.

(To be continued.)

РУССКО-ПОЛЬСКИЙ ОТДЕЛ

RUSSIAN-POLISH BRANCH

На заседании собрания Исполнительного Комитета Русско-Польского Отдела, состоявшемся в четверг, 17-го апреля, в котором Русско-Польский Отдел, секретарем Русско-Польского Отдела Каукуменкер был прочитано письмо Генерального Исполнительного Комитета Интернационального Юношеского Комитета Платы, в котором Генеральный Секретарь в Калкумен Юлиан Абрам Баркер уведомил Русско-Польский Отдел, что Генеральный Испол. Ком. решил пригласить представителей от Русско-Польского Отдела присутствовать на юбилейной конференции Интер. юношеского комитета Платы, которая состоится 3-го мая сего года в г. Бостоне.

При обсуждении этого письма возникло было вопрос о том, что если от нашего Отдела на конференцию. Решено оставить это дело до заседания на котором масовое собрание Отдела от 7-го марта этого года результаты были на этом заседании собрание выборов.

Второе обсуждение решения на масовом собрании Отдела на заседании масового собрания Русско-Польского Отдела Каукуменкер, которое предполагалось созвать в пятницу, 25-го апреля.

Комиссия по устройству юбилейного концерта должна о немикониса на лето артистически съезди для представления концерта. Выступая докладом комиссии Исполнительный Комитет объявил о подготовленной состав с, которая является чтобы при одобрении к ним были добавлены еще один или два концерта. Тов. Баркер рекомендовал звать известных артистов в эту ту же или лучше лучше концертную группу этих артистов, и если таковые оказались подходящими, то представить этот концерт смотра на нашем юбилейном празднике. Члены комиссии Азаров и Шенченко было поручено звать в таком скором времени для устройства концерта и юбилейного митинга для Общества Просвещения, 9-2-ая аллея.

На регулярном собрании членов Русско-Польского Отдела Каукуменкер, состоявшемся в пятницу, 18-го апреля, в зале Народного Дома, 315 Н-й 10-ой ул. В порядке дня были заслушаны в первом слушании вопросы:

Секретарем было прочитано письмо

от Бронху Колекция с уведомлением что они устраивают ряд юбилейных концертов на теми близкие интересам рабочего класса и что таковые подготовлены к летнему лагерному времени, от Бронху Колекция до населения Платы.

Выступая это письмо Исполнительный Комитет поручил секретарию уведомить Колекция, что письмо их принято и что Колекция, в том содержащемся им будет объявлено членам Русско-Польского Отдела Каукуменкер.

Протокол прошлого собрания Общества Р.-П. О. и протокол собрания Испол. Ком. были рассмотрены на слушании и приняты, на исключение рекомендаций отчитаться балеты для юбилейного концерта также программы, с уведомлением на них действующих лиц. Членство этого решено оставить в адрес, что концерт будет безоплатным в всем зале Р.-П. О. послать открытки с приглашением на концерт, какие-либо открытки будут служить им балетом.

Было предложено выдвинуть на юбилейный масовый собрание Отдела от 7-го марта, отчитавшие результаты выборов на конференцию. На заседании, что кандидат на членство Юлиан Баркер, отчитав в следующем порядке: Шенченко, член зала 35, Азаровский, член зала 1, Давидович, член зала 1, Зверковский, член зала 35, и Никольский, член зала 35.

Поступил собрание решил, что концерт не подлежит обсуждению. Первым кандидатом является Шенченко: в случае он окажется непригодным для "Интернационала", то следующим кандидатом будет Азаровский, и так далее.

И. Шенченко, Секретарь.

ВНИМАНИЮ ВСЕХ ЧЛЕНОВ Р.-П. О. КАУКУМЕНКЕРОВ.

В пятницу, 25-го апреля, ровно в 7 ч. вечера, в зале 315 Н-й 10-ой ул. состоится МАСОВОЕ СОБРАНИЕ членов Русско-Польского Отдела Каукуменкер.

В порядке дня выступления юбилейного представления на конференцию и юбилейного митинга для представителей на эту конференцию.

Присутствие всех членов обязательное.

ПЕРВОМАЙСКИЙ КОНЦЕРТ

РУССКО-ПОЛЬСКОГО ОТДЕЛА КАУКУМЕНКЕРОВ

В зале Общества "Просвещение", 9-2-ая аллея, Нью Йорк.

Необычайно богатство артистически съезди пригласили:

1. А. В. ПЕТРИКО, певица русской оперы.
2. В. А. РАДКОВ, певец русской оперы.
3. ГАЛИНА ШУВАЛОВА, певица балетная.
4. ОНЕСИМОВ, певец комического.
5. ДИДЯ САНД, автор-художник.
6. М. КИЗЕНЧУК, знаменитый польский артист.
7. СТРУННИЙ ОРКЕСТР из десяти музыкантов.

Перед началом концерта выступят ораторы на русском и польском языках, которые объявят нам великое значение для рабочего класса для Первого Мая. Начало ровно в 8 ч. вечера.

ВХОД БЕЗПЛАТНЫЙ.

Free Speech in England

Commenting on the guide to public speakers at civil liberties meetings, issued by the American Civil Liberties Union, The Manchester Guardian says: "In England, it is true, liberty of speech is seldom interfered with; but it is well-thought those who look to her as a shining example in this matter should realize that the latitude allowed here to expression of opinion is much less a matter of statutory right than of excellent and well-established custom. The lines that guard Nelson have probably heard more frothy disruptive rhetoric than ever echoed among the pillars of the Roman Forum. But

even the Navy League has not the slightest right to hold a meeting in Trafalgar Square, which has, indeed, more than once been pronounced in the courts a place designed for people 'to pass along in,' and not a debating ground. It is, moreover, always competent for a magistrate in England to forbid a meeting if in his view it is likely to cause a breach of the peace. That such restraint is seldom applied is due to a slowly-formed attitude of mind; both lay and official, towards free speech. It is that attitude which America, whose safeguards against disorder are more drastic than ours, must compass before her radicals can unburden their hearts in conflict."

The Week In Local 10

B. SAM B. SHENKER

THE CLOAK AND SUIT CONFERENCE

Conferences with the Jobbers' Association in the cloak and suit industry for the renewal of the agreement which expires June 1, are continuing apace. One of the last reported in the past issue of JUSTICE was with the American Cloak and Suit Manufacturers' Association, the sub-manufacturers and contractors' organization. According to the report this conference was conducted on a more harmonious basis.

The chairman of this employers' organization stated in his opening remarks that his associates did not meet to place the blame for the present ills of the industry. What they were primarily interested in, he stated, was to find a solution for them.

"We have invited you to a conference," said International Vice-president Feinberg. "To discuss ways and means of making it possible for the men and women employed in the cloak and suit industry to make a decent living. Though the members of your association are not financiers, they are nevertheless a factor in the industry. We desire, therefore, to lay before you a basis for fundamental changes in the industry which are bound to benefit it as a whole. But we have some special measures that we demand from you as the men who are running the shops in our industry which are specially adapted for you."

This conference was held on Wednesday evening, April 9. The demands submitted by the representatives of the Union were virtually the same as those which were submitted to the Protective and Jobbers' Associations, except that certain additional points were incorporated as applying particularly to the contracting industry.

The tenor of the Union's arguments in outlining its demands and giving the reasons for them was in line with its determination to reconstruct the industry. The Union is seeking to make such changes in the industry and in its relations with the manufacturers as would make for decent living conditions for the workers.

Sub-committees were appointed by both sides as in the case of the Jobbers' and Protective Associations. For that reason it is too early to even speculate on the ultimate outcome. It may be said, however, that the most telling effect of the outcome of the various negotiations will be known only when the results of the conferences with the Jobbers' Association are finally announced one way or the other. This is due to the fact that the jobbers have become the leading factors in the cloak and suit industry. All eyes, therefore, are turned to the conferences between the Union and this organization.

Manager Dubinsky is attending all these conferences as one of the committee. He was also assigned as a member of the sub-committee. There is no doubt but that he will render a report of the progress of the conferences to the members at Monday night's meeting. The meeting will take place, as will be seen from the notice on this page, on Monday night, April 28. It will take place as usual in Arlington Hall.

DRESS AND WAIST QUARTERLY REPORT

As was reported in these columns last week, Manager Dubinsky rendered quarterly reports of the activities of the office in connection with complaints filed and adjusted. The cloak and suit report was printed last week. He also submitted the waist and dress

report which was not printed for lack of space.

The report is for the first three months beginning January 1 and ends March 31, 1924. There were for this period 836 complaints filed. Of this number 324 were adjusted. Twelve are pending.

There were sufficient complaints filed under the heading "Boss is doing the cutting, and no cutter employed." Of this number sixty-two were unfounded, as cutters were found in the shops against which complaints were filed.

Forty-two cutters were placed to work as a result of the complaints. Thirteen firms were made to pay fines in the form of liquidated damages for the violation of the section of the agreement covering this point. Action against fifty-five shops was postponed on the ground that there was no work and the shops were idle.

In connection with these fifty-five shops, it should be said, Manager Dubinsky has these shops followed up by the controller. The controller visits these shops periodically, and as soon as there is sufficient work, the office either collects a fine for the violation or the cutter is placed to work.

In eleven of the shops against which these complaints were filed, no action was taken for various reasons. In one shop it was found that the firm was receiving cut work. In other shops the firms were instructed with regard to this violation as these firms employ cutters. No action could be taken in three shops as the firms had gone into business. Eight shops were found to have either resigned from the association or were open shops. These have been referred to the Organization Department with instructions to organize them as soon as the season begins.

Thirteen complaints were filed under the heading "Boss cutting while cutter is out." This means that the employers had laid their cutters off and cut whatever little work they secured in the slack period. Four of these complaints were unfounded; four firms paid fines in the form of liquidated damages; four cutters were placed to work and in the thirteenth case the firm was instructed.

There were twelve discharge cases filed in this period. The cutters of six shops were reinstated. In four cases the cutters accepted compensation in lieu of reinstatement. One case was withdrawn and the twelfth case was dropped because the cutter failed to appear in order that he might have his case taken up.

Six complaints were filed against shops the employees of which laid their cutters off in the middle of the week without previous notice. A word of explanation would not be amiss right here. According to the agreement in the dress and waist industry, no employer may lay his cutter off in the middle of the week, that is, the cutter must be retained to the end of the week no matter in which part of it he has been hired. However, where the employer can employ no more than one cutter at the height of the season, the Union allows him the privilege of keeping the cutter for a part of a week. In no event may a cutter be laid off unless he has been secured with two consecutive days' work or pay, and then only when the employer gives the cutter notice to this effect the previous week.

The six complaints filed were the result of just these violations. The cutters were not informed previously. They reported to work and were laid off before the end of the week. The Union quite naturally filed complaints and cutters were paid for time lost.

Twenty-eight complaints were filed against firms employing non-union cutters. Of these ten were unfounded as the cutters had joined the Union. In the fourteen cases the men were either taken off the job, or, if they happened to be newly organized shops, the men were permitted to join. Three of the shops complained against were found to have been non-union and were referred to the Organization Department. One firm went out of the business while the complaint was about to be adjusted.

Nine complaints were filed against shops the cutters of which were dropped for non-payment of dues. In three shops the men were reinstated and in five cases the complaints were unfounded. The ninth case was dropped because the firm complained against failed.

Three complaints relating to unequal division of work were adjusted in favor of the Union. One case of assault was filed, that is, the firm assaulted the cutter. The firm was penalized. Sixteen complaints were filed against shops the cutters of which were charged with various violations of the Union's rules. Nine were unfounded; four cases were decided in favor of the Union and three are pending.

Eight complaints were filed against firms who failed to pay wages due to cutters. These cases of back pay due to cutters were decided in favor of the Union and two cases relating to the underpayment of the wage scale were also decided in favor of the Union. Ten complaints were filed against firms who refused to pay the cutters for legal holidays. Nine were decided in favor of the Union, and one is pending.

There is little else to be said of the situation in the waist and dress industries. The organization drive instituted by the waist makers some time ago is lagging now due to the dullness which prevails. The drive of the Joint Board against the small dress shops has also terminated for the present due to the same cause. On the whole there was little work in the dress trade during the past few months. For a time, in the beginning of the year signs of activity were seen. However, there was a little work, but not to any appreciable degree.

MISCELLANEOUS

The condition in the miscellaneous trades which includes the bathrobe, underwear, and children's dress cutters, does not seem to improve. The underwear trade of four or five years ago is practically extinct now. Then the industry was the most stabilized. It supplied its workers with work for practically fifty-two weeks out of the year. Lately however, or during the past five years, the trade is not even a seasonal one. Work is spasmodic.

The local instituted lately a drive against some of the association shops

with a view to organizing the cutters. These shops were out of the Union's folds for some time. The office was successful in some shops. In others the drive had to be abandoned for a more opportune time. At present there are two strikes, one on 19th street, and one in the Bronx. Strikes are also in progress against a few romper manufacturers. One concern alone involves about two hundred and fifty girls. Of course these workers are not employed in one shop only. The strike is directed against a jobber who indirectly employs these workers through the contractors. The firm has applied for an injunction. This is the usual means resorted to by employers when the Union attempts to improve working conditions.

The bathrobe and children's dress houses are also practically at a standstill. All these matters were reported to the membership of the miscellaneous branch at their regular meeting which was held on Monday evening, April 21. The meeting was presided over by the chairman of the Executive Board, Brother Benjamin Evry. The report was rendered by Brother Alois. In line with Manager Dubinsky's policy of education, Social ex-Senator Edmund Seidel delivered a talk on unionism, and also on some of his experiences in the State Senate.

In connection with the report mention was made of the number of discharge cases and under-payment of wages in underwear shops. The cutters, who were discharged were reinstated by the office. The question of wages is still a problem in this branch of the Cutters' Union. One large shop particularly employs a number of apprentices and assistant cutters below the scale provided for in the collective agreement between the association and the Union. The question was taken up but action had to be postponed due to the probable lay-off of the cutters. According to present indications, it is likely that a strike will be called of the cutters of this firm. The office is biding its time. It is waiting until work will be more plentiful.

A CORRECTION

In a previous issue of this publication a report was contained of the cutters of Louis Gersten who were found guilty for working on Saturdays and also with not receiving proper pay for overtime. The report had it that Miller was fined \$25.00 for working on Saturday afternoon and that Rudolph was fined for working on a number of Saturday afternoons and with not receiving pay for overtime. The opposite is the case, Rudolph was fined on the single charge and Miller was fined on the two charges, that is, \$100.00 for working a number of Saturday afternoons, and \$50.00 for not receiving pay for overtime.

CUTTERS' UNION, LOCAL 10

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

REGULAR MEETING	Monday, April 28th
REGULAR MEETING	Monday, May 12th
MISCELLANEOUS MEETING	Monday, May 19th
REGULAR MEETING	Monday, May 26th

Meetings Begin at 7:30 P. M.

AT ARLINGTON HALL, 23 St. Mark's Place