

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

—Job 27.6

JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

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

Vol. VI, No. 24.

New York, Friday, June 13, 1924.

Price 2 Cents

Union Offers Arbitration to Job' Association in Final Effort for Peace

Cloakmakers Vote Overwhelmingly for General Strike—31,403 For and 449 Against Walkout
Jobbers' Association in Written Summary Refuses to Concede Principal Points of Union's Program—Big General Strike Committee Mobilized as Strike Appears Imminent

The outstanding developments in the cloak and suit controversy in New York City during the past week were the following:

The conference between the Union and the Merchants Ladies' Garment Association on Monday, June 9, brought no tangible results. The representatives of the jobbers again indulged in voluminous discussion, but seemed either unable or unwilling to state definitely how far they are ready to go in meeting the demands of the Union and averting a strike. Presi-

dent Sigman at last proposed that the jobbers submit to our counsel, Mr. Morris Hillquit, a draft containing an answer to each of the proposals on which the Union and the Jobbers' Association have been conferring during the past several weeks, and that this answer state definitely which of these proposals they agree to; which they reject and what they propose instead; and which of our proposals they partly accept and on which they have modifications to offer. It was agreed that the answer be submitted on Tuesday evening, June 10, and

that the next conference take place on Thursday morning, June 12, at Hotel McAlpin. In the interval, the Union would study carefully the reply of the jobbers and afterwards present its own statement on Thursday in reply to that of the jobbers. President Sigman emphatically declared that, in his judgment, the conference on the following Thursday would be a deciding meeting where the situation might undergo a change so as to make further negotiations possible, or the Union would have to go apart for the time being.

Jobbers Submit Answer
On Tuesday evening, the Jobbers' Association submitted through their attorney a written answer to the Union demands which thoroughly disappointed the members of the Union's conference committee. Not only did it not contain any additional concessions to those the jobbers had already made at the conferences, but, as a matter of fact, they went back on some of those previously considered as granted. The reply of the jobbers entirely ignored the demands for a guaranteed period of employment, the 40-hour week and the label.

On Wednesday the Steering Committee of the Union and the chairmen of the various sub-committees of the General Strike Committee, met to consider the reply of the jobbers, and as a result of long discussion which lasted for hours, the following reply was sent to the Merchants Ladies' Garment Association:

June 12, 1924.

Merchants Ladies' Garment Association.
New York.
Gentlemen:

We have read with amazement and keen disappointment the letter and draft of proposed agreement by your counsel in behalf of your Association.

While we recognize that our numerous conferences were largely of a consultative character, we had nevertheless assumed that the

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District Council of Ten Locals Formed in New York

Vice-president Lefkovits in Charge

In response to the call issued last week by President Sigman, the executive boards of all the ten locals in the Miscellaneous trades in New York City met last Monday evening, June 9, in the auditorium of the International Building. The meeting was attended, in addition to representatives of these ten locals, by a committee of the New York Outfitters' Union, Local 10. President Sigman presided and Vice-presidents Halperin, Lefkovits and Feinberg were present.

The meeting discussed fully the

needs of the locals in the miscellaneous trades in New York City, their common interests and the mutual organization problems confronting them all. It was emphasized by President Sigman that, under the mandate of the convention and in accordance with the change effected by the new constitution, all locals in any given locality or city not affiliated with the Joint Board of that city, must form a district council to carry on jointly such work as can be more efficiently and with greater prospects of results, managed by a district council. As a nucleus of such a central

body had been formed several months ago of Locals 122, 90, 91 and 6, it was decided that this organization continue under the name of "District Council of the Miscellaneous Locals of Greater New York," and that the other six locals, namely, 41, 38, 25, 66, 20, and 62, should join with it for this purpose. President Sigman announced that Vice-president Lefkovits has been appointed as manager of the District Council.

The next meeting of the Council will take place on Wednesday, June 18 at 7 o'clock in the International Auditorium.

Unity House Opens Tonight With Classic Concert

The magnificent place owned by the dress makers of New York, the Unity House at Forest Park, opens its doors today for the summer season of 1924.

The great summer house is again extending its annual welcome to the thousands of dressmakers, to the members of the International in New York and elsewhere, and to the hosts of its friends in the general Labor movement, to come and avail themselves of the joys and the beauty of the Unity House.

What summer house, what hotel, within our means, can compare with the loveliness of our Blue Ridge Mountains summer retreat? The glorious lake back of it, with its cool breezes and gorgeous water lilies, is calmly waiting for the visitors to come out and stir it up again with joyful song, hearty laughter and swimming and rowing races. The well-kept tennis courts are ready for the guests, a favorite sport among our folks at the Unity House. The well-equipped bowling alley is ready to receive its quota of friends who enjoy a healthy strenuous game of bowling. The spacious floor of the dance hall has been made ready to

entertain its crowds of frequenters under the lilting tunes of the House orchestra.

Can one imagine the Unity House without the bright faces and the varied and interesting activities of the members of our Union? At what other summer place could the members of our dressmakers' locals—and the members of the International—shake off their daily worries and cares and plunge into an atmosphere of genuine rest, amusement and recuperation? What other place has such a spirit of cooperation out of which comes such sincere and lasting friendship? In what other place could the members of our Union find so modernly equipped a house for gaining new strength, new energy and a rejuvenated spirit to carry on the battle for higher standards of living and for the emancipation of the toiling men and women as the Unity House offers?

The Unity House is yours, it is ours, readers of JUSTICE. It is calling you to spend your vacation days under its roof and upon its lakes and lawns. It has comfort, beauty and charm. We know you will all respond to its irresistible call.

Court Dismisses Old Indictments Against Our Officers

Ten-Year-Old Framed-up Charges Are Quashed

Justice Talley of the Court of General Sessions, New York County, dismissed on Wednesday, June 4, the charges which had been hanging against several leaders of our Union since 1914. By deciding to throw out these indictments, Justice Talley brought to an end the conspiracy which was launched by the enemies of the Union with the aid of a scab agency, which at that time was operating in the cloak industry, against several of our best-known leaders and active workers. These indictments alleged that they have conspired against the employers and that they hired persons to destroy property and to commit other criminal acts against some manufacturers.

Among the Labor leaders who at that time were indicted and whose indictments have now been quashed, are Secretary Abraham Baroff of our International and Vice-presidents Jacob Halperin and Samuel Lefkovits. Saul Metz, at that time manager of one of the departments of the Cloakmakers' Union, was also indicted and his name has now been cleared together with those of the others.

Among the other members of the cloakmakers' local who were charged in the indictments were Joseph Goldstein, H. Goldberg and Louis Katz. There were also several among them who are not at present connected with the Labor movement, and who at that time were actively engaged in it—namely, Harry Kleinman, Samuel Shore, Philip Gussin, Julius Wolf and Abraham Mitchell.

All Charges Wiped Off

In dismissing these charges, Justice Talley declared that it was a scandal and a miscarriage of justice to have ever entertained such accusations against these men. Mr. Harry Kopp of the law firm of Kopp, Markewich and Perlman, who has lately conducted the fight for the dismissal of these indictments, declared that by this action of the court, the conspiracy concocted ten years ago against the Union and against the New York Labor movement in general, has been entirely wiped out.

The first break in the case against these union leaders came several

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Union Offers Arbitration to Jobbers

(Continued from page 1)

points of agreement tentatively reached by us would be substantially adhered to. Your letter and draft effectively dispel this notion.

You have withdrawn every material concession which you have made; you have even repudiated some of the obligations which you had assumed under our former agreement; and you have gone to the extent of attempting to impose new obligations on the Union which are clearly impossible of performance.

The proposals originally submitted by our Union to your Association were intended to remedy some of the crying evils which have been introduced into our industry by the system of so-called "jobbing." The "jobbers," whom your Associations represents, are manufacturers who evade their responsibility to the workers. The members of your Association are not merchants who purchase garments in a promiscuous market. They have their goods made up on their orders and from their own material. The only difference between the "jobber" and the old-style manufacturer is that the latter employs labor directly and assumes personal obligation for the conditions of employment in his establishment, while the jobber employs labor indirectly through the medium of a contractor or "sub-manufacturer" to whom he leaves the task of bargaining with the workers. The result of this newly developed method of producing garments has been demoralizing to the industry and disastrous for the workers. It has created many hundreds of superfluous middlemen, bidding for the jobbers' patronage in fierce

competition with each other. In this artificially stimulated competitive warfare, the manufacturer who pays the lowest wages and works his employees hardest is in the best position to underbid his fellow contractors and get the jobber's order. As a consequence, there has been a veritable mushroom growth of small and irresponsible contractors, each representing a certain group of workers and threatening the recurrence of the infamous "sweat-shop" system, which at one time disgraced our industry. In the height of the season most, if not all of them, find some employment, but in the duller seasons a large number of them have no work and seek to overcome their idleness by even more rigorous cutthroat competition on labor costs.

The workers in the industry pay the price of these unhealthy conditions of the jobbing system by lowered wages and increased irregularity of work.

Our Union presented these conditions to you, gentlemen of the Merchants Ladies' Garment Association, who represent the vast majority of the jobbers in the industry and more than half of the total output of the cloaks and suits in the metropolitan district, with the warning that unless these evil tendencies are checked at this time, our whole industry would be demoralized and our workers impoverished beyond repair.

We asked you to assume a reasonable measure of responsibility towards the workers who produce your garments and particularly to join with us in adopting measures

for the greater stabilization of employment and for affording every worker in the industry an equal opportunity to share in the available work throughout the year. As it is, the cloak and suit industry does not give its workers employment for more than a total of about thirty-five weeks per year. Under the prevailing conditions, a vast number of them work barely more than twenty full weeks in the year.

These workers are an integral part of the industry; they are all needed for the production of your goods in the busy seasons and can not be cast aside without any provisions or means for making a living in the slow seasons. In the series of conferences which we have held for the consideration of these problems, you have discussed them courteously and sympathetically, but the concrete and final statement of your position flatly rejects all our suggested remedies without proposing any in their stead, and we are today further apart than we were at the first conference when we presented our proposals to you.

It is quite evident to us that we shall not reach an agreement with your Association through conferences and discussions, and it is just as clear that the workers can not and will not acquiesce in your flat refusal to redress their just grievances.

If the 50,000 men and women employed in the cloak and suit industry of this city are forced into a general strike, it will mean a loss of many millions to the employers, hardships and suffering not only for the 50,000 families directly in-

olved but for perhaps as many others who depend for their work on our industry, and great inconvenience to the public at large. Our Union is fully conscious of the gravity of the situation and determined to exert every reasonable and honorable method of averting the calamity. With this object in view, we propose that the demands of the Union be submitted to the judgment and determination of an impartial body of citizens acting as a Board of Arbitration, and are ready to go into conference with you again for the selection of such a Board or, if we cannot agree upon such selection, to join you in a request for the appointment of such a Board by the Governor of this State.

In the firm conviction of the justice of our cause, we pledge ourselves in behalf of our Union to abide by any decision of such a Board of Arbitration and hope that you will find it possible to do likewise. Should you reject this only possible method of peaceable adjustment of our dispute, the responsibility for the consequences will rest entirely upon you.

We respectfully request your answer to our proposal within twenty-four hours.

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

Morris Sigman, President.
JOINT BOARD CLOAK, SKIRT, DRESS AND REEFER MAKERS' UNION,

Israel Feinberg,
General Manager.

An Inactive Strike Vote
The exact figures of the strike referendum conducted last week among the cloakmakers of New York are as follows: 31,852 cloakmakers took part in the voting, of which 31,493 voted for a general strike in case all peace efforts failed, and 449 voted against the strike.

Comment on this vote is hardly necessary. It actually implies that the cloakmakers to a person voted to support the policy of the leaders of the Union in carrying out the industrial program which they have decided upon and which was endorsed by the Boston convention. It also indicates that the cloakmakers, notwithstanding the hazards and sacrifices which a general strike involves, are determined to abolish for all times the horrible chaos which prevails in their trade.

The Referendum Committee which carried out the ballot among the cloakmakers consisted of the following persons:

Joseph Stankewich, chairman of the Joint Board, and the following Joint Board delegates: Weisman, Belson, Fahr, Molisani, Pitchesky, Levine, Student, Kosky, Egita, Ansel, Weinstein, Katon, Greinberg, Schwager, Landsberg, Kaufman, Cooper, Rubin, Yanovitz, Margalies, Shiffman, Rushinsky, Arch and Komen.

Chicago Dress Strike Enters Fifteenth Week

The Chicago dressmakers' strike is nearing the end of its fourth month run and finds the workers ready to keep up the struggle until a satisfactory settlement is reached.

There is now occurring a sharp division of opinion in the ranks of the dress manufacturers involved in this strike. Some of them are of the opinion that it is time to settle and to begin the new season in peace with the Union, while the belligerent group which still seeks fight is holding them

back in the hope that the strike will be broken before the beginning of the fall season. Last week the firm of David Perlman, 324 So. Market street, settled with the Union, and this settlement has started quite a movement among the strikebound firms for peace with the organization of the workers.

Former Association President Leaves Organization

The founder and leader of the first

dress manufacturers' association of Chicago, Mr. A. Heller of the Grace-line Dress Manufacturing Company, has resigned from the association. Mr. Heller was the leader of a group of dress manufacturers who had agreements with the Union before the strike. He originally organized that group of employers for the purpose of fighting certain of the demands of the Union, but not against the organization of the workers as such.

On the whole, the Chicago situation is just as tense and bitter as it was during the first days of the strike, but the strikers are confident that their obstinate employers will in the end have to recognize that they cannot destroy the Union and will have to reach an agreement with it.

A Surprise Banquet for Vice-President Reisberg

The long sought for opportunity for expressing our devotion and sincere friendship for Brother Elias Reisberg, the manager of Local 50, of Philadelphia, a vice-president of our great International Union, and the good friend of us all, came on Saturday evening, June 7, when the Joint Board and a group of active members sprung a "surprise banquet" for Brother Reisberg.

It was our first occasion to give expression to our candid recognition of Brother Reisberg's arduous work as manager of our union and to congratulate him on his reelection as vice-president of the I. L. G. W. U., and also to pledge our cooperation and loyalty to his plans for a larger and stronger Union in the city of Philadelphia.

The enthusiasm and good spirit which prevailed at the banquet will long be remembered by those present. The presence of Brother Amdur, and Mrs. Reisberg, and Brother Reisberg's nearest and dearest friends in Philadelphia added to the joy of those present.

In reply to the many speeches made, Brother Reisberg said in part: "I feel keenly the significance of this happy event. I know that all members here, and those who were not able to come, look forward to the next organization campaign for a one hundred per cent Union in the waist and dress industry in Philadelphia."

Brother Reisberg paid his respects to Brother Amdur, manager of the Cloakmakers' Union, and congratulated him in behalf of our Union for his election to the Vice-presidency of the I. L. G. W. U.

In conclusion Brother Reisberg thanked all present for the honor bestowed upon him and declared that those present and those who could not come deserve to share with him the honor for all that he achieved, and that he is thankful for the opportunity to serve on the General Executive Board of our International.

The arrangement committee of the banquet, consisted of Philip Wolfson, Carl Schultz, Philip Silver, and Anna Levitt.

International Forwards Greetings to Locomotive Engineers' Convention

The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers began the sessions of their triennial convention in Cleveland a week ago, in the same auditorium in which the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union met in 1922.

Our Union has always been on friendly terms with the locomotive engineers' organization and has watched the constructive achievements of this brotherhood with keen interest, particularly in the Labor banking field, in which they were the American pioneers. The International Union Bank, our bank in New York City, learned a great deal from the experience of the Locomotive Engineers and has been on friendly terms with their large banking ven-

ture in New York City, from the day of its inception.

President Sigman forwarded the following telegram last week to the Engineers' convention:

Mr. Warren S. Stone, Grand Chief Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, Cleveland, Ohio.

We desire to convey through you on behalf of the members of our International Union to the delegates of your great organization in convention assembled, the assurance of our sincere fraternal regards and our wishes for continued constructive achievement and leadership in the Labor movement of America.

The Sick and Tuberculosis Benefit Fund in Local 22

By ISIDORE SCHOENHOLTZ

The adoption by the members of Local 22, at its last general meeting on Thursday, June 5, of the recommendation of the executive board to introduce a sick and tuberculosis benefit fund in our organization, signifies a very important achievement by our members. It is an accomplishment which can well compare, from the point of view of constructive achievement, with the most important gains ever scored by our local for its members.

A sick benefit fund for such of our members as become incapacitated by illness and cannot carry on the battle for earning a living, a tuberculosis fund for those of our workers who have become the victims of the white plague,—these are indeed undertakings which must lend greater strength to the structure of our Union and are bound to make it an ever greater necessity to the lives of our workers.

With the establishment of this fund, which will soon begin functioning, our local is undertaking the big task of giving aid to our sick members. It is an important mission, no doubt, and it will depend on our members to make it the success which it is intended to be. That it will be of great value to the dressmakers, there can be no doubt. During the last few years, the subject of sick benefits received serious consideration among our members. Appeals for help were frequent and these appeals have in most cases had to be appeased by small donations; and often with less than that, as our Union had no special fund from which to aid its sick members.

About six years ago, in 1918, an earnest attempt was made to introduce such a fund. It was to be a voluntary fund with the understanding that, if the members would respond in large numbers, it would eventually be changed into a general obligatory fund. The 1919 strike, however, pushed this subject, along with other important problems, aside, and the idea of a sick benefit fund had to be given up for a while.

In the last few years, this problem became practically a permanent one on the order of the day of our meetings. Yet we could never arrive at any practical solution, and, only after the amalgamation of the dressmakers of Local 22 with the dressmakers of our local took place, did this matter reach a final head owing to the fact that the Local 23 dressmakers have had such a sick benefit fund for many years past.

So when our executive board elected its various standing committees, it also selected a sick benefit committee. This committee was to take over and administer the part of the fund which belonged to the dressmakers who had been transferred from Local 23, and it was also charged with the duty of working out plans for the founding of such a fund for all the members of our local. After this committee had carefully studied and considered various sick benefit plans that could be found applicable to such a large organization as ours, it brought in last March its recommendations to the executive board, with the suggestion that such a fund be established as quickly as possible.

We have already pointed out several of the motives which prompted our local to establish such a fund. First among these was the fact that we have in our midst already a considerable section of workers who have had such benefit for a long time and it was obviously abnormal to have two classes of members in the local, one with and one without sick benefit.

Second, the majority of our members are women and very few of them belong to any sick benefit societies or funds. In case of sickness, the only organization to whom they can appeal is the Union. And, in the absence of a fund, the Union can do but little for them. Another reason in favor of this fund was that it was proved that, in all the locals of the International and other Labor organizations where such funds have been established, they have proved a success and have served as a binding force between the members and the Union. It stands to reason that a member would become closely attached to an organization that helps him out not only when he is well and able to work, but when he is sick and cannot earn a living.

That much for the motives that speak in favor of such a sick benefit fund. In addition to that, the active members of the Union have more than once felt the pain of being compelled to refuse needy fellow-workers aid in time of illness. Many a committee from a shop has come be-

fore the executive board asking support for sick fellow-workers, some of them sufferers from tuberculosis and other ravaging diseases, and not all of these could be helped. We are certain that if these facts were to have been brought to the attention of the membership at large, such a fund would have been established long ago.

We have every reason now to be satisfied and proud of the fact that our members have finally perceived the necessity of such a fund and have decided to establish it. The method of raising such a fund has been adopted after a careful study of what other sick benefit committees in other organizations have done. Members will be entitled to benefit upon payment of the small sum of thirty-five cents a month. With this money, a sufficiently large fund will be raised to meet all requirements. The committee has discussed these recommendations after they were approved by the executive board and at branch meetings, and last week the general member meeting above referred to finally sanctioned the plan unanimously. Here are some of the rules covering this fund:

1. Each member of the local is to pay thirty-five cents a month to be applied exclusively to the sick benefit fund (this is as much as the transferred members of Local 23 had

been paying and are still paying to their fund).

2. In addition to the sick benefit fund, a tuberculosis benefit fund will be established.

3. As soon as the fund begins to function, all the members of Local 22 will become automatically members of the sick and tuberculosis benefit fund.

4. In case of sickness, all the members of the local without exception are entitled to receive sick benefit.

5. In case of affliction with tuberculosis, any member of the local will be entitled to tuberculosis benefit.

The total payments for both funds amount to \$4.50 per member per year. The benefits and advantages that sick members will derive from this fund, it is confidently expected, will be worth more to them and to the rest of their fellow-workers than the small sum which they will pay to make the fund operative. We hope that the members of Local 22 will grasp the great importance of this fund and will respond to it gladly and readily. We expect especially the active members, the chairmen and chairladies in the shops, to work for the plan and make it a success. It is up to them to enlighten the mass of the members on the importance of this undertaking and to acquaint them with the benefit system which this fund will inaugurate.

Pioneer Youth Camp at Pawling, New York, to Open July 1

The National Association for Child Development is an organization of parents, Labor representatives and educators, that was founded in the present year, 1924. The purpose of the Association is to make available to the boys and girls of America opportunities for developing into healthy, self-reliant, socially-minded, and intelligent men and women.

The Pioneer Youth Camp at Pawling is the first of many camps which the Association will organize throughout the United States. The children who come to this camp will have a good time, but they will have much more than that. They will have opportunities to do the things they like to do, and to begin the process of developing whatever natural capacities they may have.

There will be freedom at the camp but there will also be responsibility. The children will not be regimentalized and made to go through a predetermined routine of activities, and there will be no contests for prizes arranged and promoted by the management. The children will organize their own games and other activities under conditions that are self-observation and advice by camp director and counselors as may be necessary for protection.

The camp will be for both boys and girls. The boys and girls will live some three or four acres apart, and will each be under different supervision. They will, however, join in all appropriate activities, and in games, camp fires, dramatics, etc., and at meal times.

The camp is situated on Manumit School grounds, in Pawling, New York, and has at its disposal a farm of 177 acres. Pioneer Youth Camp is situated in the foot hills of the Berkshires, has a beautiful brook with two large swimming holes, a fine athletic field, and many acres of hills and woods in which the children may play.

The camp has an excellent cook and dietitian, and the fact that the farm is a large produce farm and can furnish the camp with all the milk it needs and most of the vegetables and other food, insures a supply of fresh food throughout the summer.

The camp staff will consist of men and women who are thoroughly in sympathy with the purposes of the organization, have broad social vision and are familiar with the methods of experimental education. The children will receive the personal consideration of the director of the Camp and of counselors throughout their stay in camp. Each counselor will have no more than eight children to take care of.

Nature Study

The study of animal life, trees, flowering plants, insects, stars and constellations, will form an important part of camp activities. To facilitate and make more interesting the study of the heavenly bodies, the camp has a telescope on Astronomer Hill, one of the hills of the farm.

Farming and Care of Camp

The children will be acquainted with the manner in which the world's food grows—extensive farming will go on during the entire summer, and the children will be shown the methods—and even will be allowed to participate in this work and other work incident to the care of the camp.

Sports

The camp will have a competent physical director, and swimming, and worthwhile games will form an important part of the program. Camp fire, group singing, story telling, camp fire games, hikes, will all form part of camp activity.

Music

The well known musician and musical critic, Mr. Herman Epstein, will

spend week-ends at the camp and will organize camp orchestras of simple instruments, and direct other musical activities that will tend to develop in the children a fine appreciation of music.

Camp Journal

The children will themselves write, edit, and publish a Camp Journal which will serve to be a record of events and camp history. A printing press and all other necessary materials will be at their disposal.

Dramatics, arts and craftwork, and radio and mechanics are included among other activities.

Medical Attention

There will be a trained nurse on the camp grounds, and a physician will be within reach of camp.

Because of the fact that the camp will be conducted on a non-profit basis, it will be possible for us to make the rates low. For children of nine to twelve years of age, inclusive, the charge will be \$12.50 a week; for children of thirteen and over, \$15.00 a week.

The Camp Committee consists of Fannie M. Cohn, Chairman; Joshua Lieberman, Secretary; A. J. Mute, William M. Fincke, Helen Fincke, Norman Thomas, Dr. Henry Linville, J. Bush, David Michael, and Mrs. Grace Butler Klueg.

For further information apply either at the office of the National Association for Child Development, 70 Fifth Avenue, or at the Educational Department of the I. L. C. W. U., 3 West 16th street, telephone Chelsea 2148. Those who wish to send their children to the camp should register at once.

JUSTICE

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Health of Working Women

By FREDERICK L. HOFFMAN

(Continued from last week)

Industrial medicine is as yet in its infancy, as an important branch of social administration. There has never been a continuous systematic inquiry into the health-injurious consequences of particular industries and processes, for what has been done thus far has been in response to obvious demands for the rectification of conspicuous instances of harm. There are no trustworthy morbidity statistics of industry, which on a large scale would represent collective results, acceptable to all who are concerned with the possible injurious results of occupational activity. Overemphasis has been given to occupational mortality, because of the comparative ease with which the facts are collected and the sometimes dramatic incidence of startling conditions, suggestive of the death toll in industry. The authorities on occupational diseases are few and far between, and much, if not most, of what has been said and written on the subject is of very doubtful value, if not grossly misleading.

Sex in Industry

In view of the comparatively recent economic emancipation of women, the trade mortality and morbidity of women workers represents a particularly obscure aspect of the subject in general. In a few occupations, particularly phosphorus match-making, where women suffered intensely from the results of phosphorus necrosis, remedial legislation has brought about a most gratifying change for the better. The whole question of sex in industry is involved in the problem as to whether certain industrial processes are more injurious to women than to men, or, for that matter, injurious to both. It would seem to require no extended scientific study to emphasize the conclusion that women, because of their sex, must suffer more, wherever harmful conditions exist, than men likewise exposed. No comprehensive study has, for that matter, been made of the relative adaptation of the sexes to particular lines of activity, with a view to health, disease liability, and physical strength. But legislation, for generations past, has thrown safeguards about women, and wisely prohibited certain forms of night labor, certain types of very heavy labor, underground work in mines, and work of married women near to the point of delivery in pregnancy. Legislation has persistently shown a trend towards more adequate safeguarding of a woman as a mother and the guardian of the children of the new generation. Regardless of much evidence of women's extraordinary adaptation to pursuits heretofore exclusively the prerogative of men, the conclusions would justify the decision that for many lines of activity women are decidedly less adapted than men, working under similar conditions.

Compared with men, women are unquestionably of a lower degree of physical strength and physical endurance. Their more delicate organism requires a degree of fostering care, not necessary in the case of men of the average industrial type. There is also a psychological aspect to this problem, in that women at work cannot be subjected, without harm, to the rigorous discipline and harshness of supervision common to many lines of trade; hence the urgency that wherever women are employed, provision should be made for their physical welfare, medical supervision and assistance, as far as required, and recreational advantages, both during and after hours of work.

The modern industrial revolution is in nothing more significant than in the enormous extent to which wo-

men have entered into every practical line of economic and productive activity. The war experience was unquestionably the most illuminating revelation of women's latent capacity for lines of work that heretofore were exclusively adapted to the strength and capacity of men. But it is very easy to be led astray and into wrongful conclusions by this evidence of women's equality with men, for what may be economically an advantage may be socially, or otherwise, decidedly harmful. For, in its final analysis, woman remains a woman, intended by nature to reproduce herself, to carry on the continuity of the race. Modern economic activities unquestionably lure countless women away from marriage into lines of achievement, which, however attractive or stimulating to ambition, are nevertheless unnatural when compared, or contrasted, with the fundamental reasons why a woman is a woman and not a man.

Economic legislation has as yet far from realized the supreme importance of the marriage factor in individual life and the basic principle of social

progress, that it is infinitely more important that a woman should marry and bear children than that she should aid in the development of production and distribution of the arts and sciences ministering to human needs.

Maternity an Occupational Disease

Maternity may properly be spoken of as the most important occupational disease of women. Housework and maternity are as much an occupation, if not more so, on the part of women as the employment of those who are engaged in industrial pursuits. If compensation is granted to workmen injured in the course of their industrial employment, or incapacitated therefor, as the result of occupational conditions, it would seem but reasonable and fair that married women, whether in industry or out, should during their maternity and for some time thereafter receive compensation from the State for risking their lives and giving of their health and their strength, their time and their thought, to enable the next generation to survive. Modest pensions, or family grants, or whatever

the form of support may be called, rest upon fundamental conceptions of social justice and are called for by the highest considerations of public policy. It is true that in many cases such support is not needed, but that plea can be made against every beneficial form of social legislation. The nation is in duty bound to provide for the most precious asset of the State, and that is the children, and with the children the women who gave birth to them. Maternity care can never reach the conditions demanded by present-day knowledge until there is sufficient economic support for every mother.

Hence, in my judgment, married women in industry should be relieved of their industrial duties for a period certainly four weeks before delivery and six weeks afterwards. For these ten weeks women should receive their full wages and their places in the industrial world should be held secure for them. If ever there was a legitimate charge on production, it is maternity care, in the case of married women, who are drawn into industry, and gladly so, as valuable economic units, indispensable in many cases to the needs of the industry and the State.

Prohibition of Night Work

Foremost among the specific questions which demand consideration in the case of women is the unconditional prohibition of night work, except as a matter of emergency. Not only is the moral risk involved a serious one, but the physical consequences of night work are unquestionably more apparent than in the case of men. In my judgment, women in industrial pursuits should not be allowed to go to work before 8 o'clock in the morning, nor work after 6 o'clock at night. I would even prefer 5 o'clock, for the reason that no woman can ever entirely emancipate herself from household duties and that late hours on returning home are unquestionably a most seriously disturbing factor in domestic life.

Heavy Lifting Injurious

Next to night work, is heavy work, particularly such as involves the lifting of burdens beyond a woman's normal strength. One may say anywhere into factories and shops, and find that women lift heavy burdens, or packages, which strain their organisms to the utmost. The old-type chivalry, protecting a woman against such duties, is practically gone, and if she is not protected by law she unquestionably assumes in many cases, or is expected to assume, duties for which she is by nature unfit. This can be seen in any sanitary pottery, where she lifts heavy pieces of earthenware, weighing sixty pounds or more, or in print shops, where she lifts heavy parcels of paper, for which her strength is inadequate. Unless protected by law against such conditions, they will be assumed as a matter of earning advantage, however serious the consequences may be to health and life. I am not in the least opposed to women doing hard work, suitable to the sex, but I am opposed to work which obviously imposes a strain upon a frail organism, by nature intended primarily and essentially for maternity. In the judgment of all who are familiar with the facts, women are infinitely better off in industry than in idleness, and the trend of the age is towards a democracy in which everyone, man or woman, will render some equivalent to society in the form of whatever support he or she may receive.

But this duty of work imposes upon the State the duty of safeguarding conditions under which work is done, so as to preclude obviously injurious consequences, which can be made a matter of prevention and control.

(Reprinted from Consumers' League Bulletin.)

(To Be Concluded in the Next Issue)

Democratic Health Control

(Editorial in American Federationist, June, 1924.)

By SAMUEL GOMPERS

The Union Health Center, organized by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' of America, has issued its annual report, bearing date of 1924, and containing an account of a remarkable trade union experience based upon self-imposed compulsory physical examination.

One serious obstacle to preventive medicine in industry has been the abuse of physical examination by certain employers. However, the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union has found a way to meet that difficulty. Life extension work as practiced by this organization at Union Health Center is a development that has significance for every union. This is the only union to establish compulsory physical examination as a pre-requisite to union membership. The 1910 protocol established the Joint Board of Sanitary Control to establish and enforce sanitary standards in the workshops of the industry. It was found impossible to promote industrial hygiene without proper concern for the health of individual workers. Physical examinations became the practice. As the union is represented on the Joint Board the usual objection of the workers is eliminated and physical examination is permitted to function properly as the key to preventive medicine. Medical clinics were followed by a dental department.

In 1919 the nine locals in New York City assumed full control over the medical and dental clinics and organized the Union Health Center. This center provides free services: Information on health matters to the membership of the unions; physical examination to candidates for membership in the locals; and examination and treatment to members.

Financially the Health Center is organized on a self-paying basis. The unions bear the rent of the building and equipment. In the medical department a fee of one dollar is charged for examination and treatment. The fee in the dental clinic is based on costs. These fees are paid by the individuals served. These clinics are well equipped. There are X-ray and physio-therapeutic departments and a drug store where prescriptions can be filled at nominal rates. Arrangements are made for hospital treatment when necessary.

The Center lays great stress on educational work, for this lies the hope of prevention. It tries to give workers information as to how to keep healthy. On Tuesday nights systematic instruction is given in first aid, food dietetics, etc. On Friday nights is the Health Forum, in which general health topics are discussed. Thursday night is devoted to the "Daily Dose."

The Life Extension Branch of the Center enables workers to have the benefit of group diagnosis by experts.

The total investment which the unions made for building and equipment was \$112,455.57.

In 1923 the work of these departments was:

Examinations of applicants	3,368
General Clinics, General Examination	5,289
Special Clinics, Special Examination	5,410
Examination of sick benefits, at office and at homes	1,022
Life Extension Examinations	605
Physio-therapeutic Treatments	1,784
X-Rays	170
Other Examinations	144
Drugs Sold	\$3,193.65

The Dental Department gave 26,788 treatments to 4,502 patients and had an income of \$89,117.52.

The showing thus made by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union is most inspiring. It is above all a demonstration of the effectiveness of such work when under the control and supervision of the workers themselves. Unquestionably no such results could have been achieved by any outside agency seeking to intrude its will and its rules and regulations upon this great body of workers. Here is undoubtedly something that other organizations will wish to study and perhaps to emulate.

Vienna

By PAULINE M. NEWMAN

I. A Begared City

After a twenty-four hour ride from Zurich in a dirty, airless train, we arrived at Vienna. It was good once more to feel the ground under one's feet. It was wonderful to be able to get a breath of fresh air. One thing Americans cannot get used to in Europe is the total absence of ventilation on trains. They are often fighting with the Europeans to keep the window open in the train compartment. And not only on trains. The same is true of hotels. I remember once asking a hotel clerk for a quiet room. He assured me that the room would be very quiet, "because there are double windows in your room and no sound can come through when it is closed!" It was, therefore, doubly refreshing to get rooms in a hotel opposite the Schönbrunn Park.

The day was clear and warm. We went into the street. Through the open gates of the huge park and on the streets leading up to them, were hundreds of people, some walking, some standing in groups, chatting. No one seemed in a hurry. The beautiful park, once the private pleasure grounds of the Emperors, now open to the public, was full of men, women and children who played freely on the paths or on the grass. The park is tremendously large. Even now, when the Government has not the means to keep it neat and trim as it was in the days before the World War, it is still the most beautiful and charmingly arranged park in and around Vienna.

Toward evening, when we left the park, throngs in the streets were still there—as if waiting for something to happen. Not until dinner hour did we realize why so many of them lingered. We then saw them gather close to the open-air cafes, where they could listen to the music without cost. They cannot go inside the "gardens" unless they can afford either to eat, drink or pay admission. Not being able to do any one of these, they remained on the outside as long as the music continued. This simple but telling evidence of the people's love for music could be seen on nearly every street of Vienna.

In many respects Vienna matched more closely my own early memories of Europe than any other country we visited—with the exception, perhaps, of Prague. Here I saw women—especially in the poorer quarters—with bright colored kerchiefs on their heads, and similar reminders of the old world of my youth. There is also a few "spishy" where we spent an afternoon in "looking around."

To an observer Vienna looked poor. In spite of its fine music, large and attractive department stores, modern hotels, grand and volks-opera houses and theaters, Vienna looks shabby. The homes in the residential district showed it. The hotels, with a few exceptions, showed it. In that they were not redecorated and failed to receive the necessary repairs. For instance, about a year prior to the time we were there, our hotel had a fire. Practically the whole of the top floor had been burned away. What the owners were able to do was to put up a temporary roof of pine board, partitioned off the rest of the floor and let it go at that. One can also see Vienna's poverty in the lack of private cars. Even on a Sunday we saw but few private automobiles. Moreover, in the largest department stores we noticed that the window curtains were mended, and darned and mended again and again. In short, the outward appearance of Vienna was poor.

be judged by the income of its work people, then Austria is poor. Having been in Vienna for over a month we came in contact with various organized and unorganized working men and women. For example, the wages of the organized waiters and hotel workers speak for themselves, and will, I am sure, prove of interest to the readers of JUSTICE:

Chefs, 250,000 kronen, in American money, \$3.50 a week; cooks, 202,000 kronen, in American money, \$3 a week; kitchen maids, 97,000 kronen, in American money, \$1.50 a week; chamber maids, 68,000 kronen, in American money, 95 cents; dishwashers, 97,000 kronen, in American money, \$1.50 a week; head waiters, 53,000 kronen, in American money, \$1.02 a week; Porters, 25,000 kronen, in American money, 75 cents a week; bellboys, 4,000 kronen, in American money, 6 cents a week.

One can easily imagine the kind of a life those workers had to live,—on the above earnings.

Later on I met some of the girls in the dressmaking industry. The one I talked to most was an officer of the dressmakers' union. According to her story an experienced dressmaker was at that time earning—in American money—about three dollars a week! There was really no excuse for such low wages in this particular trade, because ladies' garments in Vienna were as expensive, and in some cases even more so, than in our own country. When we went to some of the stores, we found that for a dress such as you could buy here for about nineteen or twenty dollars, they asked thirty and forty. And yet they paid so little for labor!

In spite of the fact that the unions were not, at that time, able to raise wages, the faith in organiza-

tion on the part of the men and women was boundless. They bear their present burdens with a magnificent spirit and with hope in their hearts.

HIKE ARRANGED BY OUR STUDENTS' COUNCIL

The hikes that were arranged last season by the Students' Council of our Workers' University and Unity Centers proved most successful. The Council is planning a number of hikes for this summer. In next week's JUSTICE, we will give the particulars regarding the first hike which will take place within a week or two.

The importance of outdoor life is appreciated by everyone; especially is it important for our members who work indoors.

Watch for further announcements in next week's JUSTICE.

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A FEW FACTS ABOUT Oscar Wilde



HE was a London dandy, who startled society dinner tables with his wit and conversation.

He was an Irish aristocrat from an ancient titled family, who dressed in velvet clothes, that made people gasp.

He was a daring dilettante, and an intimate friend of Sarah Bernhardt and of all the intellectuals.

But this dashing man was hurled suddenly from the heights of brilliance and popularity into the depths of despair and suffering. The delicate white hands were bleeding from tearing oakum in a criminal's prison. And what did he write?

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This is probably the greatest story ever written concerning that group of Anarchists in Russia known as "The Nihilists." It is in the form of a play in octosyllabic, clear-cut language. The climax, when Vera enters the Palace at Petrograd in order to murder Alexis, the Czar—and what happened—is as unexpected as it is sensational and leaves you gasping.

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This is the most remarkable exposition of the doctrine of Individualism that has ever been printed. Some of the most striking passages deal with the part played by Pleasure and Happiness as opposed to Sorrow and Pain.

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This is the revelation of a man's soul who is suffering intensely in prison. It was written by Oscar Wilde when he himself was in prison. It is called the most pathetic confession in literature!

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ever read; and this one ballad alone is worth several times the cost of the entire set of books.

And besides these, Oscar Wilde created that amazing novel, "The Picture of Dorian Gray," a story of London High Life and Low Life; "The Decay of Lying"; "The Truth of Masks"; "Lord Arthur Savile's Crime"; "A Woman of No Importance"; "Salome"; "Fanciful Novellists," and countless plays, poems, essays and stories. All these are included in this offer.

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EDITORIALS

WE WAIT PREPARED

After the vote last week by 31,000 cloakmakers in favor of a strike to enforce the Union's industrial program, if it becomes necessary, and with only 400 votes against it, there can be no doubt with regard to the feeling of our members on this subject. It is quite true that the leadership of our Union did not require a referendum to learn what the rank and file thought concerning the demands presented to the jobbers and manufacturers. Our leaders are in daily contact with the masses of our workers, they know their needs, and they knew well in advance what the result of the voting would be.

This referendum, however, will serve to enlighten our employers, if they ever had any doubt that the leaders of the Union speak the thought and the will of the 50,000 cloakmakers in the industry. They might know by this time that this army of disciplined and well-organized men and women stands ready to begin the big fight, at the signal of their leaders, for a cause which they are deeply convinced will bring an end to the chaos and disorder which prevail in the cloak industry.

Will this warning bring our employers to realize the gravity of the situation and will they proceed to bring the negotiations to an end with a sincere desire to reach a quick understanding with the Union?

At this writing, we still are inclined to hope that such might be the case. It must be kept constantly in mind that, conferences or no conferences, negotiations or no negotiations, the Union will not and cannot be caught napping. We cannot believe that the jobbers are dragging these conferences out for the purpose of lulling the Union into a sense of false security and then catch it unprepared. Our employers know better than that; they know that from the hour our program of demands was prepared and presented to them, the Union began to prepare and mobilize its forces and that the last few weeks in Union circles were devoted entirely to putting every part of the fighting machinery of the organization in battle shape.

Manœuvres leading to undue optimism and inactivity cannot and will not work against the cloakmakers' organization and will yield no results. Our leadership is too experienced for such threadbare tactics. It never forgets for a moment that the surest way for obtaining a real understanding is to be ready for a fight, if one must take place.

And if we discard this theory that the jobbers are prolonging these negotiations for the purpose of weakening the fighting spirit of our workers and their organization, we must logically assume that, in continuing their negotiations with the Union, the jobbers are in earnest, particularly now after the referendum, about coming to an understanding with the Union. The leaders of the Union still want peace, if it can be had and warfare can still be averted.

Until now our opponents have talked largely for the press. They apparently did not quite grasp the earnestness of the whole situation. Now these negotiations have reached their final stage and a deciding course concerning them must be adopted.

In speaking of the Union's program on previous occasions we have continually stressed the point that this program must be adopted in its entirety if true order is to be established in the cloak industry. We have not changed our opinion in this matter, though we are willing to concede that, while some of these demands must be adopted at once in order to effect a material change in the condition of the workers, there are other points in this program which can be either modified without affecting the program as a whole or their adoption be postponed for a time.

We have presented to the industry a big comprehensive program which should be materialized if every section of the industry is to derive from it the fullest amount of benefit. But our leaders are not dogmatists, they are practical persons and they have graduated from no other college than the hard school of life. They know that not always is it possible to achieve all that is good and advisable at one time. Such a frame of mind is conducive to peace; and as far as our leaders are concerned, peace in the cloak industry, we say it again, is possible.

Can we say as much for the other side? Let us hope so. We are still inclined to believe that peace can be reached with the jobbers; we say it not because we have penetrated their inner thought or because we believe that our leaders have convinced them of the justice and fairness of our demands. Capital is timid and essentially ultra-conservative. The sweatshop system would have still prevailed in our industry if it depended on the good will of our employers. Every step forward made in our trades is the result of the discontent and the struggle of our organized workers. It is difficult to believe that our employers could be convinced of the necessity of a change through sheer

argument, no matter how logical. Yet we believe that they appreciate now that a break with the Union and the assumption of an attitude of "undeatability," such as was adopted by the late "Protective," is puerile and dangerous.

The jobbers have heard the clear voice of the rank and file of the Union. And the jobbers, we believe, have also had an opportunity to find out what the public thinks about this controversy. They surely realize by this time that the public is not with them, that it understands the soundness and importance of the Union's demands and that, with some more light cast upon these problems, the entire public opinion will be upon the side of the workers. The specious argument that the Union would "confiscate" their property if the new program is adopted, has failed to make an impression upon anyone. If anything, these claims have only hurt their cause and this lends more color to our belief that the final conferences with the jobbers may yet serve to avert the conflict for which the Union is fully prepared.

Yet we say again, the anticipation of a favorable outcome does not eliminate the possibility or even the probability of a strike. The Union hopes for the best but is ready for the worst, and will leave nothing out, in the course of its preparations for this conflict, to make its own force stronger and the other side weaker and incapable of resistance.

It is not a secret that the General Strike Committee which has already been formed, has done everything possible to take care that, not only will no cloaks be made in New York when the signal for a fight is given, but that nowhere, far beyond the boundaries of the greater city, will cloaks be made for any of the strikebound firms—jobbers or manufacturers. Our employers probably are aware of that; they know that it will be no sham battle and if they have peace in mind, they will do their best to avert its coming.

We believe that the title at the head of this page, "We Wait Prepared," fully expresses the thought and sentiment of our members with respect to the present state of affairs in the cloak industry. The Union is watchfully waiting for every word and move of the jobbers and manufacturers. It hopes and expects that the conferences will end in a peaceful mutual understanding, but it is ready for a fight if the outcome is otherwise.

MINERS READY TO HELP OUR UNION

Last week, President Sigman was in Scranton, Pa., to pay homage to the memory of the late John Mitchell, the leader of the miners, where a monument was unveiled in his honor.

While in Scranton, President Sigman met John L. Lewis, the president of the United Mine Workers of America. Lewis' first words were: "I read in the press that you are preparing for a strike, and I want you to know that the entire miners' organization will come to your aid and that we shall do for you all we can, as you have done for us when we were fighting." This readiness to help President Lewis expressed to Brother Sigman several times during his short stay in Scranton.

There is true fraternity and a spirit of splendid generosity in the words of President Lewis which our workers will not fail to be deeply thankful for. Not that we expect to be in need of such help. Our International has spent millions in the last few years in the course of fighting with the employing interests in our trades and has carried the burden single-handed without appealing for help. On the other hand, we have helped others unstintingly during these years, and we hope that we shall be able to finance the coming fight with our own means.

But the fact alone that a great Labor organization is offering us aid in advance is enough to fill our hearts with gratitude. It is something to confirm our belief that true friendship, real solidarity is not an empty phrase in the American Labor movement.

We say this with even more emphasis because we are confident that the great Miners' Union is not the only one that will come to our aid if such aid should become necessary, though it was the first Labor body to extend to us such an offer in advance. Our International Union is one of the links of the great chain which we call Organized Labor in America and will, no doubt, receive its full measure of support from other Labor organizations in time of stress.

We say again we are almost sure that we shall not need outside aid, but it is, nevertheless, a deep moral satisfaction to know that the American Labor movement will be ready to extend to us such assistance to win the fight for the paramount industrial issues with which we are now confronted.

THE NEW DISTRICT COUNCIL

The grave situation in the cloak industry, and the mass of preparatory work which it involves, while of predominant importance, has not, nevertheless, monopolized the attention of the International Union to the exclusion of everything else. Along with it, and for the purpose of making the position of our local unions in all trades stronger and capable of greater resistance, the International is now perfecting plans for another central agency in Greater New York for the ten locals in the miscellaneous trades, which are not affiliated with the Cloak and Dress Joint Board.

We speak of the organization of a District Council of the Miscellaneous Locals, which was set in motion under the guidance of President Sigman a few days ago. The formation of such a Council has become a vital necessity for these locals, and an attempt to organize one was made a number of months ago. That attempt has been only a partial success and now the General Executive Board, as well as the Boston Convention, has decided that these ten comparatively small locals must form one central body for better and more efficient management of all their mutual functions and business.



IN THE REALM OF BOOKS



Labor Press for May

By A JOURNALIST.

May has been a big month in Labor's always full calendar. Conventions present and coming, new policies launched and old policies maturing, the Presidential campaign with all the varieties of notions on just what to do about and in it—these things and many others have produced a stir and hum in the Labor camp that is the best portend of the busy life within. Thirty-one crowded days, surely, if fullness of life is the true measure of time, Labor has lived many times that short span in May.

Even in this rush of events, however, affairs can be seen moving steadily in their three regular channels of Labor's interests. The industrial struggle, internal affairs and world affairs divide the space of the Labor press once more. Each attains its allotment as always, but this month the apportionment of the journals' pages is unusual. Where the industrial struggle has, as a rule, received the lion's share of attention from the press, this month internal affairs receive by far the major part. Probably the interest aroused by the conflicting opinions on Labor's correct political action and the number of union conventions account for this change.

The Industrial Struggle

In its reports upon the industrial struggle Labor looks before and after. The commemoration of some of Labor's big battles is reported with the continuation of long standing conflicts. Labor's record is indeed a chain whose links are still in the forge.

While the West Virginia miners go on trial yet once again and the strikers in the Tennessee mines fight injunctions and guards, Colorado miners observed the tenth anniversary of the Ludlow tent massacre in Colorado. The United Mine Workers' Journal reports this solemn commemoration with a historical note on the tragedy. 5,000 miners in Colorado travelled to the spot of the disaster (now marked by a monument erected by the miners) on April 20, and recalled the events and victims of that fateful day in 1914. It was as a result of this strike that the Rockefeller launched their "company union plan," which has since played a prominent role in the anti-union campaign.

The Typographical Journal also looks back to turbulent days of its union's history. Three years after the union launched its strike for the 44-hour week. That question had been agitated by the commercial job printers for many months before May 1, 1921, and the split policy between the International and the Big Six in New York on that question constitutes one of the causes of the vacation movement of 1919. Thus for April 20, the union has spent \$15,735,011.84 on the strike and is still carrying 1,310 men on its strike rolls.

The current Labor conflict finds Labor engaged as usual on all the fields of conflict: industry, Congress, court. The various struggles now engaging union receive prominent mention in the press.

As Others See the I. L. G. W. U. Labor Age devotes the bulk of its May issue to a study of the clothing industry. Its leading article de-

scribes the work and history of our Union. Special discussion is given in this article to our now well-known "ten demands" upon the jobbers. The significance of these demands as a method of regularizing the industry and saving our workers' jobs is set forth. The manner in which we are now writing history and making the future is becoming generally recognized.

The New Majority reports the progress of our strike in Chicago with the cheering news of "one more shop signed up and the prospects of an imminent victory." Our convention has just expressed its gratitude to the Chicago Federation of Labor. The Committee of Fifteen and the various union leaders of Chicago who have striven so mightily and so well to aid our embattled Chicago members.

And Others

The Bakers' Journal has been able this month to give its friends some cheering news. With the miners, packers, and steel workers, the bakers have long stood as the shock troops of Labor's forces. We are apt to slight the important role they are playing in their battle against the Ward Interests and the Bread Trust; and for that reason your reviewer has consistently sought to hold their brave fight before our members. For surely bread, as well as coal and meat and steel, is a key product. The men who make it, make a people's staple! As long as "bread remains non-union," unionism has an important fight to wage. Therefore while we rejoice with the bakers in the successful renewal of so many of their wage agreements, we must remember that they still have to tell us: *All Ward Products One Hundred Percent Unfair to Union Labor.*

The Postal Clerk appeared before President Coolidge's veto of the Kelly Bill. Consequently we cannot say yet what the mail-men plan to do next. The May Postal Clerk devotes itself to pushing further labor bills now before Congress (e. g. the bill on retirements). Well, the Labor movement thus far has risen on its defeats. We have overcome worse obstacles than a Presidential veto and a bill that sought to increase Government employees' wages without providing reward. Surely, the mail-men will fight on.

The dangerous competition from prison workers has already been considered by a committee specially appointed by President Gompers to devise means for meeting it. The series of disclosures now running in the American Vanguard on this subject of prison work are thus both timely and significant. It is a dangerous condition they reveal.

The Government Strikebreaker Again

And even more terrible is the condition revealed in California. Organized Labor publishes a "scoop" in a lengthy, detailed report on the Government's cooperation in union-busting. According to the disclosures just being made, the United States Shipping Board contributed in 1919 to the strike-breaking fund of the Water-front Employers' Association \$175,000 of public money. This contribution was made "with the full knowledge of the Government" . . . to "combat the Riggers' and Stevedores'

Union" and in "a combined fight on organized Labor." The Department of Justice is said to be preparing prosecution of all guilty parties.

Internal Affairs

Turbulent as these activities of the unions on the industrial front appear, the internal currents of union affairs moved equally swiftly this month. Among the many interests stirring within the unions three stand forth both through the frequency of their mention and the prominence given them. Labor's political attitude, workers' education and convention business are the major interests of this month's "inside activity."

The movement for independent political action stirring in the unions for some years seems to have reached a serious crisis. With the advent of a Presidential election, Labor seems now sadly split on this question. The amount of space devoted by the press to the whole question indicates the position it holds in Labor's consciousness.

Labor and Politics

The situation is indeed sadly complicated. The Federated Farmer-Labor party now dominated by the Workers' party has scheduled its next conference for June 11 at St. Paul. It is generally recognized that the communists will control its deliberations. The Conference for Progressive Political Action, on the other hand, is planning to meet on July 4. It is expected to declare against independent political action, and place itself behind the now probable La Follette candidacy. While the communists also stand ready to support La Follette as a matter of tactics, they are strongly in favor of the formation of an independent Labor party.

The Farmer-Labor party, again, whose machinery has been captured by the Workers' party and is now much weakened, has definitely refused to hold a convention or to participate in that called either by the Federated Farmer-Labor party or the Conference for Progressive Political Action. And the American Federation of Labor, finally, has reiterated its "non-partisan" policy with the publication of its campaign platform containing "labor's twelve demands." Prominent among these demands are unrestricted freedom of action for unions, curbing the use of the injunction, repeal of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act, a child labor amendment, and acceptance of the League of Nations.

A canvass of just a few of the Labor journals will show how widely Labor is split on this question. Practically none of the majority unions supports the Federated Farmer-Labor party. The Railway Clerk declares definitely against the forthcoming St. Paul Conference, as does the Railroad Trainman, the American Federation of Labor, News Service, Labor, and others. The American Federation of Labor has sent an appeal for campaign contributions to all its constituent bodies. This appeal is already republished by the American Fleet. The New Majority notes the withdrawal of the Farmer-Labor party from the campaign and the important decision of the Chicago Federation of Labor to return to the non-partisan policy of the American Federation of Labor, at least for the present campaign. The Order of Railroad Telegraphers at their recent convention, as reported in Labor, declared against the St. Paul conference and for the C. P. P. A. Both Labor Age and the Locomotive Engineers' Journal present helpful summaries of this situation and the state of labor opinion on it.

Workers' Education

While this dispute on how to meet the capture and use of state power by the employing group rages, workers' education continues steadily on its upward march in the American Labor movement. And after all, education must play a most important role

in all union activity, whether political or industrial, external or internal. It may well be, therefore, that this steadily increasing influence of workers' education is a promise for the future. Almost every convention of the many that have just been held gave some time to the subject; many journals present regular reports upon it.

The Railway Clerk reports the gratifying action taken by a Cincinnati lodge in taking up the recommendation on education made by the Portland Convention of the American Federation of Labor. This union is forming an education committee with which the Workers' Education Bureau will cooperate in arranging studies for its members. The American Federation of Teachers Semi-Monthly Bulletin contains full reports upon the now completed third year of Brookwood, the new summer Brookwood Labor Institute, and its programs, the recommendations of the American Federation of Labor for local participation in the workers' education movement, and the progress of the same movement in Australia. The New Majority reports the termination of a successful year in the local Labor college. Organized Labor discusses the proposed plan for cooperation between a university (University of California Extension) and the local unions in workers' education. This is the first instance of such cooperation in the country. The International Molders' Magazine reprints a review written by John R. Commons of the "Control of Wages," Volume II of the Workers' Bookshelf. Labor Age contains among other education notes a glowing review of recently issued Workers' Education Year Book. A series of lectures on economics by Professor Congrove is appearing in the Bridgemen's Magazine. And the Locomotive Engineers' Journal devotes a page to a report on Manusmit, a new school for workers' children, while the American Vanguard gives a page to Commonwealth. And so on. When so many varieties of unions are showing such interests in workers' education we feel justified in feeling that it has now obtained a permanent place in union thought and action.

The Conventions—And Last Words

So many conventions have been held this month and so many important things have been done and determined upon, that it seems best not to attempt a summary of them in the short space that remains. We shall give a good share of next month's digest to this matter, which by that time can be discussed on the basis of full reports.

Thus also, the world, must once more be crowded off this page. True, the world held secondary place in Labor's mind during this busy month of May, but some important matters were discussed. The Locomotive Engineers' Journal, for instance, gives its issue to the momentous problem of Oil, corrupter of Governments and producer of new wars. The American Federationist urges in its leading article America's acceptance of the Versailles Treaty and the League of Nations. And the other journals divide the space they grant world affairs largely among immigration, child labor, and Muscle Shoals.

And thus June is upon us with promise of a continuing "busy time."

BUY

WHITE LILY TEA
COLUMBIA TEA
ZWETOCHNI CHAI

Exclusively



LABOR THE WORLD OVER

DOMESTIC ITEMS

BIG PROFITS IN BREAD.

This year's profits of the General Baking Company will exceed those of 1923, when the net gains totaled \$5,529,559. This company is the largest maker of bread in the United States. Besides large profits it has declared two stock dividends since 1921.

CIGARMAKERS EXTEND THEIR JURISDICTION.

The Cigarmakers' International Union has thrown aside all former restrictions and admits to membership every person working in that industry. The union's committee on organization has issued an appeal to unorganized men and women workers.

"Under the present laws all wage earners in the cigar and tobacco industry, regardless of how employed, are eligible to membership," the unionists say. "The bunch breaker, the roller, those employed on bunch breaking machines and the automatic machine, team workers, hand workers, mold workers; in fact, all wage earners, regardless of how employed in or about the cigar factory, are eligible to membership."

"Women can and should be organized in the cigar industry," it is stated. "Once organized they would make good trade unionists. Women have a fine sense of fairness and justice. Organize them, and they will prove this statement. Women have determination, courage, and willingness to assume their place in their effort to improve working conditions of all wage earners."

"PITTSBURG PLUS" IS AGAIN OPPOSED.

Recommendation that the "Pittsburg plus" plan of fixing the price of steel be abolished was made to the Federal Trade Commission in a brief filed by the commission's attorneys. The commission had previously opposed "Pittsburg plus," and the attorneys sustain every charge made in the commission's complaint.

This system makes it possible for the steel trust to keep its Pittsburg mills on the same basis as mills nearer the raw material by forcing independent mills to add to their charge the freight cost of their product from Pittsburg.

"The trial of this case has served to reveal the inner workings and devastating effects of the 'Pittsburg plus' system," the brief says.

"The limelight on the facts is having its inevitable effect, as it did in the case of, first, the pools; second, the price-fixing trade meetings, and, third, the Garry dinners. All of these succumbed, and we now hope for a speedy exit of 'Pittsburg plus' to the land of its predecessors."

CONVICTS ARE GOUGED.

In an address to the Baltimore Federation of Labor, a former inmate of the State Penitentiary said that contractors pay the State \$1 a day for each prisoner. The convict is paid twenty-five cents per day if he completes his allotted task. Pants made in the prison have a number stamped under the pocket flap, and these, together with shirts, shoes, and hollow ware, are made in great quantities. The speaker denounced the graft system that robs prison inmates of small amounts of money they happen to have. He urged unionists to assist in changing antiquated methods of handling criminals in courts and other institutions and advised a more humane method of taking care of lesser offenders, especially youthful violators of the law.

LESS INCOME TAXES.

The tax bill agreed to by the House and Senate, as a substitute for the Mellon bill, calls for a 25 per cent reduction of 1923 taxes, payable in 1924. Other provisions of the bill do not apply until next year. The normal income tax rate will be 2 per cent on net incomes up to \$4,000. Present rates are 4 per cent on incomes of \$4,000. The exemptions are the same.

The tax on auto parts and tires is cut from 5 per cent to 2½ per cent. Various miscellaneous and nuisance taxes are repealed as is the tax on candies and beverages. The tax on admission above fifty cents is repealed. Publicity of income taxes, in a modified form, is provided.

AUTO PLATES PRISON MADE.

The Iowa State Board of Control is arranging to employ convicts in the manufacture of auto plates. Other convicts will manufacture State-use commodities. These are changes from the contract-labor system.

PROFIT IN FIVE AND TEN'S.

With the death of the wife of the late F. W. Woolworth, founder of a chain of 5-and-10-cent stores, financial circles are discussing the income of the late Mrs. Woolworth, who was physically and mentally disabled for several years.

When Woolworth died, five years ago, his income from Woolworth common stock amounted to \$1,080,000 a year. This did not include his income from other investments. Since 1919 a 30 per cent stock dividend was issued, and the total Woolworth holdings will amount to about \$27,000,000. It is estimated that the income will now total \$2,100,000.

This chain of stores is conducted along the usual 5-and-10 plan—employment of young girls at low wages, and trade unionism not tolerated.

COMPANY "UNION" ENDS.

Officers in charge of the Detroit municipal street car system announce that the company "union" election has been postponed indefinitely. Union street car men forced the management into court, where Judge Richter intimated that the city charter compels arbitration with the street car employees. The court advised both sides to mediate, and the company accepted the hint.

FOREIGN ITEMS

INDIA

LABOR CONDITIONS.

Labor conditions in India were the subject of a debate in the British parliament on May 14. A Labor member brought in a motion to the effect that conditions and wages of labor in India are so serious as to call for the representation of the workers and peasants of India both in the Assembly and in the various Legislative Councils. He stated that the fatal accident rate in Indian mines is fourteen for every million tons raised, compared with 5.10 per million tons in Great Britain. This showed the shocking conditions under which men, women and even children under twelve years of age work in the Indian mines.

GERMANY

CRITICAL DAYS FOR MINERS.

The German miners are now engaged in an obstinate struggle against the undefined lengthening of their working hours. The mine-owners have locked out the workers because the latter refuse to accept an agreement providing for a lengthened working day without additional pay. At a conference held on May 17, the four miners' unions passed a resolution reiterating their willingness to accept longer hours, providing that extra pay is guaranteed, while for surface workers the eight-hour day must still be maintained.

PALESTINE

DECREASE OF UNEMPLOYMENT.

Tobacco-planting has made such strides in Palestine that it is rapidly absorbing the unemployed. The Government has consequently simplified the formalities for the immigration of Jewish workers. A large influx of Polish and Russian workers is expected within the next few months.

THE LABOR BANK.

The Labor Bank founded with the aid of the organized workers of Palestine has recently published its first report. The bank was extremely successful in 1923.

GREAT BRITAIN

AMALGAMATION IN THE TRADE UNIONS.

On July 1 three unions will amalgamate, namely, the National Amalgamated Union of Laborers, Municipal Employees and the National Union of General Workers: the resulting union will contain more than 400,000 members.

Negotiations for amalgamation are making good progress in other groups, such as the moulder and iron founders (with the Amalgamated Engineering Union); bricklayers, plasterers and joiners; and the woollen textile groups, etc.

This tendency is increased by the energetic efforts of the General Council of the Trades Union Congress.

AN IMPORTANT TRADE UNION TEST CASE.

The coal tipplers and trimmers of Leith ceased work on March 20 over the appointment of certain charge hands. Within a week the employers had engaged twenty-one new workers, promising them permanent employment. Agreement has now been reached, and an offer was made to the twenty-one new hands to buy them out; but they have refused the offer, the result being a deadlock. The Minister of Labor has appointed a Court of Inquiry; the results of this inquiry will set a very important precedent in regard to the vitally important question of blackleg labor in industrial disputes.

AUSTRALIA

STATISTICS ON TRADE UNIONISM.

The Australian Federal Bureau of Statistics shows that, out of 1,291,303 workers in Australia of twenty years of age and over, 705,958 are trade unionists. Of 1,041,915 male workers, 616,886 (59.2 per cent) and of 248,388 women workers, 86,052 (34.5 per cent) are trade unionists. There are 387 unions affiliated with twenty-seven central Labor organizations.

MUST PUBLISH GIFTS.

In a Senate amendment to the postal salaries bill all contributions in behalf of any candidate for Congress or for any other Government office, must be made public every ten days. At the end of the campaign a complete financial report must be made.

The practice of shaking down postmasters and others holding Government positions for political contributions is prohibited. It was stated that the amendment is intended to prevent scandals such as marked the 1920 campaign.

MACHINISTS RAISE WAGES.

After long negotiations, organized machinists of Chicago have increased wages two cents an hour. The agreement provides that new men shall be employed through the union office, rather than through employment offices.

BAKERS RECORD GAINS.

Substantial gains in agreements made this year are reported by officers of the Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union. These agreements represent every section of the country. Wage increases range from \$2 to \$5 a week.



EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES

Report of Committee on Young People's Trade Union Education

(Adopted at the Convention of the I. L. G. W. U., Boston, May, 1924.)

It was the good fortune of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union to be the pioneer of adult workers' education within the trade unions that is now supported by the entire Labor movement. It therefore behooves us at the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of our organization to initiate another movement of equal importance and that is the education of the children of our members. We hope that this will become an important factor within the trade union movement.

Your committee has carefully considered the problem of the education of the children of our members. After much deliberation it prepared the following report:

The children of workers today are being brought up amid influences that tend to perpetuate the present social order. The grave defects of the existing system—the defects that produce wars, poverty, misery, crime and injustice are not brought before the consciousness of the young in such a way as to produce in them a strong determination to eradicate them.

In many cases we find that the children of the workers do not understand the economic and personal problems of their fathers and mothers, do not sympathize with their aims and aspirations, and do not appreciate the value and importance of their trade unions and their efforts in the economic field. In fact, they are frequently influenced to oppose the social and economic interests of their parents.

The Trade Union Movement aims to eliminate the monstrous injustices and inequalities of today and to transform society on a basis of justice and happiness for all.

The children of today are the citizens of the future. It is upon their understanding of social and Labor problems that the realization of our dreams of a beautiful future based upon justice, friendship and cooperative efforts depends. It should, therefore, be the duty of the trade unions to provide such activities for the education of the workers' children as will help to create in our children a clear understanding of our aims, a deep sympathy for them, an understanding of the social forces which operate in social evolution and which will make them healthy, clear thinking, well rounded individuals, each a force for social betterment.

But we also realize that the most important factor in the development of a child is the mother. Her influence is paramount in directing the child's mind and interests along the proper lines. She moulds the future citizen. But her influence extends still further. In the economic struggles of the husband, it is the wife who helps him in his efforts. Strikes are won at home as well as on the picket line. Woman's vote is also an important factor in deciding on political and social issues.

We, therefore, recommend:

1. That the incoming General Executive Board be instructed to take steps to provide such activities for the wives of the members of the I. L. G. W. U. as will help them train their children in the best interests of workers and of society as a whole.

2. That social activities be organized by the Education Department in

which they can meet and get to know each other, thus creating greater solidarity among them.

3. That activities be organized for the wives and children of our members which will keep them in touch with the methods of our Union in particular and the Labor movement in general and will provide means for them to cooperate with activities of the I. L. G. W. U.

4. We propose that an effort be made to assist the children of our members to spend the summer vacation in camps in surroundings and an atmosphere that will tend to liberate their minds from dogma and fear, develop the critical and creative faculties and give them a thorough knowledge of conditions of life.

5. That our Union participate in any movement which will set for itself similar aims and goals.

6. That to assist in the achievement of these aims, our Union continue in its efforts to eliminate the curse of child labor in our country, and to use its best efforts to raise the age limit for compulsory education and the minimum age of child workers.

Your committee has received the following resolutions:

Resolution No. 126

Introduced by thirteen delegates from seven locals.

WHEREAS, the purpose of the National Council of Child Development, an association of Labor men and women, educators and parents, is to create an organization for the children and youth that will help them to develop a greater degree of self-dependence, acquaint them with the social and economic problems that face mankind and prepare them for the intelligent participation in the work of bettering society, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Seventeenth Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union assembled in Boston requests the incoming General Executive Board to cooperate with the National Council for Child Development in making their efforts a success.

Your Committee endorses this Resolution and hopes that the General Executive Board will carry out the spirit of this Resolution and will be effective in developing the National Council of Child Development.

Your Committee further commends our President and General Secretary, Treasurer and some of our vice-presidents, who through their cooperation, were influential in organizing the National Council of Child Development.

Resolution No. 80

Introduced by Local 35.

WHEREAS, the progress of humanity depends greatly upon the mental, intellectual and physical development of the younger generation, and

WHEREAS, our present elementary education through great service to the civilization and progress of our country, became somewhat mechanical in its methods and one-sided in its spirit, and

WHEREAS, the wealthy classes if disatisfied with the educational methods prevailing in our elementary schools are bringing up their children in private institutions, having the material means for it, the children of our workers are compelled to attend the existing public schools, where they are being brought up in a spirit which is contrary to the aims and aspirations of organized Labor, and

WHEREAS, the I. L. G. W. U. has

A Course in Trade Union Policies and Tactics

By DAVID J. SAPOSS

Given at the
WORKERS' UNIVERSITY
of the

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION
Seasons 1922-23 and 1923-24

LESSON 6—Continued.

- II. 1. The first unions in this country were formed on craft lines by handicraftsmen.
2. With the introduction of machinery and division of labor, culminating in the modern factory, the efficacy of craft unionism began to be questioned. Nearly all unions widened their jurisdiction and admitted to membership semi-skilled workers. A few admitted the unskilled.
- III. 1. Much confusion prevailed over form and structure up to the formation of the American Federation of Labor. Previous thereto, craft, industrial and "One Big Union" forms operated side by side.
2. This confusion reached its height in the Knights of Labor, a conglomerate body including organizations of all the discontented whether they were merchants, farmers or workers.
3. Soon two ideas crystallized as to form and structure: One element believed that all members irrespective of craft, trade or calling belong to the same union, and that their affairs should be subjected to the control of the central organization. The other element favored segregation on craft and trade lines, with trade autonomy for each unit. This group consisted largely of wage workers.
- IV. 1. Because the "One Big Union" element prevailed, the trade union element withdrew and joined the American Federation of Labor. Structurally, this organization believes in international craft or trade unions, with exclusive control over all workers of the trade or craft, and with complete autonomy over their internal affairs.
2. With a few exceptions the prevailing union type at present is the trade rather than the craft union. This was brought about by amalgamations and paralleled the development of large-scale production.

established an Educational Department to carry on educational work among its members, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the Seventeenth Biennial Convention assembled in Boston recognize the urgent necessity of having introduced a proper method of education for the children of the workers, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the incoming General Executive Board make a study in the field of child's education of having installed our own elementary schools for our children, and bring in a definite report to the next convention.

Your committee recommends the adoption of the resolution except the second Resolved, which should read—that our delegates to the American Federation of Labor convention stand instructed to introduce resolutions and work for their enactment to the effect that the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, in accordance with the report of the American Federation of Labor Committee on Education on Social Studies in the Public Schools submitted to the Portland Convention in 1923, exert every effort to the end that, to the studies in our elementary public schools should be added social and labor problems that will acquaint the children of the workers with the times, aspirations, trials and tribulations of the Trade Union Movement.

Although your Committee, in sympathy with the second Resolved, believes that the education of the children involves such an immense expenditure that this can be done only by the communities as a whole, we should use every effort to make the studies in our public schools to serve the best interest of society as a whole and not privileged groups.

In connection with this Resolution, our Committee wishes to express its appreciation of the study made by the Committee on Education appointed by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor. This highly educational report appears in a pamphlet—"Labor and Education"—which was submitted to the Portland Convention of the American Federation of Labor.

From this report we are quoting the following:

"The American Labor movement does not wish public education to be influenced by partisan bodies of any kind. The persons most competent to judge in detail what should be taught are those who are themselves engaged in the educational profession."

"The best protection, however, will come from the professional independence and adequate information of the teachers themselves. When teachers are adequately paid, well informed as to current problems, and able through the power of organization to resist improper influence, the schools will be safe. The growth of the American Federation of Teachers is therefore the best means of public defense, since this organization is consistently and effectively working towards these objects for the rank and file of the teaching profession."

We fullyheartedly approve of this statement.

FANNIA M. COHN, Chairman.
JOSEPH SHAPIRO, Secretary.

B. Relaner, Abe Korman, H. Saltzberg, Wm. Cohan, Fannie Luchefsky, Phillip Starkoff, Max Weprinaky, G. Schuchman, C. Nizza, Jennie Firstmeyer, Morris Biell, Wolf Weiner, H. Rosenwasser, J. Bernstein, Joe London, J. Cabiat, Peter Li Causi, Louis Galinsky, Louis Maggio.

РУССКО-ПОЛЬСКИЙ ОТДЕЛ

ЗА ЧТО МЫ БОРЕМСЯ?

Наши требования к хозяевам изданы в нескольких видах в определенных в свое время опубликованных и дебатированных пунктах. Все здравомыслящие и непредубежденные и знакомые с положением рабочих в нашей индустрии, люди соглашались что требования наши являют с собою скромными по сравнению с колоссальностью промышленности и прибылями хозяев и что они вызваны абсолютной необходимостью, и что проведение их в практическую действительность принесет бесспорную пользу не только рабочим но и индустрии в целом.

Особенно важным для нас является по немедленным результатам два нижеследующих пункта 1) Требование, чтобы елкабэры ограничили число своих конструкторов, до количества действительно потребо к им для их годового производства, которых они будут в состоянии свабднить работой в течении 38 — 40 недель в году 2) Требование

гарантировать определенное число рабочих в году (38—40).

Оба эти требования вытекли и на правлены против ненормального по ложения в промышленности являющегося в налягии, возможно, что уменьшение созданного хозяйства огромного количества махих мастеров, благодаря каковому положению, в последнее время какажд елкабэра работы начал гавдаться елкабэрами чуть ли не с публичных торгов Нуаралло, что такого рода мастерская, хозяин которой сам не знает, что он будет делать завтра, не может дать, своим рабочим более или менее верного заработка в сезоне.

Таким образом 1-ое требование конюна направлено главным образом к уничтожению альных мастеровских существующих как видно только для создания конкуренции между конструкторами. Пункт второй, что я прямо требует, только гарантии 38—40 недель работы в году, косвенно же тоже направлено против

этих потогонки: мастерская, так как или вообще 31-ую, что если хозяин должен будет гарантировать 38—40 рабочих недель в своей мастерской или в мастерской своего конструктора куда он дает работу, он уж одним-ким будет лишен первой возможности разбрасывать свою работу по разным мастерским и таким образом мастерская не имеющая возможности опровергнуть число недель автоматически являющаяся всякой поддержке и должна будет прекратить свое существование само собой. Лешнее будет упомянуть что с уничтожением таких мастеровских будет в большой степени уничтожен и быт конюного рабочего — сдаться на работу, каковая не может с успехом практиковаться в большой мастерской с постоянным штудом рабочих, а в большинстве случаев практикуется в каких-мастерских с транзитным тшлом рабочих, которых делают «скинэ» по так называемым елкабэрам.

ЛЭБЕЛ

Одной из целей широких и заслуживающих внимания и поддержки мер рекомендованных Генеральным Исполнительным Комитетом и принятых прошлой конвенцией нашего конюна — является мера введения в промышленность значка (лэбел). За сохранение остальных ответственных до хозяев предприятий и учреждений мы должны безостановочно бороться с теми по той простой причине, что публика очень мало интересуется нашим договором с хозяевами и очень часто даже враждебно настроена к нам благодаря пропаганде хозяев, что дескать, конюна увеличивает цены на одежду. Совершенно иначе будет обстоять дело с конюным значком, так как в данном случае мы предлагаем публике за ее кооперацию, — первокалассную чистую работу сделанную при санитарных условиях, если нам удастся провести эту реформу в жизнь, то есть включить этот пункт в следующий договор с хозяевами, а главное сумеет показать покупателю публике, что в ее интересах является требовать о-джды изготовленную в конюных мастерских при здоровых и человеческих условиях труда. Если нам этого удастся достигнуть, то большая часть затратных этих те-

перь, трудов и средств на контроль мастерских отдадут само оно себе, потому что требования покупателя публики заставят хозяина пользоваться только конюным трудом.

Для пропаганды этой идеи среди широкой публики и была сделана асс: новка денег подешой конвенцией, каковая сумма денег, несмотря на свою значительность возмещается с рабочим сторией если наши политики в этом направлении увеличат хотя бы частичным успехом. Перспективы выгода этой реформы настолько заманчивы, что несмотря на трудности материальные, оно заслуживает того, чтобы были изисрешены все возможные средства для проведения в жизнь этой — в высокой степени важной для рабочих в нашей индустрии меры.

В ОТЕДЕ.

На состоявшемся в понедельник 9 июня деловом собрании РГО клубу мейкверс в порядке дня были прочтены и приняты протоколы собрания Испол. Ком. Р. П. О. от 19 мая и 5 июня и протокол массового собрания всех членов русско-польского отдела от 26 мая. Также: были прочтены и приняты: протоколы Борды директоров от 16 апреля, и 21 мая, протоколы Лэбел Борды от 23 мая и 30 апреля и протокол собрания менеджеров всех лэбелов от 22 мая, с выработанным планом ведения лэбелом в индустрии лэбелом.

Также был выслушан доклад конюны в И. Л. Интернационала для поддержки просьбы нашего отдела о русско-польском лэбеле. Мыслью докладчика, что «лэбел» сам по себе не требует своей лэбелом были выслушаны Генеральным Исполнительным Комитетом и решением исполнительным комитетом Интернационала будет назначена специальная комиссия для расследования этого вопроса и выяснения к-м путем можно будет уладить создающиеся положения.

Выслушав этот доклад, собрание решило отложить решение этого вопроса до более определенного выяснения плана Генерального Исполнительного Комитета Интернационала.

Секр.

Шенченко.

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The Right and Wrong Way to Help Farmers

By NORMAN THOMAS

No thoughtful and humane city dweller can deny the plight of the wheat growers. A continuance of bankruptcy and suffering among them will be a national calamity. The conservative remedy of diversification of crops would probably mean in practice only an overproduction of milk instead of wheat.

Yet really there is no overproduction of wheat but only an underconsumption or an inability to exchange wheat at a fair ratio for other goods in this economic bedlam of our competitive world. Pending the slow task of economic reconstruction on a basis of production for use rather than profit some help must be given to the farmer.

The Sinclair-Norris bill proposes to give it at the expense of the swollen tribe of middlemen rather than the consumer. The Haugen-McNary bill proposes to give it at the expense of the American consumer and of the farmers themselves! Both propose a government controlled corporation to buy and sell at prices which will restore the farmer to something like his pre-war position. The Sinclair-Norris bill directs that this machinery may cut into middlemen's profits which, according to some experts, are now the larger part of our food prices. The Haugen-McNary bill gives no such direction. It would

have the government corporation sell abroad the surplus, let us say of wheat, for what it can get, having first bought wheat at the pre-war ratio. The loss on foreign sales would be apportioned among all wheat growers by "equalization certificates." According to advocates of the bill the price of wheat would be raised to about \$1.50 per bushel—the pre-war ratio. The loss on the wheat sold at the world market price and the operating expenses of the corporation would approximate 20 cents a bushel apportioned to each farmer. He would thus still be less well off than before the war.

Meanwhile the middlemen who would bear no part of this "equalization" burden would be on easy street. It would be the story of colt over again. Elevator men, speculators, millers, bakers would raise their prices—not merely enough to cover the increased price of wheat at the farm but all that the traffic would bear, using the increase in the price of wheat as an excuse. And the poor ultimate consumer would pay it all and, if some of our clever politicians have their way, take it out in cursing the farmer. Thus will any farmer-labor alliance be frustrated. It is an elaborate scheme but it won't work. We prefer the simpler, more honest Sinclair-Norris plan.

The Week In Local 10

By SAM B. SHENKER

In spite of the fact that no announcement was issued with respect to any definite decision regarding a strike in the cloak industry, the members again filled the large meeting room of Arlington Hall to overcapacity last Monday night for the purpose of hearing Manager Dubinsky's views on the situation. In addition, the men were pleasantly surprised when Israel Feinberg, manager of the Cloak, Suit and Dress Joint Board, appeared unexpectedly and unannounced, and spoke at length to the men on the progress of the conferences and the status of the impending struggle. Aside from Brother Dubinsky, no one expected the manager of the Joint Board to talk to the men at their meeting, but that the surprise was a decidedly welcome one was evinced by the manner in which his address was received and the rousing applause that greeted it.

The applause was especially warm when Feinberg, in clear and ringing terms, said that the Union is tired of gabfests and has informed the jobbers that it expects a definite reply on its demands by the latter part of this week.

Situation Defined

The manager of the Joint Board said that, as the conferences progressed, the element of uncertainty was gradually diminishing and that in a very short time the situation would clarify itself. He said that, even if an agreement should be reached with the jobbers, a strike is inevitable on a smaller scale. He explained this by saying that, while the jobbers are the important factor in the cloak industry, nevertheless, the situation in the industry is such that certain very serious ills cannot be eradicated without a strike against at least some portion of the two thousand shops.

Speaking on the position of the Union towards the Protective Association, Brother Feinberg said that the Union is biding its time with this organization in the present conferences. This organization, he said, no longer appears in the important role which it held at one time. Not long ago the members of the Protective Association employed practically 60 per cent of the cloakmakers. Recently, however, and particularly since the domination by the jobbers of the cloak industry, the former association has employed but 6,000 of the 45,000 cloakmakers.

As the jobbers grow, the Protective Association in the same proportion fell in importance, until today this Association is a negligible quantity. Feinberg told of a humorous incident in this connection. During one of his visits to the office of the Protective Association, he encountered an employer who was preferring charges against one of his workers on the ground that he was "soldiering on the job." This employer was asked how many workers he employed, and in reply said that one worker was good, another was fair, and the third was "soldiering." The Union subsequently found out that, of the three workers in that particular shop, two were partners and against the third charges had been preferred. And this man, the manager of the Joint Board said, was a member of the Protective Association.

Agreements Must Be Binding

The speaker said that the last agreement with the jobbers was not sufficiently binding to permit of the proper control of the industry. They obligated themselves to send their work to shops operating under union conditions. However, when the jobber assumed the role of an employer and began sending piece goods and styles to a contractor, who virtually became the foreman, the Union de-

cided that such clauses would have to be embodied in the new agreement as would guarantee the existence of union conditions.

Brother Feinberg said that the Union, in presenting its present demands, is interested, in addition to defending the welfare of the workers and improving their conditions, in saving the cloak industry from complete destruction. In the course of its conferences, the Union told the representatives of the employers that it is an industry out of which they secure no small profit. It is an industry that has seen \$675,000,000 worth of business done. And, the head of the Cloakmakers' Union implied, were the Union's conditions granted, no serious inroad would be made into this vast sum. In fact, with the institution of the Union's demands, waste would be eliminated.

Praises Cutters

In emphasizing to the cutters the importance of the Union's demands, the representative of the cloakmakers said that he knew he was addressing a majority of old-time members of the local and that they have heard often enough the phrase that "this is the most important strike." To drive home the full meaning and the wisdom of this phrase in the present instance, he said that, "unless our Union in the next few years, starting now, sets out to eradicate elements most poisonous in our industry, we will be doomed. There are nearly 50,000 workers in the cloak and suit industry in New York City. One thousand shops will hold an average of fifty workers to a shop, which would be a normal condition in the industry. As it is today we have more than 2,000 shops, and the waste and chaos which result are abominable."

Feinberg concluded by saying that the task before the Union at the present time is tremendous. "Now more than ever, each and every one's loyalty and each and every one's devotion is needed. Differences must be wiped out so that we can present a solid front in the coming struggle. I have no doubt that the cutters will acquire themselves admirably and that to you will be due a large measure of credit when we succeed, as we no doubt will, in establishing order in the industry. I know that you members of Local 10 can be depended upon in this respect—you have been one of the most important elements in our International Union."

Preparations For Strike Complete

In his report Manager Dubinsky stated that preparations by both the Joint Board and Local 10 are complete in the event that the strike is called. He said that the referendum vote, which took place last Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, resulted in favor of calling a strike by a vote of 31,000 against a little over 400.

The manager reported to the members that the special committee, consisting of Brothers Perlmutter, Jacobs, Zaslowsky, Wagner and Evry, together with himself, had arranged the necessary details for the care of the cutters' end of the strike. Arlington Hall has been secured as the headquarters. Samuel Perlmutter was appointed chairman of the hall; Philip Ansel, secretary, and Meyer Skluth, treasurer.

As was reported, in these columns last week, the dress and miscellaneous members of the Executive Board were replaced by cloak men, owing to the fact that the former will not be available for the strike.

The regular Executive Board members who will serve on the General Strike Committee, together with the substitutes, are the following: Samuel Kerr, Harry Zaslowsky, Maurice

Jacobs, Louis Forer, Meyer Skluth, Milton Olvin, Benjamin Evry, Henry Robbins, Nathan Spierstein, Ignatz Fischner, Morris Gold, Jacob Kopa, Morris Krulewitz and Harry Leibowitz. The local will have its own strike committee, which is to deal with problems directly affecting the striking cutters. This committee will be composed of the original five members of the Board. It will, during the course of the strike, hold meetings and will deal with special cases.

According to the report of Manager Dubinsky, the jobbers had discussed in detail the demands of the Union. However, so far there seems little likelihood of the jobbers accepting the demands through conferences. Some counter-suggestions were made by them but these in no way met with the spirit of the Union's program.

For the limitation of contractors, the jobbers proposed some means of arbitration, a sort of machinery for coping with the problem which makes for the growth of the large number of contractors. This, however, seems hardly to serve the purpose for the limitation of the contractors. It is vague and loose and will not be very binding on the jobbers.

At the time of writing the situation was still uncertain. The Union expects to receive a definite reply by the end of the week. In the meantime the members should be ready for any call to meetings and they must keep themselves in touch with the office as well.

Another Spring Cleaning

During the course of his report, Manager Dubinsky spoke on the case of the cutters of Gordon V. Lyons. He said that during the past few months the office had successfully unearthed a number of shops, the cutters of which, while posing as active members of the Union, were guilty of serious violations. And the shop mentioned here is of the same type.

For some time the manager suspected that union conditions were being violated by some of the cutters of the Gordon V. Lyons shop. Committees sent by him had seen these men around the shop after regular hours of work. And on Sunday, June 1, two cutters, Edward Schlossberg and William Bernstein were seen coming toward the shop in the morning. Bernstein ran away while Schlossberg faced the committee.

On the following day the firm called up Manager Dubinsky and wanted to know the reason why Schlossberg had been apprehended by the committee. The firm said that his coming up had nothing to do with working. The cutter, according to the firm, was negotiating for the purchase of a house, and final arrangements were being made for the purpose of closing the deal. Hence, the reason for the cutter's coming down on Sunday.

When the two cutters, Bernstein included, appeared before the Executive Board, they both denied that

they came down for the purpose of working. Bernstein said that he was not near the shop at all, in spite of the committee's positive assertion that they had met him. Schlossberg gave an altogether different story than that of his employer.

He maintained that as head cutter certain details and records of the cutting department were known to him only, and that the firm had been desirous of doing some estimating on the Sunday in question. Therefore, on the Saturday preceding, according to Schlossberg, the firm had sent him a telegram to report Sunday morning to locate some material necessary for estimating garments.

Manager Dubinsky asked the cutter how he could reconcile the conflicting statements of himself and his employer. The cutter could not reply to this. However, Schlossberg insisted that he could produce the telegram which the firm sent him, and which he said was contained in his union book. He said he had left the book at home and would bring it down on the following Saturday. This he failed to do and he would produce the telegram Monday. And on Monday he said he was compelled to admit that he lost the book together with the telegram.

The members no doubt will form the proper opinion with respect to the guilt of Schlossberg and Bernstein. The Executive Board did not dispose of the case. It was decided that it be postponed. Another interesting violation came to light with regard to Isidore Jodoff who is also employed by the same firm, which case will be reported in next week's issue.

Court Dismisses Old Indictments

(Continued from Page 1)

months ago when the court threw out a similar indictment against President Morris Sigman. Our readers will probably recall that a number of attempts have been made during the last ten years to dismiss these indictments, and that at one time it gave rise to what nearly amounted to a political scandal. It was when Judge Edward Swan was district attorney of New York County and Samuel Markewich was his first assistant. Judge Swan was convinced that these indictments were secured in an improper manner against these Labor men, but a group of reactionary politicians and members of the City Club who were interested in having these indictments hung over the heads of our leaders, raised a cry of favoritism and even threatened to begin impeachment proceedings against Swan.

Today the men are fully vindicated and the ugly charges, the result of bitter warfare conducted against our Union in those early days by unscrupulous employers and their henchmen, are now a matter of the unsavory past.

CUTTERS' UNION, LOCAL 10

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

MISCELLANEOUS MEETING Monday, June 16th
REGULAR MEETING Monday, June 30th

Meetings Begin at 7:30 P. M.

AT ARLINGTON HALL, 23 St. Mark's Place