

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

—Job 27.6

JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT UNION

Vol. VI, No. 34.

New York, Friday, August 22, 1924.

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

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International Introduces Union Label In All Embroidery and Novelty Trades

Sanitary Union Label to Become Effective On September 2—Will Be Under the Supervision of Secretary Baroff—Miscellaneous Trades' District Council Under Management of Vice-president Lefkowitz Active In Completing Label Arrangements

We reported last week in these columns that the Union sanitary label for the Swiss embroidery trade will become effective on September 2.

This week, Vice-president Samuel Lefkowitz, the manager of the Miscellaneous

Bonnas embroidery, all the novelty trades, such as hemstitching, tucking and binding, and in the button making trade. Final arrangements governing the application of the label have been reached with the employ-



aneous Trades District Council of New York, informs us that the Union label will begin to be applied on September 2 not only in the Swiss embroidery line but in every other accessory trade in the city, including

ers' associations in these trades as well as with the individual employers and the Union is now rushing the technical preparations of this plan under the management of Secretary Baroff and Vice-president Lefkowitz.

The Union label, as seen from its reproduction on this page, is of a rectangular oblong shape and designates the — and the shop where each of the articles had been manufactured. The letter A stands for embroidery made in Swiss or Schiffl shops; the letter B signifies that the article was produced in a Bonnas embroidery shop; the letter C designates the novelty trades and D stands for the button trades. In other words, A refers to work done in the shops controlled by Local No. 8; B signifies that the article was manufactured in shops controlled by Local No. 56; C refers to products made in the shops controlled by Local No. 41, while D (Continued on Page 2)

Forest Park Unity House Has A Successful Season

Will Keep Open All September

The Unity House of the Dreamers' Union of New York, at Forest Park, Pa., is rounding out now the best season it has had in the five years of its existence. Throughout the whole summer the house was filled with visitors who went away thoroughly satisfied with the vacation they enjoyed at Forest Park.

Last year, the Unity House was kept open until after Labor Day. This year, the management plans to prolong the season and will keep the House open all through September. There still remain a number of weekends when one can spend a few lovely restful days at our comfortable and spacious Forest Park estate and it is expected that a great many who have tasted the pleasures of Unity during this summer will avail themselves of this chance.

The management would expect those who plan to spend a week-end, or two during September at Unity to register themselves at once at the New York office so as not to be crowded out.

Baltimore Cloak Strike Ending

The forecast made in these columns last week that the Baltimore cloak strike called out on July 23 to enforce new work conditions in the local cloak market would soon end in a victory for the workers, has already practically materialized. As we write these lines, Brother Sol Polakoff, the leader of the strike, informs us that all the Baltimore shops, with the exception of three, are back at work under Union terms and that the fight now limited to these three will probably soon be wound up.

The outcome of this strike can be regarded as a substantial achievement for the organization of the Baltimore cloak makers. It must be kept in mind that Local 4 has found it a difficult problem to control work conditions in the Baltimore market during the last few years. A few Baltimore manufacturers have stubbornly persisted in violating every contract they entered into with their workers and have continually fought the Union. And the workers in Baltimore too have not come up to the best stand-

ards of union membership in the recent past and have given the International Office a good deal of concern.

The coming of Brother Sol Polakoff to Baltimore as International representative and the closer interest which the Out-of-Town Department and Vice-president Halperin have been taking in the Baltimore situation in recent months, have produced a substantial change in local affairs. Polakoff conducted for months a lively organizing campaign, and when the cloak situation in New York at last came to a head last month, the Baltimore organization decided that the time was ripe for a general move to clean out the numerous abuses in the local cloak shops and to make Baltimore a good Union city.

The end of this strike now marks a decided improvement and a big step forward in this direction. Under the terms of the new agreement entered with the employers, the Union obtains for the first time real control over work conditions in the contractor (Continued on Page 11)

Boston Cloakmakers On Strike

The Boston Joint Board of the I. L. G. W. U. has decided to call the workers in the local cloak industry out in a general strike in order to compel the jobbers and the contractors to sign the new agreement modified along the lines of the recommendations of Governor Smith's Committee, and adopted in the New York cloak industry.

As reported in these columns, the Union has made several efforts to settle this matter by negotiation. Last week, Secretary Baroff went to Boston to aid Vice-presidents Seidman and

Monosson to reach an understanding with the Boston cloak employers. His efforts, however, were of no avail.

The full details of the Boston situation and the events leading up to the strike, the readers will find in a special correspondence by Vice-president Seidman on page 3 of this issue. The strike, was called out on Thursday, August 21, and as we go to press, we are in receipt of a message from the Boston headquarters to the effect that the response to the call of the Union was unanimous.

Cloakmakers Called Upon Not To Work Overtime

Other Cloak News of New York

The busy season in the cloak industry of New York has not arrived yet. There is some work in the shops, however, and the workers are divid-

ing it up among themselves as fairly and equally as possible.

According to the terms of the new agreement a number of shops in the trade had to be enlarged and their work staffs increased. The "new" workers are naturally entitled to as much work in these shops as the "old" workers and the chairmen have been instructed to follow out this rule very strictly and without any discrimination.

The cloak makers have also been instructed not to work overtime even in shops where there is plenty to do. Before attempting overtime, every vacant place and machine in the trade must be filled and all available space in the pressing and cutting rooms occupied. There will be no overtime in the trade while any workers without jobs can be found in the streets.

Unions Books and Working Cards Must Be Always on Hand

Brother Israel Feinberg, general manager of the Cloak Joint Board, informs us that the main office of the Cloak Makers' Union is now carrying (Continued on page 2.)

La Follette-Wheeler Labor Conference In New York A Splendid Success

Big Financial Drive Started—All International Locals Attend

The conference of the Labor unions of New York, called by the New York Committee of the National Conference for Progressive Political Action, took place last Wednesday, August 20, at Beethoven Hall, 210 East 54th street, and turned out to be a remarkable success from every point of view. One hundred and thirty Labor unions answered the roll call, representing, at a conservative estimate, 200,000 organized workers in the Greater City. All of the locals of the International in New York were represented by full delegations, including President Sig-

man and Secretary Baroff who represented the General Office.

The meeting was called for the purpose of launching a drive among the organized workers of New York for a La Follette-Wheeler campaign fund to carry on the great educational work for the purpose of the Independent Progressive ticket. Among the trades represented at the conference were garment workers, carpenters, printers, pressmen, tailors, cutters, machinists, seamen, railway clerks, painters, butchers, bakers, furriers, capmakers, pocket book workers, and

many others. Among the central bodies present were the Joint Boards in the various garment and clothing trades and the United Hebrew Trades. The Central Trades and Labor Council of New York was not represented as it was to hold its regular meeting only the next day at which the question of the official endorsement of the La Follette-Wheeler ticket was to be taken up.

Among the speakers at the meeting were Chairman William H. Johnston of the National Conference for Pro-

(Continued on page 2.)

International Introduces Sanitary Label

(Continued from page 1)

indicates that the buttons had been made in shops of Local 132.

The shops are indicated by numbers appearing on the label, each of them designated so as to make identification easy. Thus every piece of Swiss embroidery manufactured in shop No. 23 will have on its label the designation of A-23, and so on.

The method of placing the label on the accessories has been agreed upon, according to Vice-president Lefkowitz as follows: Each piece of Swiss embroidery will have a label attached to both ends, while all medallions produced in Local 6 shops will be bound up in packages of a dozen each and sealed by a label. All Bonnas embroidery pieces will have a label attached at each end, while every piece of tucking, hemstitching, pleating and other novelties will have a label placed on them. In the case of

buttons a die imprint will be placed on the backs of all metal buttons and a stamp impression will be made on all celluloid buttons. Buttons in stock at present in Union shops will be allowed to be used up after they had been packed up in sacks containing a gross each and sealed by Union labels until these stocks are exhausted.

The control of the label, Brother Lefkowitz further explained, will be carried out in the following manner. Every one of the locals will have a label committee which in turn will deal with the shop chairmen who will act as the label custodians. The local will receive from the International office a regular supply of labels which will be given by the Local label committees to the shop label custodians and it will be the duty of the latter to see that the label is properly attached to every piece of goods man-

ufactured in their shops. Each shop custodian will receive from the International a steel box in which these labels will be kept and he will be held responsible for their proper distribution.

The next important thing for the International Office and for the District Council to do in order to enforce rigidly the label in the cloak and dress shops of New York will be to start a wide campaign among the cloak and dress chairmen and shop committee to watch strictly that no other but label stamped accessories be used in their shops. In this they

will, of course, have to have the full cooperation of the Joint Board. Letters will shortly be forwarded to all the shop chairmen in our trades calling upon them to follow out these instructions with the utmost care, and meetings will be called to acquaint them with the proper methods for exercising label control.

Our Union is thus beginning on September 2 an experiment which will undoubtedly benefit immensely the auxiliary trades under the jurisdiction of our International in New York City, will increase union control in the shops, and in the case of the embroidery trades, will serve as an excellent organizing incentive and make possible for them to gain control in the large embroidery trade in the New Jersey cities.

La Follette-Wheeler Labor Conference In New York A Splendid Success

(Continued from page 1)

gressive Political Action, and president of the International Association of Machinists, Morris Hillquit, Herman L. Ekern, attorney general of Wisconsin, and one of Senator La Follette's chief campaigners, Norman Thomas, candidate for Governor of New York on the Independent progressive ticket; Arthur Garfield Hays, city chairman of the La Follette forces; Darwin Meserole, treasurer of the La Follette campaign in New York; and Professor Vladimir Karapoff, dean of the engineering faculty of Cornell University. It was presided over by Abraham Tuvim, in charge of the financial drive among organized labor in New York.

President Johnston made a stirring appeal to the delegates to organize the forces of labor in New York for the success of the Independent Progressive campaign and expressed confidence in the ability of the La Follette-Wheeler ticket sweeping the land provided the producers of America wholeheartedly rally to its support. Morris Hillquit followed in a brilliant talk which was received with enthusiasm by the delegates, after which Jerome De Hunt of the Railway and Steamship Clerks made a motion that the conference instruct the delegates to request their organizations to levy a dollar per member contribution for the La Follette-Wheeler campaign fund. The motion was carried by acclamation, except

that some delegates stated that their organizations have already gone on record for a much greater contribution than a dollar per member. One after another the leaders of the organizations who came to the conference rose and stated on behalf of their bodies the amounts of money already pledged and the sums which some of them contemplated to donate. Before the meeting was over, several thousand dollars, in checks and cash, were heaped on the chairman's table, while the pledges amounted, at a very conservative estimate, to \$100,000.

Among those who announced pledges and contributions were Abraham Baroff, Secretary of the I. L. G. W. U.; Israel Feinberg of the Cloak and Dress Joint Board of New York; Jerome De Hunt of the District Council of the Steamship and Railway Clerks; Joseph Goldstone of the District Council of the Bakers; Philip Zauner of the Painters' District Council; Peter Menat of the Vest Makers' Joint Board; Joseph Sudkow of the Amalgamated Joint Board; Omp Wallinsky of the International Pocket Book Workers' Union; delegates from the Seamen's Council, and others. A committee of fifteen was elected to carry out the recommendations of the conference and to expedite the collection of funds which are urgently needed to give the La Follette campaign in the East a big and early start.

Waistmakers Trailing Runaway Shops

There was little work, as usual, during the summer in the waist trade in New York City and a number of the active workers have been away from the shops recently.

Some of the employees, taking advantage of the dull period, have decided during this summer that they could do better in their New York shops under the pretext that they were going out of business and move quietly to a small neighboring town where they would run non-union shops. The officers of Local 25, however, would not be caught napping and they went big after some of these "former" waist manufacturers and succeeded in locating them in their new shops.

The firm of F. G. Waist Co., formerly of 189 Sixth avenue, New York, after quitting New York opened a shop in Jamaica, L. I., hoping to evade the Union there. Miss Pauline Morgenstern, the manager of Local 25, with a committee succeeded, nevertheless, in locating the new shop and as

a result a strike was soon declared there. Another shop was that of Warren & Orman of 29 East 10th street, which moved to Ridgewood. The Union found it out and declared this shop on strike and it is now being picketed by the workers.

The Brooklyn Blouse Co., of 22 West 27th street, acted somewhat differently. They at first decided to keep their show-room open and claimed that they would make samples for the trade only. But now they declare that they would like to make some stock but, of course, without the old set of workers. The firm, however, will soon find out that if they want to make any stock they would have to have all the union members back in the shop.

Miss Morgenstern requests us to announce a general member meeting for Thursday, September 4, at a place to be announced later, at which the Union's plans for activity during next fall will be discussed.

Swiss Embroiderers In Demonstration Mass Meeting to Inaugurate Label

On Tuesday last, August 19, at four o'clock in the afternoon, the Swiss Embroidery Workers of New York and the Bronx were called upon to meet at Kelling's Casino, 157th and St. Ann's avenue, to consider the introduction of the Union sanitary label in the Schiffli embroidery shops which is to become a fact two weeks hence.

It was by far the largest demon-

stration meeting ever held by Local No. 6. Practically the entire membership of the Union turned out to listen to the detailed explanations given by Ben. Manny Weiss, manager of Local 6, concerning the application of the label and the benefits which its introduction is bound to yield to the embroiderers and their Union.

Cloakmakers Called Upon Not To Work Overtime

(Continued from page 1)

out a thorough inspection in all the settled shops to see whether the terms of the agreement are fully complied with and whether all the workers carry work cards and union books in good standing.

The workers have received instructions to have their cards with them all the time as the controllers of the Union will not accept any alibis or excuses from any cloak makers found without books or cards.

Still Seeking An Impartial Chairman

At the conference held on Monday last, August 18, between the representatives of the Union and of all the employers' associations in the cloak

trade and the Governor's Commission, another attempt was made to choose an impartial chairman for the industry. A number of persons have been named but these have declined to accept for one reason or another. Justice Spiegelberg of the New York Municipal Court for the second time refused the tender of this position.

President Sigman emphasized the urgency of selecting a chairman without much further delay. It is expected that another conference will be held before the week is over and a chairman agreeable to all parties will finally be chosen.

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A Letter from the International Clothing Workers' Federation

To the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union

Dear Comrades:

In my letter of June 6, I gave you a few handy details of our Congress in Vienna. Both our Bureau and the delegates from the various countries were extremely sorry that we could not welcome any delegates from your organization to our Congress. In this time of acute reaction, it is more than ever necessary that the organized workers of Europe and America should work together in brotherly unity. And this cooperation is certainly desirable for clothing workers and seamstresses both in the old and the new world. We trust, however, that this will be the last time that your organization will not be represented at our International congresses. In any case we extend our sincere thanks for your telegram conveying to us your best wishes for the success of our Congress.

There is no doubt that the Congress went off very well. I have already written you concerning the principal resolutions. The report of our Congress will be published in a few weeks. We intend to include in this report the reports of the organizations affiliated with our International. So far I have not received from you any concise survey of the most important events which have taken place in your organization since the Congress in Copenhagen, which met in 1920. I should be very glad if I could include in the report of our Congress some report from your Union.

In your organ, JUSTICE, I have read the report of your Seventeenth General Meeting, which happened to coincide with the twenty-fifth anniversary of your founding. I am sure that I am speaking in the name of all our affiliated organizations when I offer your Executive, although somewhat late, our congratulations on your Jubilee. I also trust that your organization will succeed, within the next twenty-five years, in bringing under your banner all the men and women employed in making ladies' garments.

I have great esteem and admiration for the work done by your organization within the last twenty-five years. The garment workers and seamstresses have in all countries always been the most down-trodden and exploited part of the proletariat. And that was certainly the case in North America, where a great part of our comrades consisted of foreigners, who for that reason were defenseless against the exploitations of the employers. Thus your organization came and offered the word of emancipation for the slaves of the needle and showed them the way to a better future.

Dear comrades, all this and much more I and my fellow-members of the

executive would have liked to say to your delegates, if they had been with us. We say it now in writing, but we trust you will believe that our congratulations to you for the splendid work done by your organization is no less sincere.

As I wrote to you earlier, our Secretary is ill, and was received into a sanatorium in Switzerland at the end of April. During my stay in Geneva, as a representative at the International Labor Conference, I visited Van Der Heeg in his sanatorium. He was very cheerful and was feeling well. I also spoke with the director of the sanatorium, who was very satisfied with Van Der Heeg's condition and told me that he ought to make a complete recovery. That is good news from which we may conclude that our secretary will, in time, be able to resume his work for our International.

One more thing. Your council will probably know that at the Congress held in August, 1920, at Copenhagen, it was decided to put one seat on the Executive of our International at the disposal of the two American affiliated unions. The delegates of your Union and of the Journeymen Tailors' Union of America agreed to this proposal. The arrangement was that the expense involved in attending meetings of the Executives and congresses should be paid by the union concerned itself. The two American organizations have, however, taken no steps to put this resolution into effect. At the time of our Congress in Vienna this matter was again under consideration at our Executive meeting and it was decided again to give the American unions an opportunity of appointing an Executive member.

I should be very glad to hear what your Council feels about the matter. It would undoubtedly be a factor of great importance in the international relations of the organized clothing workers of your Union, and the Journeymen Tailors could make this appointment.

Hoping to hear good news from you in respect to this,

I remain,

Yours fraternally,

E. KUPERS,
Acting Secretary.

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The Fight In Boston

By SOL SEIDMAN, Vice-president

Today, Thursday, August 21, at ten o'clock in the morning, the hour fixed by the Union, the cloak makers of Boston will go to work and march in a body to Faine Memorial Hall, the assembly place of the cloak strikers. All the strike committees have been set to work on Wednesday evening, August 20, after the conference committee of the Union reported that they could reach no settlement with the jobbers and the contractors on the terms of the new agreement. Your readers, no doubt, know that the Boston Joint Board has had collective agreements with the cloak jobbers and the contractors but not with the manufacturers as the latter have no association in this city.

Right after the Governor's Commission in New York had returned its decision in the controversy between the Union and the employers in the New York cloak industry we began conferring with the cloak jobbers and contractors demanding that the conditions attained in New York also apply to the Boston market. We wanted unemployment insurance, the sanitary union label, the right to investigate books, so as to make certain that the garments are manufactured in union shops only, the responsibility of the jobber for the workers' wages, fines for violations of the agreement, etc.

We also demanded from the contractors that their shops contain a minimum of six operators in addition to other workers and that the contractors themselves be not permitted to work inside the shop. Today the contractor shops in this city consist of one or two operators while a three-operator shop is considered a "big" place; each of the three operators has two or more "partners," all of them working as operators or cutters. During the season the workers could manage somehow or other to earn a few weeks' wages, but when the slack period would arrive the "bosses" would appropriate whatever work would come into the shop leaving the operators to shift for themselves.

The local cloak trade is not a large one, employing all told about 1,000 men and women. You can easily imagine therefore that with more than a hundred contractors themselves working at the machines and cutting tables, the trade has become entirely demoralized from the point of view of work conditions. That is why the Union is now determined not to allow this chaos to go on any further. We tried to reach a peaceful understanding with them, but as we could not make any headway the only alternative left was a strike.

The strike will be directed principally against the jobbers and the contractors, as we believe that we shall be able to settle without much difficulty with the legitimate manufacturers. It is worth while calling the attention of our organization in New York to the fact that many of the Boston jobbers are buying their garments in New York and as some of them are making them up there. It would be the duty of the New York organization to see to it that no scab work

is made for or sold to the Boston jobbers.

The Boston cloak makers have been without work for sixteen weeks and there is little work as yet. The season is about to begin now, but the workers are, nevertheless, ready to sacrifice their all in order to do away with the terrible conditions in the shops. The cloak makers have also voted that those of them who will return to work in settled shops will pay an assessment for the benefit of the remaining strikers from the first wages they will receive until the strike is fully settled. There are in and around Boston a few non-Union shops which will have to be organized now and the organization will make every effort to bring them into the fold.

The following committee and chairman have been appointed for the strike:

Sol Seidman, chairman strike committee; Ben Kurland, vice-chairman, Local 7; Meyer Frank, business agent, chairman picket committee; J. Tochan, vice-chairman, Local 12; N. Ginsburg, chairman organization committee, Local 56; M. Shneider, chairman finance committee, Local 39; Abraham Trudicker, chairman settlement committee, and one member from each local in addition. Sol Seidman will also act as chairman of the press committee, and Vice-president Fred Monoson will supervise the work of the law and of the out-of-town committees. J. Weber of Local 24 will act as chairman of the hall committee.

As you see we have the strike machinery ready, and we are confident that the cloak makers of Boston will put up a strong fight and will prove to their employers, 'big and small, that the strike cannot and will not end until the demands of the Union are fully complied with.

The excursion of the Students' Council of the I. L. G. W. U. in a private yacht with a capacity of 100 will be held on Sunday, September 1. Tickets \$1.50. Reservations must be made at once at the office of the Educational Department, 3 West 16th Street.

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A Labor Weekly

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FROM OUR JOINT BOARDS AND LOCALS

Union Activity in the Middle West

By a Special Correspondent

In Chicago

We are not running short of problems in the cloak industry in Chicago, thank heaven. We have "inside shops," "outside shops," "jobbers," "sweet-shops" and every kind of abuse that affects the industry of cloak making everywhere. But aside from these general ills, Chicago has now a special problem of its own to deal with. It is due to the fact that the cheap garment has disappeared from Chicago and is not any longer manufactured in this city.

You must know that the Chicago cloak trade knows the various classes of garments approximately along the following "geographical" divisions. Market street, the principal cloak district, manufactures the better garments. Northwest Side, or Milwaukee avenue, makes the cheaper lines, while the West Side contains the sweat-shops which make some work for Market street and Milwaukee avenue. And though the workers in the West Side shops all belong to the Union, they, nevertheless, appear to have a silent agreement with the bosses to work by the piece, though week-work in the cloak industry has been introduced everywhere else in the cloak industry several years ago.

The West Side cloak makers are a special class of workers who cannot find employment in any other section of the city. They are sub-standard workers, if you will, most of them well up in age. And when their jobs are or are compelled to leave their jobs they look for work in the same section and on the quiet continue to work by the piece no matter where they are employed.

The other district which has suffered a great deal in the last few years is the above-mentioned Milwaukee avenue. The cheap garment is disappearing from Chi ago, and as Milwaukee avenue has been for years the center of this kind of work, the reasons in its shops are now short and are getting shorter from year to year.

Chicago Used to Be a Suit Center

The Chicago cloak trade has suffered lately, on the average, a great deal more than any other market because Chicago has, for years, been a suit market. With the disappearance of the suit, especially in the past few winter seasons, the Chicago manufacturers have become confronted with the severe task of establishing for themselves a standing in the trade as coat manufacturers. The ordinary retailer, as known, is accustomed to buying his suits in one place and his coats in another.

Market street, therefore, has shorter seasons these years because the suit has been all but banned from the stores, just as Milwaukee avenue is suffering from the disappearance of the cheap garment. Chicago does not manufacture any more a cheap coat, and the cloak makers who used to make these coats, some of them for more than twenty-five years, are now in a terrible plight, seeking jobs and not being able to find any.

What has driven this line out of Chicago? The answer is obvious: the competition by the jobbers in the East and the growth of the outside shop fostered by them. In the cloak trade has driven this line of work out of Chicago entirely. The firms formerly manufacturing this line are either out of business already or are about to quit. It is difficult to see how this cheap line can be brought back to Chicago, even if the general situation in the country should improve. But

with conditions in industry as they are today it seems out of question and the Chicago cloak makers and the Joint Board are, indeed, face to face with a cruel problem in their effort to solve it.

In Toledo

We are carrying on again in Toledo. Toledo is on the main line between New York and Chicago and in a few hours from Cleveland. Nevertheless, when one examines the cloak situation in this town, one is inclined to lose sight of the fact that we live today in the twentieth century, as conditions here are practically as bad as they used to be in New York at their worst some thirty years ago.

We waited yesterday for some workers at the gate of a Toledo shop hoping to be able to get them to a meeting in the early hours of the morning. We arrived at the place at five o'clock in the morning but found them all at work already. The machines were all astir in the wee small hours, so we decided to come in the evening but when we arrived there and waited until seven o'clock they were still at work. The following day we deliberately went to bed earlier and were at the shop at 4:30 a. m. but found most of the workers in the shop at the machines. When do they begin to work in a Toledo cloak shop? We could not find that out, save for a guess that they sleep inside of the shops.

In Toledo there was, once upon a time, a local union. It had a president and his name was Blitz. In 1922, the workers in the shop where Blitz was employed declared a strike and Blitz became its leader. In the course of that strike, the owner of the struck shop obtained an injunction against all the officers of the Union including Blitz. Today, this Blitz is a boss, a submanufacturer of the firm against which the strike at that time was directed. And right now, as our organization work is proceeding full blast ahead, the local manufacturers are invoking the old injunction as a means of scaring the workers. Every evening one may see how this Blitz distributing injunction copies to the committees of the workers, an injunction upon which his own name appears as a defendant, and when our men stare him in the face he does not seem to be very comfortable.

But that is not all. The local manufacturers have found another method for fighting the organizing campaign which we are carrying on. They are making use of the circulars and sheets that are published by the Trade Union Educational League. A few weeks ago, the local manufacturers assembled their workers and read to them extracts from T. U. E. L. publications and told them: "Do you see now what your Union is and who your leaders are?"

Last week the manufacturers called the workers together again and read to them a circular issued a few weeks ago by the T. U. E. L. in which it attacked the New York cloak settlement, and called upon the leaders of the Union to "resign their posts." After the reading, they pointed out to the workers that the Union is a corrupt organization and that its leaders are now coming again to Toledo to mislead them. When one of the workers, not a Union member, remarked that the statements and the circulars are false, one of the employers replied that the publishers of the circulars were "honorable persons and should be trusted."

We should like to know who is sup-

plying the Toledo manufacturers with this "literature."

That Jewish women would compel their husbands to scab and prevent them from becoming Union men is a new and startling thing. But it happened in Toledo, just the same.

Mr. Goldman, the present owner of the Kohn, Friedlander and Martin cloak firm, has discovered a new scheme for combating the Union. He will not engage a man to work unless the applicant brings his wife along and the latter guarantees that her husband would not join the Union. If, however, after a few weeks at the machine, the man begins to groan under the oppression prevailing in the shop and to think seriously of joining the Union, Mr. Goldman communicates with the protestant's wife and brings influence upon her to

dissuade her husband from engaging in such pernicious business.

In Cleveland

The agreement with the local cloak manufacturers is to expire soon and negotiations will soon begin for the renewal of the collective agreement for the coming year.

The Joint Board will, in the very near future, take up this important matter with the members of the Cleveland locals and will discuss the amendments and improvements which they intend to incorporate in the new agreement.

For the time being, however, the Joint Board has laid weighty matters aside and held last Saturday a great outing at Meyers' Lake which was attended by the entire ladies' garment workers' family of Cleveland, their friends and sympathizers.

Not Peace But A Step Toward It

By NORMAN THOMAS

It looks now as if Europe had made the longest step toward peace since the iniquitous Treaty of Versailles. The report of the London Conference seems to have assumed some approach to reasonableness in Franco-German relations. For that credit belongs to all the participants; to MacDonald for his patient appeal to reason, to Herriot for his real courage in resisting the extreme nationalist group in France, to the Germans for their willingness to negotiate in face of provocation, and even to the British and American bankers for insisting that if you want a nation to work for you you cannot choke it to death as the French were choking Germany by the occupation of the Ruhr.

And yet, great as is the gain resulting from the London Conference, the adoption of the Dawes Report does not of itself secure peace. What has triumphed in the London Conference is not justice or fraternity among the peoples but only a relaxation of the crazy vindictive nationalism which has heretofore cursed Europe. From a standpoint of men like MacDonald and of the Germans themselves, the military and economic exaction of the Ruhr by the French was worth a big price. The whole struggle in negotiation was to see that France really got out of the Ruhr under terms which did not easily permit her to go back as plaintiff, judge, jury and sheriff to enforce her own claims, irrespective of the rights of Germany and of other nations.

This end seems to have been gained. The situation is like a strike where the workers win enough from the bosses to make it worth while to settle and gain strength for further efforts. The hope of the Dawes Plan as adopted at London is that under it the impossibility and undesirability of making the German workers slaves to the allied nations will become so evident to the peoples of the allied nations and, especially, to the workers of the allied nations, that a decent settlement may at length be arranged by mutual agreement.

Nothing is more certain than that the Dawes Report is not such a settlement. It assumes the sole guilt of Germany for the World War. Already historical evidence has made that claim abundantly false. It assumes that the German workers must pay for the sins of the German rulers for an indefinite future. This is a denial of all justice. It mortgages German railroads and industry to absentee foreign owners. It seeks to establish a plan of payment by Germany which cannot but hurt the nations which re-

ceive that payment. The workers of France and England cannot afford to compete with the forced labor of Germany.

Special word of warning is necessary to America. American bankers as sound business men have taken the position that they will not loan the money necessary to start Germany off again without some assurance that the French will not take such action as to make their loans worthless. So far so good. Banking sense in this matter is better than vindictive passion. But it must be understood clearly from the beginning that any risks the bankers take in this matter are their own, and that the United States will not use its military strength under any conceivable circumstances to guarantee bankers' losses. More than that, it ought to be understood, at least by the workers of America, that the Dawes settlement is not final and that it is still necessary to work for that state of mind and for those concrete agreements which alone will bring peace. In plain English, that means that the Treaty of Versailles must be revised in accordance with the terms of the Armistice. Little by little such revision is coming about in fact though not in form. It is this process which is an absolute necessity of peace. Without it all plans, however good in themselves, for a world court, the outlawry of war and the League of Nations are of comparatively little worth.

PATERSON WEAVERS STILL ON STRIKE

The strike of the 10,000 silk weavers of Paterson, N. J., is still continuing. The strike is particularly interesting inasmuch as it embraces workers belonging to seven or eight nationalities, among whom there are a great many Jewish workers. Paterson is the center of the silk industry in this country and this trade is now paralyzed as a result of this strike.

The strike is the immediate result of a protest against the three and four loom system, from the oppression of which the workers have vainly sought redress for a long time. This system has also contributed a great deal towards unemployment and the silk manufacturers have taken advantage of the unorganized state of their workers and have cut wages mercilessly.

Minimum Wage Legislation In United States

By DR. HERMAN FRANK

It is only too well known that the majority of unskilled workers receive wages entirely inadequate to satisfy ordinary decent living standards. Even before the War, when the cost of living was relatively not high, eight dollars per week was considered a minimum requirement for maintaining an individual worker above the "poor" level. Yet, investigations conducted in various industries in 1915 have disclosed that 75 per cent of working women in the United States have been earning less than eight dollars a week, 50 per cent—less than six dollars a week and 15 per cent even less than four dollars. It must also be borne in mind that nearly 80 per cent of such earners must be written off for unemployment, loss of work through sickness, etc. The situation of the male workers before the War was not much better, as 6,000,000 American male workers in 1912, married and single, were earning less than twelve dollars a week.

Under such conditions, it is not surprising that the question of a minimum wage fixed by law—at least for women and children—would force to the front. Already forty years ago several of the Northern States adopted factory laws which tended to improve to some extent the condition of the workers. Minimum standards of sanitation and safety regulations were placed on the states, but these tended to be a distinct benefit to factory employees. Similar laws were passed affecting regular payment of wages by the week. But, of course, the best sanitary conditions, if the work hours are unduly long and the pay meagre, will mean little to a worker and will not safeguard his health. It was obvious therefore that the measure which prompted or prodded the legislatures to enact health and sanitation measures would eventually impel them to take steps to protect the workers against totally inadequate low wages.

The first country to enact a minimum wage law was New Zealand, about thirty years ago, and since that example was later followed by other Australian commonwealths. England adopted the course of its overseas dominions in 1909, being the first in Europe to enact such a law, the "Trades Board Act." Other European countries followed suit—France, Norway and Switzerland, and about six years ago a similar law was enacted in the Argentine.

In the United States the principle of legislation for a minimum wage was first recognized in Massachusetts in 1912, where a law creating a Minimum Wage Commission for women workers was passed. A year later, Wisconsin, California, Oregon, Washington, Colorado, Utah, Minnesota and Nebraska adopted legislation along similar lines. In 1913, Arkansas, the District of Columbia, Kansas, the Dakotas and Porto Rico fell into line. The big Eastern States, however, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Connecticut, still remain without minimum wage laws. And Colorado, which passed such a law, did so, as yet, again, in its budget, any means for carrying out this law into effect and in a few other States this law, though passed, has so far remained only on paper.

Another important thing. On April 9, 1923, the United States Supreme Court rendered a decision declaring the minimum wage law for women in the District of Columbia unconstitutional and this decision has given rise to well-founded fears that this important industrial reform, which has been entirely destroyed if means are not taken in time to protect it. It must be remembered that the constitutional aspect of minimum wage legislation is bound up with the so-called police power of the State. By this

principle is understood the power of the State to abridge the right of contract in the interest of health, public peace and public morals. The American courts have on many occasions in the past recognized the validity of this principle when work conditions imperiling the life or health of laborers were involved. Recently, for instance, the United States Supreme Court declared valid a New York law which forbids the employment of women workers in restaurants after ten o'clock at night. This decision, in which he recognizes the right of the States to employ the doctrine of the police power in favor of working women, it may be of interest to know, was rendered by the same judge, Justice Sutherland, who only nine months prior to that presented the argument against the minimum wage law of the District of Columbia, basing his decision on the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution according to which "no person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property except by due process of law; nor shall any State deny to anyone within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the law."

This constitutional guarantee, no matter how interpreted, can hardly furnish a valid contradiction to minimum wage legislation. And feeling the weakness of its position in this respect, the Supreme Court has therefore deemed it important to go to the juridical objections a number of "economic" objections. It argues, for instance, that a minimum wage would have to be fixed by a wage board irrespective of the true value of a woman's labor. But, of course, this argument could not stand any criticism in view of the fact that laws affecting minimum wages for women are generally adopted as the result of investigations conducted by wage commissions which recommend the wage scales for each trade separately. Public hearings of an extensive nature are usually held which are attended by experts for both employers and employees, and at best it can be said that under the whole system the wages for women in industry are being fixed not by the arbitrary will of the employer alone but with the participation of some impartial third persons. The decision also fails to grasp the truism that any occupation at which a woman working a whole day cannot earn a living is in the worthy of the support of any element in the community.

In a previous article we mentioned the fact that women workers are receiving much lower wages than men largely because they have neglected the trade union movement. The employers of labor are substituting women workers for men whenever and wherever they can chiefly on that account, and are forcing them down as low as they can the wages of women workers. It would thus appear that it is of the greatest importance for the working class as a whole that the minimum wage laws for women be not annulled or impaired. In Massachusetts, for instance, the following figures clearly indicate the direct effect of the minimum wage law on the condition of the workers in general.

To begin with, the Massachusetts law never had the obligatory clauses which the invalidated laws of the District of Columbia possessed. It does not contain any punitive clause but only mentions the black-listing of such employers as fail to carry out the decree of the Minimum Wage Commission. In practice this failure to provide financial penalties is quite an obstacle in the enforcement of the law. Many employers refuse to pay the minimum wage on the ground that their competitors might not recognize the law and would be able to produce cheaper than they

themselves could. They claim that they would willingly comply with such a law if it were obligatory for all. The scales in the Massachusetts minimum wage law are also much too low for the present period. For instance, in the women's garment trades the scale is but fourteen dollars a week, in the laundry trades only thirteen and a half, etc. In laying out the budget for a working woman no account is taken of expenses for insurance, organization dues, incidentals, etc. No consideration at all is given to the fact that women work largely in trades where work seasons and slack periods follow each other and that earnings must be computed to make up an all-year-round average and not figured on a weekly basis.

Nevertheless, with all its shortcomings, the Massachusetts law has not failed to have a decidedly beneficial influence upon 80,000 women in 5,000 establishments, according to the data published by the Massachusetts Department of Labor and Industry quite recently. Not less than 25 per cent

of the workers in Massachusetts are women. The average earnings of these women have been \$17 per week and of men \$25.53. The wages of the women workers have been the lowest in the men's clothing trade—\$12.55 (the legal minimum wage being \$15), and the highest average wages in the printing trade, namely, \$25.66. The lowest paid men are those employed in the meat packing houses, \$23.79, and the highest are those employed in the women's garment trades, \$35.52. The last-named fact speaks very well for the effect of the Ladies' Garment Workers' Union on the conditions of the workers employed under its jurisdiction.

It is something well worth considering, indeed, this data presented by the Massachusetts Labor Department. The same clothing industry which yields the highest wages to men offer the lowest earnings to women workers. It stands to reason that the low wages of the women would eventually tend to drag down the standards of the men. It is evident therefore that minimum wages fixed by law for women is of vital interest not only for the women workers but are equally as important to all the workers without exception.

Out of A Job

By GEORGE R. KIRKPATRICK

There is not work—and there cannot be work, plenty of work—for all who are willing to work—under the wage and profit system of industry.

Want and the fear of want, falling wages and the fear of falling wages, unemployment and the fear of unemployment,—these are the grim things that blast the life of Labor (under Capitalism).

More than 1,500,000 of our people now (1924) walk the streets and highways looking for work. They are willing to help produce plenty for all. But they are not permitted to do so. Thus they are cursed by want and the fear of want. At least 2,000,000 workers are now forced to submit to 'part-time' employment. They are willing to work 'full time' and help produce abundance for all. But they are not permitted to do so. And these are cursed by want and the fear of want. Many, many millions more of the workers dread impending wages in their already insufficient wage, or fear the loss of their jobs. The lives of these also are cursed with fear.

'And back of all these willing millions are many other millions of pride-broken women and fretting children whose lives are cramped and cursed with want and the fear of want.'

Think of it!—fear, grim fear of want haunting the multitude of the willing workers—and their loved ones—now after the human race has finally found the natural resources and forces of the earth ready to supply plenty for all—now when the tools and machinery of production are well-nigh perfect—now when technological knowledge for our use in production crowds our libraries and indefinitely surpasses the most brilliant guesses and most glorious prophecies of all the sages and poets of the past! Think of the unsalutary wages of want and the fear of want—now when the sciences of invention, the science of discovery and the science of industry are the most boasted glory of the twentieth century! Think of the brutal meanness of want and the fear of want in the lives of millions of willing American workers—now when we build hundreds of freight ships and battleships for boosting the business of dumping our surplus (1) goods somewhere, everywhere, anywhere a foreign market can be found! Think of the wolves of want and the fear of want goading millions of willing workers in a country like this in this age of triumphant

industry. Fear of present want and fear of poverty in sickness and in old age, and the soul-killing fear that millions of sweet children may not finish able lower schools and will probably never even set foot in the colleges and the universities, these fears are the most vast and vicious wrong thrust into the lives of the working class. Fear, constant, haunting, haunting, haunting fear, is the almost universal emotion suffered by the sons and daughters of toil in this the richest country on earth in this proud century in the history of the human race.

But mark this well: Unemployment and all its bitter and ballasting results cannot be escaped by the multitude, by the poor, under the wage-system. On and on, therefore, year after year, fear is now and is to be the grim and grinning ghost haunting the sombre shadows in the lives of the working class. Fear is and is to be the employer-master's lash on the backs of the workers—under the wage-system.

No matter how hungry, ragged and shelterless you are; no matter how desperate. Four wife may be for the wage you are willing (but not permitted to earn); no matter how sorely your little children cry for food and clothing; no matter how decent and wholesome and religious you are; no matter how industrious and willing you are; no matter how thin you have grown your old shoes tramping you from town to town looking for work; no matter how patriotic you are; no matter how hideously your body is marked with scars you got defending the Stars and Stripes; no matter if you had a leg or your right arm turn off in war—still you have no right to a job. And you will promptly be up against the police, militia and the standing army if you invade the factory and proceed to work without permission, foolishly thinking that you have a legal right to work.

Our national constitution had the Federal laws, and our forty-eight State constitutions and the State laws—these recognize no such right. Indeed the employer class would regard it as very dangerous to let the workers have any such right, and they see to it that the workers get no such right on the law books. Moreover, in one of the most important respects, unemployment plays right into the hands of the employer class, thus: It

(Continued on Page 6)

JUSTICE

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EDITORIALS

THE CLOAK STRIKE AND ITS SIGNIFICANCE

The reorganization strike in the cloak industry of New York came officially to an end on Tuesday last when the general committee in charge of the strike voted to disband itself and turn over the conduct of the affairs of cloak makers' organization to the regular administration of the Joint Board.

The importance of this industrial movement can hardly be exaggerated. It was the first time in the history of the Labor movement that a trade union had put forth demands of such a wide, all-embracing nature as the cloakmakers had in the recently concluded strike. It was for the first time that a Union had the courage to declare in the open that the industry in which its members are employed is ridden with abuses and rests upon a rotten and unwholesome foundation and that this industry must be entirely reconstructed if it is ever to be placed upon a healthy, normal basis.

It was the first time that a labor union had made demands upon employers which heretofore have been regarded as matters of no concern to workers at all, but the exclusive affair of "captains of industry." It is for the first time that a labor union had made a big attempt to obtain a substantial share of control in industry and succeeded in the attempt.

We are firmly of the opinion that, had the Union succeeded in gaining only this point alone, it would have scored an important victory. The winning of this demand amounted to no more and no less than the invasion of the sacred portals of the bourgeois temple of Competition, so dear to every employer's heart. The Union has declared that the jobber's right to "buy" his garments as cheaply as he may possibly get them must be curbed, and the Union has won this point, though in winning it it had to run counter to the very gospel of business morals and ethics. Moreover, the victory was gained in a manner that aroused general interest and admiration, principally because it had been obtained not as a result of a regular strike, of a show of strength and force, but through a novel means, by the pressure of enlightened public opinion.

In brief, a Commission appointed by the Governor of the State of New York, each member of which was, by his training, his experience and environment, an adherent of the present economic order, has upon giving a thorough hearing to the arguments of the Union and of every other factor in the industry, agreed to recommend wholly the point of view of the Union. In its recommendations, this Commission condemns unequivocally the chaotic competitive system which governed heretofore the relations between the jobbers and the sub-manufacturers; it curtails materially the power of the jobber to play up one contractor against another and thereby indirectly reduce the workers to a condition of pauperization; it declares by its decision that control of industry is not the exclusive prerogative of the manufacturer and dealer but it is also the right of the workers represented through their union.

By its decision the Commission supports the idea that the interest of the workers goes far beyond wages and work-hours, because the workers are one of the principal factors in industry. The Union had won the Commission over to its point of view by the strength of its arguments as compared with the weakness of the arguments of its opponents. At the hearings before the Governor's Commission there have clashed two points of view—the prevailing orthodox conception that the worker is merely a machine without any say whatever concerning the product which he creates and the point of view which maintains that the worker is a thinking creative factor and must be regarded and treated as such, that the worker is entitled to as large a share of control of industry as the manufacturer and the jobber.

The verdict of the Commission, which did not consist of radicals, is in this sense more than an achievement for the International only. It is a victory for a new great idea in American industrial relations and it marks a defeat for the outworn inheritances of the past.

Of course, one is entitled to doubt if our arguments would have produced the same effect upon a body of mediators had they been presented on behalf of a labor union less powerfully organized than the Cloak Makers' Union. We are inclined to take the view that the fact that the cloak makers stood mobilized behind their spokesmen has had its share of influence in compelling attention to their demands. But, on the other hand, our arguments could have never induced the Governor's Commission to accept our point of view as clearly as it did had it not been for the fact that they were industrially, morally and socially sound.

This makes our gains so much stronger and more durable. For it must be borne in mind that at the outset public opinion was decidedly against the Union's program, and many were

inclined to treat the efforts of the cloak workers' organization as a wild excursion. The idea that the Union might undertake to tell the jobber where he should manufacture or "buy" his garments seemed startlingly new, to say less of its insistence upon the right to examine the jobber's records as to whether he conscientiously complies with the stipulations of the agreement. The situation, however, has changed entirely in this respect, and even such a publication as the New York Times does not hesitate to point out now the revolutionary character of the Union's gains and to comment upon it with approval. The Union has scored not only over the employers but has succeeded in winning over public opinion to its side—not by a show of force but by the sheer strength of the logic of its position and of a higher justice which is alone sufficient to overcome all antiquated prejudices.

But the appraisal of the present achievement would not be complete without mentioning two other factors which worked steadily against the Union in this situation and which have been—to a considerable extent—even more difficult to overcome than the opposition of the jobbers and the manufacturers. There was, first, a considerable element among our own workers who could see no other gain for themselves in any settlement except such as could be interpreted in dollars and cents, and these have felt strongly disappointed because the original program has not been carried out in its entirety, to the last minor point. This opposition within the ranks made it very difficult to get along at one moment and gave rise to fears that the signal for the reorganization campaign would not be obeyed by the entire membership. Many of the employers have hoped for such an emergency and they have done their worst to break our solidarity. Had they succeeded, they would have no doubt struck a hard blow at the Union.

Subsequent events, however, blasted the expectations of these employers. When the order for the reorganization strike was issued on July 8, not a man or woman remained in the shops. The call of the Union was obeyed with scrupulous unanimity and the deeply implanted sense of solidarity and collective responsibility among our workers triumphed over all obstacles and differences.

This spirit of solidarity marked the strike from the first day it was called to the final hour when the last man was placed back at the machine. The strike committee reports of no desertions from the ranks of the strikers and the committee which took charge of the court cases accounts for very few disturbances and the quickness of the peace in the course of this big walk-out. In general this was the most peaceful and bloodless strike we had, and this alone speaks volumes for the discipline and the solidarity which prevailed among our men and women while the strike lasted.

The other factor which worked every one of its black-and-red guns to demoralize our workers was that clique of new-fangled scabs draped in "revolutionary" togas. This coterie was ready with its dirty work from the moment the strike was called out and belched forth daily its poisonous propaganda against the Union and its leaders in a desperate effort to confuse the minds of the workers. They took advantage of the fact that not all the workers in the cloak trade were thoroughly conversant with the new and complex problems which confronted the Union and with the unusual aspect of its gains and achievements. Day in and day out these adventurers chanted the dirge of "defeat" to some of our workers, hoping against hope that they might catch some fish for themselves in the waters which they tried so hard to muddy.

It is with a sense of sincere gratification that we can now state that this continued mud-aling has been entirely wasted upon our cloak makers. Few if any paid any attention to this campaign of slander and the fighting morale of our members as a whole has not been impaired by it in the least.

The importance of the victory we scored in the strike which closed just now will grow as time goes on and the effect of the changes will bear fruit in the cloak shops of New York. Of course, a great deal will depend upon the workers themselves. "Every man for himself" is a policy which is entirely inappropriate to the present situation in the cloak industry as far as the workers are concerned. Today in particular, as the new order is just beginning to adjust itself in the shops, its success will depend to a great extent upon the cooperation of each and every worker. The workers must bear in mind the principal purpose of the new achievement—the abolition of the sweat shop, the refuge of the meanest form of scabbey which ever existed in our trade, and they must cheerfully countenance, for a time, any inconvenience or hardship they might encounter during the early period of reconstruction.

We know that the majority of our workers will rise to a full understanding of this situation and will contribute every effort to make this achievement of their Union a permanent and substantial gain so that the stubbornness among them might come to realize what a truly revolutionary change we have accomplished in the cloak industry.

We do not intend to dwell now upon the material gains scored in this settlement such as the already functioning unemployment insurance fund, the sanitary union label, the new machinery for the adjustment of disputes for the entire industry, as well as the investigation of conditions in the cloak trade to be conducted under the auspices of the Governor's Commission—which will inevitably lead to the granting of further concessions to the workers.

We have reasons to hope that this survey of the industry will lead to a guaranteed annual period of employment and it is quite possible that the limitation of contractors which we de-

Our Bank and the Cloak Strike

By MAX D. DANISH

How would a Labor bank stand up under the stress of a general strike in the industry in which its members are working—particularly a Labor bank only a few months old? Frankly, it was a startling question, involving the soundness and practicability of the entire theory and fabric of union banking.

The Labor banking idea is on the upgrade, and Labor banks, large and small, are springing up with astounding ease and rapidity all over the country. The movement for concentrating the resources and savings of the workers in institutions operated and managed by Labor is taking deep root and is founded on sound principles. Yet, during the five or six years, since Labor banking has begun to develop in this country, not one of these banks had been involved in a real test of stability such as a general strike in the industry in which it operates would present, and the general strike in the cloak industry in New York last month was, to my best knowledge, the first storm of this nature encountered by a Labor bank. Naturally I was curious to learn the results. So I went to see Mr. Philip E. Rodriguez, the general manager of the International Union Bank of New York.

"I am glad you are here," Mr. Rodriguez greeted me with a cordiality and gravity which all this talk was, indeed, very eager to talk to someone about our bank—before, during and after the strike. I feel that our people, and the whole community for that matter, ought to know how the International Union Bank weathered the general strike storm, and well, how we came up wonderfully on top.

Now, I want you to know that I am speaking not in the interest of publicity or advertising of any sort. I am happy this is not the case because we are dealing with the real facts in the banking business, and these facts have given me, and to all of us associated here in, this great venture of Labor banking, the solid assurance that this International Union Bank is here to stay, that it can face one emergency, if need be, after another and come out of them none the worse for the experience.

"Don't mind telling you that we ourselves, with less than a half year's experience in this particular field of banking, have felt somewhat in a maze when the negotiations with the cloak employers came to a break last June and a strike seemed imminent. There were so many factors to be considered. We knew that our depositors, who consist largely of workers in our trades, a sprinkling of business men, many of them engaged in the cloak, dress or allied trades, and the local unions in the needle trades, were confronted with a novel situation such as they never faced before. They came to us because they had confidence in our honesty, business integrity and also because many of them believed in the idea and practicability underlying Labor banking. How would these various elements react to

the emergency of a strike, and to what extent would the probability of such an industrial upheaval tend to shake that confidence or diminish it?

"We closed our books on June 1 with a total of \$2,213,000 in resources. The negotiations with the cloak jobbers were reaching a crucial point at that moment and have all but been abrogated. It looked from a close distance that a strike could not be averted, and a bitter, protracted strike at that. The relations with the Protective Association came to an end long before that and from that end nothing but warfare could be expected. Through the clouds which hung low over our head we could see nothing but strife ahead. The overwhelming vote of the cloak makers in favor of a strike only accentuated the general anticipation of a fight. Then came the Union's offer to arbitrate and the intervention by Governor Smith. Early in July, the Governor's Commission submitted its recommendations which were accepted by the Union and at first rejected by the jobbers.

"We examined our books on July 8, and, much to our gratification, found that, all this turmoil notwithstanding and despite the slack period of the year, our resources leaped to \$2,295,300. In other words, instead of losing, as we had a right to anticipate, we gained during these doubtful and straining weeks some \$80,000,—true not a large sum but surely a cheering and heartening discovery when one considers the suspense and the tense environment which surrounded us. Then, in quick succession followed the acceptance of the Commission's report by the jobbers and the reorganization of the strike which lasted officially from July 8 to August 11, almost five weeks.

"Now, of course, it would be idle to assume that during these weeks some of the workers who for many weeks before have not earned a cent, had not withdrawn part of their savings so as to be able to sustain themselves and their dependents. The local unions involved in the strike also spent some of their funds on deposit here, and several commercial accounts in our institutions have either been withdrawn or reduced. But here we are," Mr. Rodriguez extracted from his desk a voluminous loose leaf record, "here is our balance on August 6, one month after the strike had been called out. On the closing of that day we had in resources \$2,847,500,—which means that we gained during the stormy month of July over \$550,000 and will be soon passing the \$3,000,000 mark, just seven months after we first opened our doors for business.

"We have received our first baptismal fire, and we are glad to say that we see clear waters and a steady advance ahead of us. And frankly, it is not only for ourselves, for the International Union Bank, that we are so sincerely gratified. By far not. This experience, early in the career of our bank, has strengthened immensely our own belief in Labor banking.

But our experience, indeed, should serve to hearten the men of Labor and their associates who are devotedly engaged today in developing the financial strength of Labor in every city, State and industry in our country. What the International Labor Bank was able to go through with colors flying any Labor bank, founded on the same principles of helpful cooperation and sustained by a loyal membership of men and women whose confidence in the integrity and sound business methods of their own financiers cannot be shaken by any event or emergency, could achieve.

"As a matter of fact, Labor banks must be prepared to anticipate such occasions as strikes, even of a general character. Their funds and their business technique should possess enough elasticity and the power of absorbing shocks of such a nature so as to be able to respond to them without any danger of dislocation."

And as I rose to shake hands with Mr. Rodriguez, Philip Kaplowitz, the cashier of the bank, the veteran ex-treasurer of the New York Joint Board and financier par excellence of the New York cloak makers, who took part in our interview, smilingly remarked:

"Our child, the International Union Bank, has passed excellently through its first infantile trouble, the measles, if you wish to call it so. You know children must have their troubles, and you cannot blame young parents especially, if they feel worried about them. In our case, however, we never felt ill at ease; we knew the human material which is backing this institution, their undivided loyalty and devotion, too well. Today, we are confident that the Labor banking idea is not only 'sold' to our members and the members of the other big and small Labor organizations which are affiliated with us in this venture, but that it has won for itself a place of permanence and stability in the world of finance and in the great Labor movement of this country as well."

INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR

By H. SCHOOLMAN

This Week Twelve Years Ago

It appears that the method employed by the New York cloak manufacturers to demand "references" from each worker who applies for a job is being enforced by them as a club against such cloakmakers who lose their jobs owing to intense Union activity. The "New Post" devotes an editorial to this matter and proposes that cloakmakers refuse, as matter of principle, to furnish such "references" to employers when applying for a job. The only reference a Union man or woman is to give is his or her union book.

For four weeks the workers of M. Stengel & Company, 37 West 19th Street, have worked at ten cents per garment cheaper than the prices agreed upon by the Union's committee. When the office found this out, it first collected back-pay for these dime amounts to one hundred and nine dollars and after that replaced the entire staff with a new set of workers.

The New York Joint Board adopted a decision, in connection with a new law passed by the New York State Legislature, that no Union man work more than 54 hours a week. The State law, it is true, refers to women only, but in order that the law be effective in the shops it is necessary that the men be not permitted to work more than 54 hours also.

The excursion of the Students' Council of the I. L. C. W. U. in a private yacht with a capacity of 100 will be held on Sunday, September 2. Tickets \$1.50. Reservations must be made at once at the office of the Educational Department, 3 West 16th Street.

THE END OF THE REVELS



Out of a Job

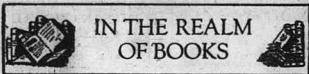
(Continued from page 5)

mandated at the outset will also become a reality, if the present arrangement proves to work unsatisfactorily. What we desire to emphasize at this point is that the new settlement has opened new horizons for our workers—provided they will now cling even more loyally to their organization, will cease quarreling over affairs and issues which do not in the least concern them as cloak makers and as members of our organization and will remember, once for all time, that any one who slurs and belittles their Union, no matter in what mantle he cloaks himself and what phrases he chooses for his sinister purpose, is their enemy and the deliberate wrecker of their organization.

With perfect solidarity and unanimity of purpose and an intelligent understanding of our problems there is nothing, indeed, which our members are not capable of winning for themselves. The last strike demonstrated it clearly and its lesson has now been inscribed upon a new page of glory in the history of our International Union.

there are a million or so unemployed then those who have work cannot so successfully insist on a wage-rate, or resist a wage-cut, or go on a strike;—because the unemployed are hungry and desperate and are therefore more

dangerous as competitors for the jobs. Surely you can see that a certain amount of unemployment suits the interests of the employer class;—for thus they can job the workers with want and the fear of want.



Creative Listening

By SYLVIA KOPALD

The Music Dramas of Richard Wagner. By Albert Lavignac. New York: Dodd, Mead & Company. Translated from the French by Esther Singleton. With Illustrations and Diagrams.

Among the casualties of the war perhaps the greatest casualty of all was the break down of internationalism in the field of art. It is terrible to remember now that even music, that most beautiful and universal of languages, suffered also from the chauvinistic hate and hysteria let loose upon the world. 1917 marked the exile of Karl Muck and practically all the German singers on the lists of the Metropolitan casts and—tragedy of tragedies—even of Richard Wagner from the repertoire of our opera houses. The war passed but hate proved more lasting than bloodshed. Three of Wagner's epic music dramas were offered to New York. One hundred per cent Americanism, however, insisted that Wagner be purified by translation into English, and his poetry like sacrilegious passed through the Rindie sieve.

The ruin was even more widespread than this. Not only were music lovers everywhere deprived of the great heritage of Germany but the marvelous artistic resources of that country were sadly depleted. The

carefully fostered municipal opera troupes and symphony orchestras were forced to stop their work or at best to continue it in a feeble and enervated manner. Even the Bayreuth Theater, which Richard Wagner built with his own hands after carefully planning every detail had to close its doors.

But happily music at last is freeing itself from the paralyzing hold of this hysteria. We have just witnessed the revival of the Bayreuth Festival for which Siegfried Wagner raised funds last year. This country helped in the accomplishment of this notable event by welcoming the son of the immortal Richard in his concert tour of American cities. His programs consisted almost exclusively of his father's music. While critics have praised this effort and hailed the return of Wagner to Bayreuth, all the reports breathe a certain disappointment. Artists, money and resources were woefully inadequate, providing once again that war and hate brings a long time destruction.

Yet Bayreuth is back! and in this

country also Wagner is gradually coming back to his own. First came Parsifal, Tristan and Isolde, and Lohengrin; then the Walkure and Tannhauser. Last year came Siegfried, and for this coming year the management of the Metropolitan has promised us the complete Tetralogy of the Ring of the Nibelungen. With this the Wagner repertoire of the Metropolitan becomes complete again. An even earlier sign of this very welcome subsidence of war hatred was given by the coming of the German Opera Company to America with, among other German operas, the complete Wagner program. But the return of Wagner to the Metropolitan is our best indication of the return of sanity in the field of musical art.

One need not dwell upon the noble beauty of Richard Wagner's dramatic appeal to the readers of domestic papers. It is among the standees at a performance of Tristan and Isolde at the Metropolitan, or in the balcony at Carnegie when the Philharmonic is playing a Wagner program, or on Wagner nights at the Stadium, one is sure to recognize scores of faces which one also sees at local meetings or educational classes of the International.

It is not my purpose now, therefore, to dilate upon the beauties of Wagner's music, but with the approaching restoration of Wagner, to remind them of a standard aid to Wagnerian appreciation. For after all, in music as in art, appreciation is enriched by understanding, and Wagner, perhaps more than any other composer demands preparatory study for full appreciation. Wagner developed a new form of music drama. He broke away from the Italian school which wrote only for the voice, making the

orchestra an entirely secondary thing. From the Italian school we obtained swashbuckling acting and forced voices; from Wagner we obtained integration of voice and orchestra and acting and staging—the supreme synthesis.

Wagner repays study. For instance, how much richer Tristan becomes when we understand all its leit-motif—the confusion of love, desire, the glance, the love philtre . . . How much rapturous it is to listen to the Liebestod when one is familiar with its wondrous leit-motif! All of these are reproduced in this book of Lavignac. It is written as lucidly as any Frenchmen at their best can write. Both the poems and the music of all the important Wagner music dramas are analyzed in detail. Several bars of music are given to illustrate each leit-motif. Lavignac presents also a short but highly interesting biography of Wagner and a chapter on the history and construction of the Bayreuth Theater. Lavignac, moreover, is a true Wagner lover; his every sentence breathes a contagious enthusiasm for the master. Even as a piece of literature, therefore, it is well worth reading.

Lavignac, however, should be only an introduction. All our public libraries offer the librettos and the piano scores of Wagner's operas. If anyone in your family can play the piano, obtain these and with the help of Lavignac, study them. Then go to the Wagner programs of the coming year. You will have discovered a greatly enriched source of enjoyment. But even by himself, Lavignac listens creatively. And creative listening is essential to a true appreciation of great music.

The Power of the Money Lenders

By C. McKAY

Those who control the money and credit facilities of a country wield an immense power over business and over the lives of the workers. But it may be doubted whether even the money lords clearly understand how that power operates, how at one time it helps to promote feverish business activity and at another time engenders industrial depressions and the miseries of widespread unemployment. Of the American money power, Lincoln Steffens, a distinguished journalist, once said that it was "a blind, fumbling, footless thing"—something that was as much without a clear controlling intelligence as the forces of production themselves. Those who manipulate the power of money doubtless produce results which were not planned by them. They are hardly so callous or so shortsighted that they would not avoid plunging business into depressions and the workers into wretchedness if they knew how to do so.

A study of the nature of the power of money and credit is of first importance for the workers. The intelligent control of that power is one of the conditions of the solution of the problem of poverty in the midst of plenty. Those American Labor unions which are establishing banks will doubtless acquire an insight into this peculiar power. But unfortunately there is as little hope that labor will be able to build up a money power big enough to exercise a decisive influence upon the capitalist money powers, as there is of the cooperative societies superseding the giant corporations which control the strategic positions in the world of industry and commerce.

Industry should be the master, and money and credits its servants. But unfortunately the roles are too often reversed. After the Great War labor looked forward to a "new heaven and a new earth." Business was booming, employment plentiful, and if prices

were high wages were good, and the worker enjoyed a feeling of security which made life worth living.

Then in March, 1920, Austen Chamberlain, Chancellor of the British Exchequer, announced that the British Government had "set its heart on deflating the currency." At the same time the Bank of England raised the bank rates, making money dearer and restricting the flow of credit. Britain set the example for the British Dominions, the United States and various other countries.

At this time British manufacturers, like those of other countries, had more orders than they knew what to do with. They were asking for credit to enlarge their plants and extend their operations. But with the Government supporting a policy of making money and credit dearer, a swift change came over the spirit of business. The optimism with which people were tackling the tasks of reconstruction fled. Business men cancelled orders right and left. And in a short time business in Britain and America and most of the countries within their sphere of influence were swiftly plunging into the greatest business depression the world has ever seen.

Belgium, France and Germany did not attempt to deflate their currency, and their industries continued at top speed, and France so far from having employment imported contract labor. Germany continued the policy of inflation in a reckless manner, but there was no slowing up of business and no unemployment in that country until the invasion of the Ruhr imposed a strange hold upon the jugular vein of her economic life.

After the Napoleonic wars England went through an experience, similar, though on a smaller scale, to that which she has endured since the Great War. How, following the deflation of currency over 100 years ago, English industry became stagnant and large bodies of workers were forced to such

a low standard of living that women and children did the work of beasts of burden in the mines, is told by Sir Archibald Alison in his "History of Europe."

"England, like Imperial Rome, had fallen under the rule of the moneyed patricians, whose interests were adverse to that of the industrial classes, but whose influence outweighed them altogether," he writes. "They desired to cheapen everything except money, and that they sought to make as dear as possible."

Evidently the money powers dominated the British Government after the Great War as much as they did over ordinary men. It will be remembered that during the Great War the British Government appointed a large number of committees to consider the problems of reconstruction after the war, and make plans for the new heaven and the new earth promised by Lloyd George with such enthusiasm. Some of these committees represented great industries, anticipating a project of program, declared that the existing banking organizations of Britain would not be able to furnish adequate facilities to carry on the work of reconstruction and urged the creation of better credit facilities. One committee was appointed especially to advise the British Treasury as to the policy it should pursue after the war. It was known as the Cunliffe Committee and was composed entirely of bankers and money lenders. It recommended that the Government and the Bank of England should endeavor to put the currency of the country back on the gold basis as soon as possible; that meant of course, increasing the purchasing power of money and cheapening commodities and all other forms of wealth.

The Government eventually ignored the industrialists and adopted the policy of deflation advised by the bankers. Making money dearer was to the advantage of the bankers and the money lenders. The national wealth of Great Britain estimated as being equivalent to thirty billion pounds

sterling at the beginning of 1920, is only the equivalent of fifteen billion now, according to a leading statistician. The British national debt of seven and one-half billion dollars has thus become one-half of the national wealth, instead of one-quarter as it was before deflation. So the taxpayer is required on the present basis of prices to relay the holders of war bonds with money twice as valuable as that which was loaned the Government and used for war purposes.

Probably the Governments which supported the policy of deflation quite sincerely believed that what the bankers regarded as a legitimate method of protecting their own interests would be in the interests of their countries in the long run. Governments are always so much under the influence of the money powers that their policies often represent the requirements of the money powers without the members of the Governments realizing that they have not acted independently. The ruling ideas of the governing classes are usually the ideas of the dominant class, the best organized and the most articulate class.

Nevertheless, the harsh policy of deflation pursued by countries under British and American influence plundered the producers and tax-payers as effectually as German's reckless policy of inflation robbed the money lenders. The workers know that they have been robbed of the high hopes held out to them during the war to make the world safe for democracy and, honest people, they were robbed too of their sense of security of livelihood which they enjoyed for a short time after the war. And they know very well that they did not will the tragedy of the Great War or the subsequent calamity of the Great Depression.

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LABOR THE WORLD OVER

DOMESTIC ITEMS

Baying Bloodhounds Used by Mine Owners

Coal owners in the Kanawha district, West Virginia, are using bloodhounds against striking employees.

The workers are urging a wage agreement similar to the Jacksonville agreement. Kanawha miners have been on strike since April 1. Determined to break the spirit of these workers, the coal owners are evicting families without regard for legal procedure.

A thug band, recruited in this city, swept into Winifrede with high-powered cars on their ejectment mission. They were armed with rifles, and had three bloodhounds with them. The inhabitants were terrorized while the thugs threw furniture and other belongings of miners upon the highway.

Can't See Unions

If the higher courts sustain circuit Judge Killoren's ruling in a damage suit against the United Garment Workers it will be impossible to secure injunctions against unions in the State of Missouri, according to John P. Leahy, attorney for the union.

A woman sued the garment workers for damages, alleging that she was wrongfully expelled. Judge Killoren dismissed the suit on the ground that the act under which it was filed is unconstitutional.

This act, Attorney Leahy declares, was put through the legislature at the instance of the Manufacturers' association, principally to permit the filing of injunction suits against officials of unions involved in suit.

Start Labor Daily

The Union Labor Record, official paper of organized labor in Oakland, Cal., has launched a morning daily. This city has a population of 306,000, and is situated across the bay from San Francisco. The new venture, known as the Daily Record, is the only morning paper in Oakland.

Retail Food Prices Up

The retail cost of food in fourteen of nineteen cities in which surveys have just been completed by the United States Bureau of Labor statistics increased from a fraction of one per cent to three per cent last month.

Boston and Indianapolis are the three per cent cities. Dallas, Milwaukee, Providence and Portland, Ore., gained two per cent; Birmingham, Denver, New Haven, Peoria, and Scranton, one per cent, and Detroit and Bridgeport, less than five-tenths of one per cent.

Cincinnati, Atlanta, Norfolk, Fall River and Louisville showed decreases of three to less than one per cent.

Old Age Pension Act Outlawed by Court

The old-age pension act of 1923, of Pennsylvania, has been declared unconstitutional by the Dauphin county court. "It conflicts with the organic law of the State," said Judge Hargess.

The act provides for the payment of one dollar a day to persons over seventy years of age who possess property valued at less than \$3,000.

Last year the State appropriated \$25,000 to inaugurate the system, but this was sufficient only for the work of the commission, and next year's legislature was to be asked for sufficient funds to meet the requirements of the act.

Employment Drops

July factory employment in New York State continued its "definite downward trend" of the last four months, reports the State Department of Labor. The recession is led by clothing, textiles and metals. The employment drop from June to July was between three and four per cent. This is a net reduction of fourteen per cent since April.

Types Raise Wages; Heavy Strike Costs

In his report to the annual convention of the International Typographical Union in session in Toronto, Ontario, President Howard said that the gross earnings of all members increased the past year approximately half a million dollars a month.

This estimate is based on returns under the one per cent assessment. The returns for the months of March, April and May, last year, indicated average earnings of \$11,200,779 per month. For the corresponding months of the present year the gross earnings averaged \$11,760,657 per month.

During the period June 1, 1920, to May 1, 1924, the international expended the enormous sum of \$15,391,242.76 for strike benefits and special assistance to local unions in connection with the successful forty-four-hour strike.

Mexico's New Chief Confers With Labor

The A. F. of L. executive council will attend the inauguration of President Calles of Mexico next December. The invitation was delivered personally by President-elect Calles who came to Atlantic City for the purpose of meeting the executive council. At a luncheon in honor of the Mexican president-elect, the visitor gave assurance that the new Mexican government would maintain the same interest in the workers' cause. In a short address, delivered in Spanish, President-elect Calles expressed gratification because of the unity and fraternity between wage workers of the United States and his country.

"This visit is for me to embrace fraternally Mr. Gompers and to salute his honorable collaborators," he said. "It is a very happy visit, and it fills me with satisfaction, and I shall carry within my soul great ideals because I understand that with the workers of Mexico and the workers of the

FOREIGN ITEMS

ROMANIA

Wages in Roumania

The Roumanian Ministry of Labor has just published a report on the wage movements in Roumania in 1923. In the first half-year information is given concerning eighteen towns which have industrial inspection, and in the second half-year concerning twenty-six.

In nearly every town and trade there were wage movements in 1923. Especially was this the case with the unskilled workers and dockers. There have also been considerable wage increases for workers in trades requiring no special training.

Among skilled workers, the trades most successful in obtaining rises are those connected either directly or indirectly with the building industry.

The report makes special mention of the excellent work done by the trade unions in securing these increases. It declares that "the rise in wages are a natural consequence of the good organization of certain trades."

BELGIUM

The 23rd Congress of the Belgian Federation

On August 2, the 23rd Congress of the Belgian Federation of Trade Unions was opened at Brussels. After discussing the Report of Activities, the Congress at once proceeded to deal with the question of the reaction and the eight-hour day. It confirmed the resolution passed by the Vienna Congress of the I. F. T. U. on the question of working hours. The reaction of the Clerical-Liberal Coalition Government was denounced for its sabotage of social legislation. It can find no money for social insurance and very little for old age pensions and workers' dwellings, but it can nevertheless vote 800 million francs for the military estimates. The resolution ended with a protest against the inaction of the government in the face of profiteering and speculation in foodstuffs.

On Sunday there was a mass demonstration, in which the whole congress took part on behalf of the railwaymen who were dismissed for their part in the great railway strike of 1923. Twenty thousand persons took part in this demonstration; and there were 250 flags and twenty bands.

SWITZERLAND

The Swiss Federation of Trade Unions, 1920-1924

The Executive Committee of the Swiss Federation of Trade Unions has just published its report for the period from 1920 to 1924.

In 1914 the Federation had 89,000 members; in 1919 it had 223,588 members, organized in twenty unions, and at the end of 1923, 151,418 members, in nineteen unions. Since 1919, therefore, there has been a loss of about 72,000 members. Several unions have disappeared as the result of amalgamation; thus for instance, the unions of building workers, wood and stone-workers, painters and workers in plaster of Paris, and also the carpenters' union have all been absorbed into the Swiss Building & Woodworkers' Union; moreover, the two unions of the clothing and leather workers are now represented by a single union, the Clothing and Leather Workers' Union.

New accessions to the Federation are the Unions of Chorus Singers and Ballet Dancers, the Postal Clerks, the Workers in the Embroidery Industry, the Telegraph Clerks and the Telephone and Telegraph Workers. The Swiss Foremen's Union was also on the point of joining the Federation, but when the building workers demanded that it should give up its independence, it refused to do so, and joined the Association of Swiss Salaried Employees instead. In October, 1923, the Federation of Workers in the Printing and Allied Trades was created, in order that the various unions concerned might have the advantages of mutual assistance and propaganda. Unfortunately, this loose alliance of organizations has had its usefulness much impaired by quarrels between the lithographers and printing operatives.

United States united, it will be very hard for the capitalist forces of the country or whatever country to oppress my people."

Textile Workers Plead Against Mill Bondage

In a plea to the pulpit, press and women of the Carolinas for assistance, the textile workers' joint council declares that there are nearly 10,000 men, women and children in the mills and factories of North Carolina "who are not allowed to advance as the balance of the State advances. They are not allowed to live like other citizens live. They are denied the opportunities of the larger life that other citizens enjoy."

The textile mills of North Carolina employ the largest single group of people in this commonwealth, but they are not permitted to function as citizens, the workers state.

"Their economic condition has been such that as a group they have grown up in illiteracy. These textile workers have no self-determination in their own lives. They are at the mercy of employers who dictate the terms of employment and through ownership of the workers' houses dictate the lives of these employees,

"There can be no pride in citizenship when people are thus controlled."

Education Among Miners

The United Mine Workers of Sub District No. 5 of District No. 12 at Taylorville have opened an Educational Department. They are planning to start classes in the fall.

The Missouri Labor College

The Kansas City Labor College is now planning to open September 15 with classes in the History of the American Labor Movement and How to Run a Union Meeting. In addition they will have a monthly Forum on Civic and Economic questions.



EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES

The One-Day Conference on Workers' Education

By A. J. MUSTE

Chairman of Faculty, Brookwood Labor College; Vice-President, American Federation of Teachers

That interest in the practical problems of workers' education on the part of responsible officers and members of the trade unions is increasing was evidenced by the One-Day Conference on Workers' Education held in connection with the summer school at Brookwood Labor College, Katonah, N. Y., on Sunday, July 13. The conference was held under the joint auspices of the Central Trades and Labor Council of New York and Vicinity, the Workers' Education Bureau of America and Brookwood.

The Workers' Education Bureau was represented by Miss Fannia M. Cohn, its vice-president, who presided at the morning session and opened the discussion. The Central Trades and Labor Council was represented by J. P. Coughlin, secretary; J. Erickson, treasurer; A. Lefkowitz, chairman of the educational committee; Thomas Walsh, executive board member. Mr. Lefkowitz presided at the afternoon session. The Brookwood faculty was represented by A. J. Muste, chairman, and David J. Sapos, instructor in labor problems. Among the 60 people present there were also a number of former students of Brookwood and of labor classes in various centers, who were called upon to take part in the discussion.

Among those in attendance at the conference were members of the following international unions: machinists, pattern makers, iron workers, teachers, librarians, furriers, amalgamated clothing workers, garment workers, telephone operators, electricians, carpenters, cloth hat and cap makers, bookkeepers and stenographers, Federal employes and musicians.

No set program had been mapped out for the conference as it was desired that there should be a free and full discussion on the part of all the members. After brief remarks by a few of the officers present, the morning and afternoon sessions were devoted to such discussion. Among those making brief preliminary remarks were Mr. Carl Karsten of the Musicians' Union, chairman of the Education Committee of the Atlanta, Georgia Central Labor Union; Mr. Robert Fechner, General Executive Board member of the International Association of Machinists; and Dr. Alfred D. Sheffield of the Boston Trade Union College. "What Does Labor Expect of Teachers in Workers' Classes" was the primary subject announced for discussion. Teachers and students present were also given an opportunity, however, to state their points of view.

It is not possible to present here even a condensed report of the proceedings, giving the substance of what was contributed by various members to the discussion. It must suffice to mention a few of the more interesting points brought out.

Labor men urged that teachers and others who are interested in workers' education should not try to go too fast. The labor movement has always been interested in the subject of education, but workers' education for adults in its present form is new

to them. The idea must be "sold" like any other idea. For this much, preliminary general advertising of the idea is necessary and this was only begun a few months ago when at the Portland Convention the A. F. of L. adopted workers' education as an integral part of its program.

Several interesting suggestions were made on the important question of how individual members of the unions are to be informed of the organization of classes and induced to join. The I. L. G. W. U. makes wide use of leaflets in various languages, describing the courses, and also of syllabi prepared in advance by instructors. In advertising courses care must be taken to make the announcement specific and not general. Instead of announcing a course in "Labor Problems," announce a course in "How to Make Agreements With Employers," "What Can a Labor Bank Do for Your Organization?" giving some specific suggestions in your publicity material of how problems such as these affect the particular organization involved. Effective use can be made of the official organ in announcing courses, giving syllabi or reports of lectures and discussions held, thus keeping the subject constantly before the attention of all the members, whether they attend classes or not. In a number of instances those who have attended classes and become aware of their potential value to the practical trade unionist are organized into speakers' committees that visit the various local unions in order to interest members in Workers' Education.

In Raleigh, N. C., the Central Labor Union has organized committees, the members of which are canvassing all of the members of all the local unions in the city individually, with a view to finding out what subjects they desire to have taught in the classes that are to be opened there in the fall. This is perhaps the first instance on record in this country of such a thorough-going canvass. From one of the students present came the pertinent suggestion that classes might be popularized and attendance greatly increased if more use were made of the students in the classes themselves, on advisory committees, giving attention to the problems of teachers to be engaged, subjects to be presented, methods of teaching, interesting fellow workers in the shop, etc.

In the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, for example, the student body elects a student council and three of its members sit with the faculty and participate in planning of courses. They also have meetings from time to time to discuss the problems of the class. Each local union of the I. L. G. W. U. elects an educational committee of three members who constitute the Joint Conference of Local Educational Committees. This body meets from time to time with the officers of the Educational Department and participates in the planning of the educational activities of the union. The function of the members of the Educational Committee of the local unions is to keep their membership informed of the educa-

Bring Your Lunch and Your Bathing Suit

To the Outing up the Hudson which the Students' Council of our Workers' University and Unity Centers is planning for Sunday, September 7. It will be an all-day affair, so you had better bring your supper, too. Tickets are on sale now at the office of the Educational Department.

tional activities and advise that they take advantage of them.

In many cases when the word education is mentioned, the trade unionist thinks of the school which he attended when he was a boy, where he sat at a desk and studied subjects in which he was not greatly interested, under a teacher who failed to stimulate his thought and imagination. When you ask him to join a workers' class, he is naturally not at all eager to go back to that sort of experience and probably religiously keeps away from the class. Something must be done to show the individual trade unionist what really happens in workers' classes conducted according to modern educational methods. This was done during the past winter by the Central Trades and Labor Council of New York when one evening a discussion of a labor temple for New York City was made the special order of business at the regular meeting of the Council. The discussion was led by Dr. Calhoun of Brookwood Labor College. In a few moments all the members of the Council present were engaged in an exciting discussion of the subject. After this had gone on for nearly an hour and some interesting and useful conclusions had been reached, the chairman of the education committee announced: "Now you've had a sample of what workers' education means. It is subjects of practical importance like this, that are discussed by methods such as have been employed here this evening. In our workers' classes. Come and join, and see that the members of your local unions join."

Repeatedly in the course of the discussion it was brought out that success or failure in workers' education, particularly in its pioneering stages, frequently depends upon the teacher.

Complaint was made of the teacher who has a good knowledge of his subject and some skill in teaching, but has had no labor contacts and consequently does not know how to win the sympathy and confidence of labor people, and on the other hand, of the teacher who may know something about his subject and be interested in labor but who knows nothing about teaching method. Worst of all perhaps is the teacher who is too "clever," who indulges in witticisms at the expense of members of the class. It must be remembered that the confidence of all the members of the class must be won, they must feel certain that they will receive fair play in the discussion and that their ignorance is not going to be made the butt for the jokes of a clever professor!

Shall literature be taught and theoretical productions be staged by workers' classes and labor colleges? One of the students present who strongly protested against introducing these subjects into the curriculum and argued for concentrating attention almost entirely upon economics and labor problems, precipitated the

most heated discussion of the entire session. At the close there was perhaps something like a consensus of opinion on this basis: We are talking of two types of education which must be more carefully analyzed than has yet been done by our movement. On the one hand there is what may be called mass education, which tries to reach the membership as a whole, who either cannot or will not give much time to careful study of the detailed problems confronting the unions, but who must have a general knowledge of these problems and above all must have their loyalty and enthusiasm for the organization aroused and sustained. It is here the problem of educating the emotions rather than the mind. Mass meetings, popular lectures, theatricals, outdoor activities and immense extensions of the interest of the unions in the recreational and aesthetic life of their members and even of the children of members, is desirable in this connection.

On the other hand, there is the problem of the education of the officers and the key members of the unions. Here "popular" methods are out of place and harmful. The subjects presented must be those that have a close connection with the actual problems which the students confront in their trade union activity. In studying these problems they must do thorough and conscientious work. Here our aim must not be numbers. It is not to be expected that large numbers will be prepared for this thorough work. Greater results will come from a few thoroughly trained than from many superficially trained.

While we often say that in workers' education we are using modern methods and breaking away from the conventions, it is to be feared that our approach is frequently pretty conventional. The moment education is mentioned, we think of a class. If a class has been organized, education is going on. If a class has not been organized, then no educational work is being done. The fact of the matter is that the chief field for education is in the meetings of labor organizations, of shops, local executive boards, district councils, central labor unions, international conventions. Here the actual problems confronting the organizations are discussed and workable solutions have to be discovered. As it is, an immense amount of education is achieved in these meetings. Frequently, however, the discussions are far from being truly educational in their effect. Often this is due to the fact that the chairman of the meeting does not know how to preside and so to guide the discussion that all the members will have a chance to present their point of view, no personalities will be allowed, no professional speech-makers will be permitted to monopolize all the time, etc. Perhaps the workers' education movement should

(Continued on Page 11)



Wage Theories and Arguments

The Relation Between Wages and Prices

On few economic subjects is there more misunderstanding than on the relationship between wages and the prices of articles sold in retail and wholesale trade. When prices were rapidly rising, we used to hear much of the "vicious circle" argument from employers. This contended that when a rising cost of living brought about wage increases, these advances in turn caused higher costs of production, which again raised prices and the cost of living. So it was argued that wage increase did not benefit the wage-earner. But when prices started to fall, it was argued that wages must come down equally, because if they did not, profit would be eliminated, employers would cease production, and unemployment would be intensified. Whenever a discrepancy appears between the movement of wages and the movement of prices, it is argued by many economists that wages are "out of line," that the economic balance is disturbed, and that wages and prices must again be brought to a parallel situation before business can go on.

"The Vicious Circle"

Let us first examine the "vicious circle" argument. The most superficial study of price statistics will show that as a rule, during a period of rising prices, wholesale prices rise first, retail prices second, and wages last of all. Furthermore, wholesale prices usually rise much faster than wages. These facts prove that rising wages are not the cause of rising prices, but rather a delayed consequence. The inflation is due to other disturbances, such as too rapid expansion of money and credit, or temporary scarcity of important articles. In such a period prices usually increase much more rapidly than wages. If wages were not increased at all, prices would advance just the same, profit would grow even more than they do, and the employer would be the sole beneficiary. Meanwhile, due to the lag of wages behind the increasing cost of living, the purchasing power of the wage-earners would be materially reduced, popular demand would correspondingly decrease, and industry would be heading for a crisis of "over-production" and depression even faster than it does under existing conditions.

"Deflation of Wages"

Equally false was the argument that when prices fell, wages had to be "deflated" as much before production could pick up again. As a matter of fact, during the depression of 1920-22, wholesale prices fell much faster and further than retail prices, and wages went down less and considerably less than either wholesale or retail prices. In some industries and trades organized labor succeeded in preventing any wage reduction. Yet in 1922 and 1923 we experienced a spirited industrial revival and the largest production of history. It turned out that profits and the prices of raw materials had been so high that they could stand a considerable reduction without bringing wages down with them. It was also discovered that Labor costs could be reduced without corresponding wage cuts. And the fact that wages fell less than the

cost of living bestowed an increased purchasing power on the great army of wage-earners which helped along the revival by increasing the demand in the retail markets.

What Employers Overlook

We have thus learned from experience that wages do not have the close relationship to prices which the arguments of employers often contend. Why is this? What is the sound theory of the matter?

Let us first look at the process of production. When profits are large, prices can often be reduced merely by cutting into profits. This applies not only to the profit of the individual manufacturer, but to that of the owner of raw material supplies such as coal or iron. It also applies to wholesale and retail merchants. By the time profits all along the line have been deflated, a considerable price reduction may have been drawn solely from profits. The same reasoning applies to rising prices.

The lowest limit of prices is of course set by the cost of production. But cost of production is a different thing from wages. It may be reduced considerably by new machinery, better processes, good management, and the elimination of waste, without touching wages. Even that part of the cost of production called labor cost is a different thing from wages. Wages are what is paid to the worker for an hour's or a week's time. But the cost of labor in a given article may rise or fall without any change in wage payments to the individual worker, because of changes in the efficiency of the worker's time is used. As a matter of fact, technical improvements constantly take place in industry which reduce production costs without reducing wages. It is quite possible to combine rising wages with reduced costs of production and lower prices. Wages are not the price of labor, but the income of the worker. Wages do not necessarily have to follow the course of prices.

Now let us look at the process from the side of consumption. Industry cannot be busy unless its products are consumed by the general population. The wage-earners make up a large part of the population, and their purchasing power in the retail markets furnishes much of the demand which keeps their employers' factories busy. On account of technical improvements, industry is constantly turning out a larger volume of products per person employed. How are these extra products to be bought by consumers unless the purchasing power of the consumers is increased? But the purchasing power of consumers cannot be increased unless their incomes rise faster than prices they have to pay, or unless prices fall faster than their incomes. If wage-earners are to furnish their customary share of the retail demand for the constantly enlarging volume of products, their wages must in the long run rise faster than prices, or fall more slowly than prices. Therefore it is essential that in order to maintain business in a healthy condition, wages must constantly be "out of line" with prices. They must rise faster than prices in the long run.

РУССКО-ПОЛЬСКИЙ ОТДЕЛ

ВНИМАНИЮ КЛЮЧЕЙКЕРОВ!

В Понедельник, 25-го Августа, в 7 ч. 30 м. вечера, в доме 315 Нот 10-ой ул., состоится СОБРАНИЕ членов Р.-П. О. Ключейкеров.

В порядке дня важные вопросы. Присутствие по явке. На рассмотрение по порядку, 12-го Августа, массовое собрание членов Русско-Польского отдела ключейкерской организации для составления наряда Секретаря Отдела и следующих за докладом продолжительных дискуссий в связи с возложением которое сообразно вследствие реорганизации нашей промышленности.

Секретарь докладывает о том, что официально забастовка закончена, и что все забастовочные комитеты, за исключением швейного — распустили, и прекращают комитет образ функционировать до тех пор пока мастерицы с аккордом не имеют возможности заключить договоры не закончатся.

Секретарь также докладывает договор который комитет подписывает с независимыми фабрикантами. Договор этот в фундаменте такого же содержания как и договор подписанный с "дизайнерами", за исключением, что в нем упущены пункты взаимостоповской работы хозяева и работники в мастерской. Ниже помещены наиболее важные из пунктов этого договора:

- 1) В мастерской все время должно быть "мал чарми" выбранный работник, который является представителем работников и из дел с фабрикантами.
- 2) Рабочая неделя должна состоять из 44 часов в сутки рабочий день, по 8 часов в неделю в норме 5 дней недели и 4 часа в субботу. Работать не должны работать в субботу после обеда в каждый день в воскресенье.
- 3) Секретарь работы не должна быть допущен в а в доме своего между Ноябрь 15-м и Декабрь 31-м, и между Маям 1-м и Июнем 15-м. В остальное же время, когда допускается секретарская работа, тайная - должна превышать 10 часов в неделю и должна быть ограничена периодами 3-5 дней недели. Дополнительно секретарская работа должна быть только в исключительных случаях и то только с письменным разрешением комитета. Все "операторы", "финансиров" и "инженеры" должны получать поощрительную плату за свою секретарскую работу. Все остальные рабочие в промышленности должны за секретарскую работу получать двойную плату.
- 4) Члены комитета не должны работать на специально назначенных в мастерской без особого письменного согласия между хозяином и комитетом, отменяется плата за работу на таких специально назначенных.
- 5) Все рабочие в индустрии должны получать плату за следующие праздники в день:
 - 1) День Рождения Вашингтона; 2) День Помощника (неформал); 3) День Независимости; 4) День Независимости; 5) День Рождения Христова, и за пользование или выбора, и не должны работать в эти дни.

Рабочие также имеют право не работать 1-го Мая, но без получения платы за этот день. Итальянские рабочие име-

ют право не работать в День Ключейкера не получать за этот день.

6) Все рабочие не должны получать никаких установленных комиссионных (своих). Исключением могут быть случаи для строителей и валя, платя для поставщикам должны быть установленными комиссиями, законным и легальным работам и строительным работам.

7) Жалованье рабочих в мастерской после введения испытательного должно быть одобрено комитетом.

8) Хозяин не имеет права увольнять жалованья работников, который получает комиссионные. Должна жалованья данным работнику должны предоставляться до истечения срока действительности этого договора.

9) Список получаемых работниками жалованья подписанный хозяином и "машинистами" должен быть представлен в комитет.

10) Хозяин должен иметь право в форме одобренной комиссией, в эти карты должны записываться жалованьям и заработанным часам каждого работника, платя этот жалованья должны быть представлены комитету в конце каждого месяца.

11) Все рабочие после введения проблемы считаются постоянными работниками фабрики и должны пользоваться всеми правами и привилегиями этого договора.

12) Хозяин не имеет права входить в индивидуальную договор, заключенный или устный, или с одним из отдельных работников своей мастерской и не должен брать никаких жалованья со своих работников.

13) Последний аргумент со всеми работниками мастерской относительно гарантии определенного числа рабочих в результате или в случае должен быть сделан в разрешении комитета. В случае невыполнения хозяином принятых на обязательства он отвечает за это перед своим работником.

14) Хозяин не должен уменьшать часов своих рабочих в течение всего срока с кем этот договор. О разрешении комитета и комитета рабочий может быть освобожден от посещения мастерской и в эти часы в этой мастерской или на часов не работ.

В этом случае хозяин не имеет права заставить отсутствующего рабочего вернуться, но уведомил работодателя через комитет, чтобы отсутствующий рабочий возвратился в мастерскую.

15) Сдача работы в контракт определенную плату не в день своего не должна допускаться в мастерской.

16) Хозяин не должен давать работу на дом.

17) Не один оператор или финансиров не должны иметь больше одного помещения. Помещения финансиров на основании этого договора являются рабочей работой и должны принимать полную оплату, и не делают никакой другой работы.

18) Хозяин должен дать рабочим жалованья жалованья мастерским работникам и устных посредников и работникам жалованья и также жалованья жалованья рабочих всеми принятыми за работы принадлежностями и материалами.

Шевченко, Секретарь.

Baltimore Cloak Strike Ending

(Continued from Page 1)

shops and places responsibility for production upon the local jobbers as well. The agreement also provides for the unemployment insurance fund, as we reported last week, and the sanitary union label will eventually be introduced in the Baltimore market as it has been in New York. It will, of course, now depend largely on the Baltimore cloak makers them-

selves to make the agreement a living and effective force, and it is to be hoped that after their sad experiences of the last few years, the members of Local 4 will now cooperate loyally and wholeheartedly with their organization and its manager to keep Baltimore a clean-cut Union city and to maintain and continually improve their hard-won standards of work and living.

The One-Day Conference on Workers' Education

(Continued from Page 10)

consider establishing courses to teach chairmen how to be chairmen.

As one of the members of the conference, who had come from a great distance to attend the Brookwood summer school stated, he had come not merely to get concrete suggestions, but a "feeling" of what was going on in the workers' education movement, in order that he might go

back and make his own central labor union a part of it. The "feeling" one gets from a conference where so many as 60 labor people give up an entire Sunday in the middle of the summer to discuss workers' education is that in spite of its infancy and of the many mistakes still being made, this movement has become an integral part of the American labor movement.

The Week In Local 10

By SAM B. SHENKER

A Lively Special Meeting
Members of Local 10 by this time are used to large meetings. Time was when an attendance of nearly a thousand at a meeting called for special comment in these columns. During the past year or so a number of important meetings were held at which thousands seemed ordinary. The regular meetings during the past two years were attended by more than half the number of the special ones.

But the last special meeting, which took place Monday night, August 18, in Arlington Hall, was unusual in another respect. President Ancel called the meeting to order at eight o'clock and discussion did not end until a few minutes before midnight. This was due to the recommendation of the Executive Board to increase the dues of the local to fifty cents per week.

Members are no doubt familiar with this question. The Boston convention of the International had decided that an increase of five cents of the per capita to the International was in effect. The General Executive Board at one of its sessions in this city postponed the increase on account of the then pending situation in the cloak and suit industry. Upon the termination of the reorganization campaign the increased rate became due on August 15. Letters to the members were sent out to this effect.

Manager Dubinsky called a special meeting of the Executive Board in the afternoon of Monday, August 18. The manager reported to the Board that the Executive Committee had unanimously recommended the levying of an assessment of \$20 and the increase of the dues to fifty cents per week. The Executive Board of Local 10 considered this matter and recommended to the membership at the special meeting: (1) The increase of the local's dues to fifty cents per week and (2) that the delegates of Local 10 to the Joint Board be instructed to propose the levying of the assessment.

A lively discussion followed the reading of these recommendations. Opposition was evident from the first, as some members sought to separate the recommendation. But the chairman ruled that the recommendation of the Board should be acted upon as a whole, as the members could then, in the event of the rejection of the recommendation, vote to instruct the delegates as they saw fit. The ruling of President Ancel stood, no one appealing.

Question Discussed Nearly Four Hours

The writer does not remember when a question was discussed at such a great length as was the present question of an increase in dues. As stated, the meeting started at eight in the evening and did not wind up until nearly midnight. No other question was considered. No other motions were made.

The list of speakers numbered nearly forty. After some twenty or so spoke, a motion to place the previous question was carried. A decided majority voted against the increase. But this did not take place until three and one-half hours after the meeting was opened.

The dues are increased automatically, however, five cents. This point could not be decided for or against. The convention had increased the per capita. The reports of delegates on this question, among other things, were accepted by the members at the meetings called for this purpose. This was made plain to the members by Manager Dubinsky.

Strike Machinery Disbanded
The re-organization campaign in the

cloak and suit industry formally terminated on Monday, August 11, when the General Strike Committee disbanded. On Thursday, August 14, the Joint Board held its first regular meeting, following the re-organization walkout on Tuesday, July 8.

That the re-organization campaign was successful is not doubted by those who are in close contact with the union and by those who are active in its affairs. The number of small shops has considerably decreased by the refusal of the union to sign with employers whose factories carry less than fourteen machines and an equal number of operators.

Considerable work is now in store for the union. Constant controlling and investigating will be kept up in order to make it impossible for small shops to spring up.

Some Large Firms Settle
The union has been successful not only in its campaign against the small shops. It has met with considerable success also in the struggle it waged against some of the large shops. A former large union shop, which has combated the union for a number of months and has met with defeat on every field, including its attempt to secure an injunction to restrain the union from conducting its fight, was finally forced to make overtures for settlement.

Another firm, styled as one of the big ones in the cloak and suit industry, which conducted an open shop for nearly fifteen years, was finally compelled to settle with the union. All previous attempts to organize that shop had met with failure.

Heads of Committee Praised
The last General Strike Committee meeting was conducted under the chairmanship of International President Morris Sigman. Among those who headed different committees and who were praised for their work was Manager Dubinsky, who was head of the Organization Committee.

In his report to this committee he said that the most arduous task which confronted him was the supplying of reorganized shops with work staffs and keeping these there until work would begin.

How efficiently and harmoniously the work of the committee was conducted under Dubinsky's leadership, and how much Dubinsky's work was appreciated, were most eloquently brought out at the Executive Board meeting of Local 10 on Thursday, August 14.

At this session of the Board a committee appeared, consisting of Maurice Jacobs, Local 10; Charles Jacobson, Local 23, and I. Rosenblatt, Local 68, representing the Organization Committee. They presented Manager Dubinsky with a gift in the form of a photo outfit, in appreciation of his work on this committee. The committee was unanimous in its opinion that never in the course of their experiences in connection with work on strike committees did they derive more pleasure in their work than in the committee headed by Manager Dubinsky.

Dubinsky was highly pleased with the gift, particularly because it was an expression of the fine spirit which prevailed in the work of the Organization Committee. The arrangements for the presentation of the gift and the banquet which was tendered in honor of Dubinsky were carried on under the leadership of Brother Louis Heit, Complaint Clerk for the American, Independent and Shirt Department of the Joint Board.

Manager Secures More Increases
Among the many things that awaited the return of Dubinsky following the termination of the campaign was the matter of securing increases for

the cutters of a number of large shops. During the campaign, when the cutters were being sent back from Arlington Hall, the aid of the union was sought by some of the cutters to secure increases for them. However, under the pressure of strike work this was postponed until the return of normal conditions in the union.

The manager could not undertake this immediately upon his return to the office, however. This was due to the need for a control. When the shops were canvassed and the accumulated work decreased somewhat Dubinsky was able to give his attention to the question of the increases.

During the course of the latter part of last week and the early part of this week he visited a few of the large shops. In some of these he was compelled to spend half-days, discussing and arguing and insisting on an increase in wages, but in the end was successful in every attempt.

Controlling Continues

The manager has now the number of controllers who were engaged during the past two weeks. When he discussed with the Executive Board the condition of the shops he informed it that more than the usual number of controllers would have to be put to work for a few weeks. This was in order to make an immediate and complete survey of every shop.

Upon the completion of the general control two controllers were retained to whom were assigned special cases. That there is need for the controllers at the present time is borne out by the many shops which they visited.

It is not only cloak shops which are being visited. Dress shops, too, are in need of constant control and are now being investigated.

The result of these controls are interesting. Nearly each visit uncovers violations. As an instance of this it is not necessary to cite one case. During the course of an investigation in one dress shop, it was found that a cutter had neglected the payment of his dues for about eleven months. He was instructed to report to the office and place himself in good standing.

It developed that this cutter, who was also a pattern maker, lost little time and that it was pure neglect which had caused his arrears over the nine-month limit. This cutter was made to pay a new initiation fee as a penalty for his negligence.

Activities Among Raincoat Cutters

Agreements in the raincoat making industry have been renewed without any interruption of work. Upon the expiration of the agreements with the employers in this trade, Local 20 forwarded a communication to them and requested a renewal.

Every agreement that was to have been renewed was signed up. A num-

ber of new shops were added to the union's list without difficulty. A list of these shops is in possession of Local 10 and shortly a canvass of the shops will be made in order to determine as to whether cutters are employed and if they comply with union regulations.

Those raincoat cutters who have not renewed their working cards should do so at once. No excuse will be accepted by the office when upon a visit to a shop a cutter is found working without a card or with last season's card.

Another Special Meeting

The Executive Board at its last session discussed a number of important questions. Manager Dubinsky rendered a complete report and the Board for that reason thought it advisable to declare the coming meeting a special one.

The meeting will take place on Monday, August 25, in Arlington Hall. Members are requested to attend.

Miscellaneous

There was no meeting of the Miscellaneous Division last Monday night owing to the fact that the hall was taken for the holding of the special general meeting where the increase in dues was considered. The members of this division will be advised, as heretofore, by mail of their next regular meeting. In the meantime important questions are under consideration.

No doubt the membership of this branch of Local 10 is familiar with the creation of the Council in the Miscellaneous Trades. Every local which is not affiliated with the Cloak and Dress Joint Board is affiliated with this Council, which will conduct organization work for these locals. Local 10, which numbers among its members men employed in these trades, is also affiliated with the Council.

A number of problems confront the new Council, among them the renewal of agreements in some trades which expire shortly. One of these, the agreement in Local 91, expires this month.

The matter of beginning an organization drive in the bath robe industry was taken up by the Council by International President Morris Sigman, who was present upon the request of the Miscellaneous Council. President Sigman suggested that the present agreements should be extended until the time limit of the agreement in the dress industry. President Sigman said that when this agreement expires a concerted drive would be launched for the organization of the open shops in all of the miscellaneous trades.

CUTTERS' UNION, LOCAL 10

CLCOAK AND SUIT cutters are not to return to work or accept a new position without securing the necessary permission and working card from the office of Local 10.

DRESS AND WAIST cutters must renew their working cards beginning now. All cutters found working on the old card are liable to a fine.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Special controllers will be sent out during next week to visit the shops. If any member will be found working without a working card he will be summoned before the Executive Board and fined, as per the constitution.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

SPECIAL MEETING . . Monday, August 25

PURPOSE—The consideration of an important resignation.

REGULAR MEETING Monday, September 8

Meetings Begin at 7:30 P. M.

AT ARLINGTON HALL, 23 St. Mark's Place