

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

—Job 27.6

JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

Vol. VI, No. 42.

New York, Friday, October 17, 1924.

Price 2 Cents

Quarter Million Dollars Collected By Unemployment Insurance Fund

Result of Six Weeks' Collections—Rules For Distribution Soon To Be Agreed Upon

The General Office has announced this week that the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund, established under the provision of the last agreement in the cloak industry of New York upon the explicit recommendation of Governor Smith's Special Commission, has now reached a total of \$250,000. The Fund has been in operation only about six weeks.

President Sigman, who is one of the Union's trustees on the Unemployment Fund, stated in reply to an inquiry that very shortly a meeting of all the trustees will be held to adopt a set of rules governing the distribution of the money collected by the Unemployment Insurance Fund. Prior to that meeting, a conference of all heads of the Cloakmakers' organiza-

tion will be summoned to decide upon regulations to be suggested by the Union to the trustees of the Fund for the proper distribution of this money among the unemployed.

President Sigman expects that after the weekly collections for the Unemployment Fund get firmly and regularly established in the cloak industry, the annual total will reach to about \$1,600,000, which would be sufficient to fully meet the need for which it was created. There are still a number of shops have not fully met their duty in this matter, and the shop chairmen in these shops are once more urgently reminded that it is their bounden obligation to strictly observe that the firms forward weekly the insurance check to the Unemployment Insurance Office. It is a duty which no shop chairman should shrink as it is upon their fidelity in carrying out this rule that the success of this important measure to relieve the ravages and the misery of unemployment in the cloak industry will depend.

Pres. Sigman Goes To Boston

Locals 24 and 49 Merged Into One

President Morris Sigman will leave Friday, October 17, for Boston, to meet with the Boston Joint Board and to take part in a joint meeting of all the local executive boards.

The meeting of the General Executive Board last week adopted two decisions with regard to Boston. One of these provides for an energetic organizing campaign in the dress and waist trades of that city for the purpose of enrolling all the workers in these trades into Local 49. The second resolution calls for the merging of Local 24, the skirt makers of Boston, with the dress makers' organization, Local 49. It was pointed out at the meeting that such a merger would rebound to the benefit of the workers in both trades who are at present largely employed in the same shops.

President Sigman's trip to Boston is for the purpose of expediting the carrying out of these two decisions. While there, President Sigman intends to take full stock of the local situation in general and of the condition of the individual locals in particular.

Expelled Members May Rejoin I. L. G. W. U. On Probation

Several of the men and women who were expelled from the International Union last year for having defiantly refused to sever their affiliation with the Trade Union "Educational" League, which is regarded by the I. L. G. W. U. as an opposition union, have forwarded requests to the last meeting of the G. E. B. asking for reinstatement and declaring that they no more belong to this opposition league and would never again rejoin it.

After considering these requests, the G. E. B. decided that these ex-members and similar applicants be

allowed to rejoin the Union as new members with the provision that they be put on probation for the next two years so as to avoid any bad faith on the part of any one who might want to come back into the Union for the purpose of creating trouble.

During the two years of probation, these new members will not be eligible for office and their conduct in the Union will be watched closely. If they, by any act, will show that their purpose in rejoining lacked faith and sincerity, they will be forthwith expelled.

Israel Feinberg and Mollie Friedman Must Be Elected

East Side District Solid For Feinberg—Great Activity In Harlem For Miss Friedman—Mass Meeting With Berger and La Guardia a Huge Success

The La Follette movement has infused great enthusiasm into the Socialist and Labor campaign in New York City. On all sides it is being predicted that the returns this year for the candidates on the Third Party ticket will break all past records. The New York Labor movement is all alive with the campaign and is eagerly anticipating cheerful results on November 4.

The organized workers in our trades, particularly the cloak and dress makers, are conducting a very energetic campaign to elect Israel Feinberg to Congress and Mollie Friedman to Assembly. Feinberg, the general manager of the Cloak and Dress Joint Board, has been nominated in the Twelfth Congressional District, Meyer London's old district, and his campaign is being vigorously pushed by the special cloak makers' and dress makers' committee which has in the past helped so materially to elect Meyer London to Congress. Last Thursday noon, at a luncheon meeting at the Civic Club, 14 West 12th street, a large number of representative men and women from the local Labor movement met and pledged their full aid and cooperation towards the election of Brother Feinberg to Congress from the Twelfth District. Among those present were President Sigman, Louis Hyman of Local 9, Philip Kaplowitz, cashier of the International Bank; Dr. Henry Moskowitz, director of the Label Department in the cloak industry; Abraham Brownstein, manager of the Furriers' Joint Board; Vice-presidents Joseph Bres-

law, Jacob Heller, Sol Seidman, David Dubinsky, and Fannie M. Cohn of the I. L. G. W. U., Harry Lang of the Forward, Louis London, S. Korn, of the Butchers' Union, and Israel Feinberg. Brother Sam Perlmutter of Local 16 presided.

Miss Friedman's Campaign

The campaign to elect Miss Mollie Friedman, one of the most active members of the dress makers' organization in New York, is being carried on with no less energy. Miss Fried-

"Wells and World History," a lecture by Mr. J. Herrabin, will be given on Saturday afternoon, October 18, at 1:15 p. m. in the auditorium of the I. L. G. W. U. building, 3 West 16th street.

Mr. Herrabin is the distinguished illustrator of Wells' "Outline of History." He is also a lecturer at the

London Labour College and the editor of "Flecha." Mr. and Mrs. Herrabin are coming over from England to the United States for a few weeks only. This will be the first lecture that he will give in this country.

Admission is free to members of the I. L. G. W. U.

soned her to Albany to fight for the interests of the working class population of the Seventeenth District. Mrs. Marie MacDonald, a well-known Socialist and Labor campaigner and a member of our Local 58; the Bonnaz Embroiderers' Union, is managing Miss Friedman's campaign.

Star Casino Rally a Huge Success

The mass meeting held last Wednesday, October 15, in Star Casino, in the Harlem District, to ratify the candidacy of Miss Friedman and of Congressman La Guardia turned out

(Continued on Page 2)

All Cloak Operators In New York To Belong To One Local

General Executive Board Decides to Amalgamate Locals 1, 11 and 17

Among the important decisions adopted at the meeting of the General Executive Board, which came to a close last Tuesday after an unprecedented long session, the decision to amalgamate all the cloak and suit operators in Greater New York into one local, undoubtedly takes first place. Heretofore, these operators were distributed among three locals—Local 1, of New York; Local 11, of Brownsville, and the Reefmakers' Union, Local 17. The decision of the G. E. B. means the withdrawal of the charters of Local 17 and 11 and the amalgamation of these two locals into Local 1.

The question of merging the three existing cloak operators' locals into

one has more than once in the past come up before the conventions of the I. L. G. W. U. Time and again it was brought-out that the existence of three locals of one craft in the same city is violative of our constitution and works an injury to the workers in the trade. Local 1, the cloak operators' organization of New York, therefore has always insisted that the other locals be amalgamated with it.

This problem, however, never received adequate consideration at conventions. Last May in Boston, Local 1 against raised this question, but discussion upon it having been delayed until the closing hours of the conven-

tion, it was turned over by the delegates to the incoming General Executive for disposition. And the Second Quarterly meeting of the G. E. B., after a mature and thorough-going inquiry into all facts and circumstances, at last decided that this merger take place at once.

Last Tuesday, at the final session of the Board, President Sigman appointed a committee of five vice-presidents to carry out the decision of the G. E. B.—Israel Feinberg, Harry Wander and Jacob Halperin of New York, Max Amund of Philadelphia and Meyer Perlmutter of Chicago. The committee will proceed at once to put this amalgamation into effect.

Israel Feinberg and Mollie Friedman Must Be Elected

(Continued from page 1)

a great success. The meeting was called under the auspices of the New York Cloak and Dress Joint Board. Thousands crowded into the big hall to listen to speeches delivered by Congressman Victor L. Berger of Wisconsin, Congressman La Guardia, Abraham Baroff, Secretary of the I. L. G. W. U., Israel Feinberg, Congressional candidate in the Twelfth District, Marie MacDonald and Miss Mollie Friedman. President Morris Sigman was unable to come to the meeting sent the following telegram:

Mass Meeting,
Star Casino,
167th Street and Park Avenue,
New York City.

I regret deeply by inability to address you tonight and to ask you

in person to give your support to Miss Mollie Friedman and Congressman Fiorello La Guardia. I am nevertheless with you in spirit and I know that I am voicing the mind of every true unionist and of every intelligent worker living within the Twentieth Congressional and Seventeenth Assembly Districts as I plead with you on behalf of these true and tried representatives of working class interests. This is a great political year for Labor and you workers and residents of Harlem can strike a great blow for the cause of freedom and humanity by rolling up a tremendous majority for your own candidates and by sending them to the Assembly and Congress respectively.

MORRIS SIGMAN.

All Cloakmakers and Dressmakers Must Pay Up Arrears

Readers of Justice have been notified in last week's issue that the raise in dues in all the cloak and dress locals in Greater New York will become effective on Monday, October 27. This decision affects Locals 1, 2, 9, 10, 11, 17, 21, 22, 23, 35, 45, 48, 62 and 89—all of them affiliated with the Cloak and Dress Joint Board.

The attention of the members of these locals is again being drawn to the fact that if any of them are at

present in arrears with their dues, that they can still meet such debts, until October 27, at the old rate. After that date, all arrears will have to be paid at the increased rate. It is to be hoped that the cloak and dress makers of Greater New York will not fail to heed this announcement and will pay up whatever they owe at present so that they might not be compelled to pay later at a higher scale.

Educational Season Formally Opens Friday, November 14.

Our Educational Department is busily engaged in making arrangements for the opening celebration of our Educational season that will take place on Friday, November 14. For this occasion the members of our numerous locals will assemble in the auditorium of the Washington Irving High School and listen to a musical program performed by artists. Literature will be distributed describing

the program of our Educational Department for 1924-25.

After the concert those of the audience who wish to join in social dancing will assemble in the gymnasium.

Admission will be by tickets only which will be proportionally distributed within a week among our local unions.

The detailed program will be announced later.

Patterson Strikers Fight Injunction and Police

Efforts of the Patterson mill owners to use the police and injunctions to break the strike of 8,000 workers mark the strike developments in their eighth week. Arrests of over 300 pickets, injunctions against picketing secured by four mills and the action of the chief of police in closing the strikers' hall to meetings addressed by "outside agitators" are the outstanding features. The strike is being conducted by the Associated Silk Workers, a local union in Patterson, which amalgamated the groups formerly organized in several separate unions. Of the 8,000 strikers from 250 shops about 2,000 have returned to work on the strikers' conditions, 113 shops having signed up on their terms. Mass picketing has been conducted since the beginning of the strike and has not been broken by the action of the courts and the police.

The attempt to break the strike by wholesale arrests by the police under the guise that strikers were violating a "nuisance" ordinance, has failed. One hundred and seven strikers were arrested on September 4 charged with loitering and obstructing traffic. The 99 men and 8 women were fined \$5 each, but the cases are being appealed to test the issue, and probably will not be decided until winter. Two hundred further arrests were made later but the final decision in the cases

will be held up pending the outcome of the test cases. Meanwhile the picketing continues.

The manufacturers then resorted to injunctions, which have not yet been finally passed on. Some of the provisions of the temporary restraining order strike directly at peaceful picketing, and even at talking to strike-breakers in their homes. Mass picketing has continued uninterrupted since these injunctions were obtained by the mill-owners. Five pickets have been arrested under the temporary order, and their cases are still pending.

The action of Chief of Police Tracy in closing the Turn Hall, where the strikers have been meeting regularly, because of speeches of "outside agitators" prompted the hall-owner at once to seek an injunction restraining police interference. That application for an injunction is pending in the courts. Meanwhile the strikers are going ahead with meetings not addressed by "outside agitators," and plans for test meetings with those speakers are being arranged by the American Civil Liberties Union in co-operation with political organizations outside the strikers' ranks.

Harry Marelli, a Patterson attorney, is presenting the Associated Silk Workers in their legal proceedings.

Local 50 Tenders Farewell Reception to Sister Gorin

The Philadelphia Dress and Waist Makers' Local, No. 50, arranged last week an unusual surprise affair to one of its most active members, Sister Bessie Gorin, prior to her leaving for Katonah, N. Y., where she intends to take up a course of studies at the Brookwood Labor College.

Sister Gorin's devotion to the local was for her the highest esteem and love of all its members. When she returned home last Saturday, she found to her great amazement, all the members of the Joint Board and a number of her friends assembled at her house to celebrate her entering the Brookwood school. After singing and dancing, the guests were served with refreshments, which was followed by warm talks and speeches of sincere appreciation by many of the guests. Sister Gorin thanked all the speakers for the kind words they expressed on her behalf and for the wonderful spirit displayed towards her. She stated her

hope that her training at the Labor College would further enable her to give to the Union the best in her.

Sister Gorin served the Union for many years as executive board member, as complaint clerk, which office she filled very efficiently and to the satisfaction of all. She was later drafted by the local, in spite of her protests, to act as manager of the Unity House in 1922, and last was elected by the local as delegate to the Boston convention of the International in 1924.

Sister Gorin's straightforward manner and her clear thinking on matters pertaining to the organization, have won for her the esteem of all those who were associated with her in the Union's work.

The following have served on the committee for Sister Gorin's surprise affair: Edith Kalish, Dora Stern, Fannie Shatkin, Nathan Alexander and Anna Levitt.

Ten Big Cleveland Firms Ready To Sign New Pact

The readers will find elsewhere in this issue a full account of conditions in the cloak trade in Cleveland.

The Joint Board in Cleveland is now discussing the terms of the new agreement to be presented to the employers when the present contract expires on December 31, 1924. In anticipation of the forthcoming negotiations, ten of the more important cloak firms in Cleveland have already notified the Board of Referees in the industry that they are ready to renew the agreement with the Union.

At the same time, seven other firms notified the referees that they are not yet ready to sign the new contract. It is, of course, difficult as yet to

properly appraise the full meaning of the attitude of these seven employers, but if their stand should eventually mean a fight, the Cleveland workers will be found ready for it.

There still remain in Cleveland a few manufacturers and contractors in the cloak trade whose shops are not unionized. The Union will now make an effort to bring them within its fold. Vice-president Perstein left for Cleveland shortly after the adjournment of the General Executive Board meeting to take a hand in the local situation.

SKIN DISEASES

THE UNION
HEALTH CENTER
131 East 17th Street

has a highly competent and well-known specialist on Skin Diseases, who attends to the members of the Union every Wednesday from 5 to 6:30.

Fee One Dollar to Members of Participating Locals

How Much Do You Value YOUR FEET?

Do you know that?

UNION HEALTH CENTER

131 East 17th Street

has a specialist on Foot Diseases who attends Clinics on Tuesday and Thursday evenings between 6 and 1:00 P. M.

Fee One Dollar to Members of Participating Locals.

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Has Over Three Thousand Depositors and Growing fast Daily

This is the time to transfer your account

Bring your bank book and begin drawing interest at once.

Member Federal Reserve System

International Union Bank

FIFTH AVENUE

AT 21ST STREET

Our Unions In Middle West

Special Correspondence by A. L.

Among the New York White Goods Workers

By ABRAHAM SNYDER

The Annual Fair in Chicago

In Chicago they are beginning to get ready for the annual fair, the election of business agents in January.

One has to live in Chicago to appreciate what an election in that city really means. The campaign usually begins three months before voting day and it sets Market Street and Milwaukee Avenue all agog. The business agents in office are becoming humanly curious to find out what the "pros" have to say about what will come incidentally, to make as few enemies as possible in the interim. New aspirants are not neglecting to send up occasionally a committee or two to the Joint Board and complaints that here and there a certain business agent had failed to take care of his duty, etc.

One wonders, indeed, what this whole excitement and scrambling is for—when one considers the rather unenviable lot of a Chicago business agent. This paid official—immediately after he is elected—appears to become disenchanted and, beyond the narrow business of adjusting complaints, his opinion on trade matters is no more solicited. He is looked upon as a sort of hired "robot" to be kicked and booted around at will.

The result of it is that today the business agent in Chicago does not consider himself as a leader and he audaciously dodges saying anything that might make enemies and is constantly engaged in the thankless job of avoiding criticism and being criticized. This raises a wall between the paid officer and the rank and file, and the organization, of course, suffers in the end from such a state of affairs.

There are in Chicago a number of intelligent and able men who could have developed into excellent leaders were it not for this strange psychology prevailing among the Chicago cloak makers to the effect that a "democratic" system means not to recognize leadership and to reject or ignore suggestions and recommendations brought in by elected officials. And what is true of the paid officer is true, to a degree, with regard to the unpaid officer, executive board members and members of the joint boards, as well. They, too, are the target of discontent and upon them, too, suspicion and lack of confidence are fastened—entirely without justification or merit.

Vice-president Perlestein, since he arrived in Chicago, has tried hard to educate the rank and file of the local workers to the necessity of recognized leadership. It is, however, not an easy task to wear people away from ingrained habits. He has had to fight and to plead for it until now there are signs that the Chicago organization is about to assume a more sensible course; there is hope that in this forthcoming election, both the voters and those to be voted for will recognize their responsibility and will realize that democratic leadership is not equivalent to chaos and that the more democracy there is in a trade union the more intelligent discipline it needs.

In Cleveland

Ten of the more important members of the cloak manufacturers' as-

sociation of this city have notified the Board of Referees that they are ready to renew the agreement with the Union for the coming year. Seven others informed the Board that they are not ready yet.

What this latter group means by its statement is difficult at this moment to say. It is quite possible that they wish to fight the Union, and if such be the case they will find the workers ready. The Cleveland organization is in good financial shape and in best of condition morally.

There are also a number of "independent" manufacturers in Cleveland with whom agreements must be concluded. There are some changes in the new contract which the workers will demand and these will be submitted to the Board of Referees for a decision.

After the meeting of the General Executive Board, Vice-president Perlestein will visit Cleveland and will take a hand in the negotiations with the local manufacturers. There are also several non-Union shops to be taken care of, and the active workers and officers of the Cleveland Union are now rolling up their sleeves in anticipation of an active period.

In Toledo

Most of the cloak makers in this city are biding their hour, patiently yet hopefully, to begin the open fight against the local cloak manufacturers.

The majority of them believe that the next spring season will prove the appropriate hour for the conflict. The spring season is becoming the principal season in the cloak trade, and the next one is expected by all to be a very active one. This will give the organization an opportunity to measure its strength with the Toledo anti-Union bosses. The prep'atory work is meanwhile proceeding uninterrupted.

Minneapolis, Minn.

There are cloaks being made in Minneapolis, Minn., too.

Fifteen cloak makers from that city forwarded a request to the International for a charter, and the General Office instructed Vice-president Perlestein to visit that city and investigate the local situation in full. The action of the International will depend upon the result of his findings.

Small-Town Campaigning in the West

In a number of small towns adjoining Chicago and Cleveland there have recently been opened cloak and dress shops where garments are being made under indescribably bad conditions.

The Chicago Joint Board asked the General Executive Board to undertake a campaign to organize these localities. Vice-president Perlestein gave the General Executive Board a detailed report at its last meeting on the condition of these shops. It is to be hoped that the International will now come forth with an organizing plan that will soon be materialized.

In Milwaukee, Wis.

We shall soon learn how easy—or difficult—it is to conduct an organizing campaign in our trade in a city with a Socialist administration.

There are a few cloak shops in Milwaukee and work will soon be started to organize them. How easy a task that will prove time alone will tell.

The summer is over—and together with it are gone the long months of idleness which afflicted our industry and which have driven a large number of our workers into different trades in search of a livelihood.

There is more work in the shops. The workers are returning to their machines, and our problems are coming back to us once more. One of them is—how to organize the unorganized shops. In the course of the last few seasons we tried to do it, but without success, which made the control of the Union shops doubly hard. The manufacturers kept on nagging the workers and the Union and complained that they could not stand the competition from the non-union shops. Even now, when there is work in the shops, some of them do not hesitate to come forth with proposals to reduce wages or similar pleasant suggestions. Of course, the Union will not listen to any such proposals, but all of this naturally tends to strain the relations between the Union and the employers.

The strike in the Gussow shop is an example in point. Mr. Gussow operates a big shop and in his place a number of old employees have gained during the past ten years a number of favorable work-standards and concessions. Last spring, Mr. Gussow concluded that he would have a "free hand," and being an old hand in the business, he closed his shop in May declaring to his workers that they might look for jobs elsewhere as he is through being a manufacturer. He declared so to the manager of the Union, too, and no amount of persuasion seemed able to swerve him from his position.

A few weeks passed and Mr. Gussow began advertising for new help. He also sent for some of his old workers and, feeling confident that his shop will no longer be Union, commenced slashing wages right and left. The officers of the local attempted to argue with him, but in vain. Thereupon the entire shop struck and, after a fight of two weeks, the workers all returned under the old Union terms.

and the shop remained a Union place.

The action of the Gussow firm typifies how most of the employers in the trade feel like acting if they only dared. The workers, on the other hand, have learned from this example that the Union is a mighty factor for their good, if they only keep it strong and intact.

A few months ago, at a well-attended meeting, we decided to raise the dues from twenty-five to thirty-five cents a week. This raise went into effect on September 1, and all our girl workers are doing their best to meet their arrears and debts, as they fully realize that the local could do no organizing work with an empty treasury.

The executive board of the local has devoted its last few meetings to this problem of organization activity—in addition to the part we are taking in the work of the District Council. An organizing committee, which is to be elected at a general member meeting in Beethoven Hall on October 23, will be put in the field. This is to be the first member meeting this season and we expect a great attendance. A few new members of the executive board to replace those that have dropped out during the summer months will also be elected.

Local 62 is taking a hand in the La Follette-Wheeler campaign and voted to assist it morally and financially. The members of the local can be relied upon to do their share in aiding the progressive political movement of this country.

Unity Centers

Our Unity Centers in seven public school buildings are now open. There are classes in English for beginners, intermediate and advanced students. Register at once at the Unity Center nearest your home or at our Educational Department, 3 West 16th street.

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JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

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ARE YOU NERVOUS?

There is hardly a member of the Union that is not suffering from some nervous trouble.

Do you know that the **UNION HEALTH CENTER**

131 East 17th Street

has a Specialist on Nervous Diseases who attends to a Clinic every Wednesday, from 5 to 6:30 p. m.

Fee One Dollar to Members of Participating Locals.

Education—An Adventure

By LYDIA J. TROWBRIDGE

My subject and the outline of my theme has been furnished me—Workmen's Education: the Need of It, the Value of It, and How the Union Have Taken hold of It.

It would seem hardly necessary to discuss the need of it. That seems quite evident. Every one who lacks education—is it not so?—muses at times on what he could do if only he could have gone to school longer. In fact, most people are likely to overestimate what schooling could do for them. It could not make black white, nor a dull brain bright, nor a lazy body energetic. Nor is schooling the only kind of education. Schools furnish a comparatively easy way to get an education by putting at the disposal of the student all the help available. But the best education is the kind Abraham Lincoln had—an education won bit by bit through hard work and sacrifice; thoughts from books and men, digestion of the split rails or weighted sugar, retaining what nourished his own thought, rejecting the rest. Education is like most other things: the harder you work for it, the more use you make of it.

And what use can you make of it? First and foremost and always, if it is of the right kind, it will bring you happiness because it will bring you power. There is nothing so stimulating as the sense of power—the knowledge that you can do things, the pleasure of achievement. And education, which means that which leads you out, is an adventure, with all the thrills of other adventures if we will but seek it in the spirit of adventure. Each of us is a worm, wrapped in a cocoon. Only those who are strong enough to burst the walls emerge in-

to the freedom of butterflies. The longer we remain encased the harder it is to break the imprisoning walls. They become tough and stiff, and even horny. And then, unless someone helps us out, we starve. Not all the schools in the world can do what you must do for yourself. But how much better is flying than crawling!

There is in Persian myth the story of a Flying Carpet, on which one who knew the magic word could travel wherever he would. Education is the Flying Carpet on which we can visit all the countries of the world, even the moon and stars, and the sun itself. On it we can ride into the Past and see the world grow from savagery to civilization; and journey into the Future to see a yet better world; stop and study its improvements; come home and work to bring it nearer. The carpet will carry us to dreamland where poets sing and stories are made, and cars are forgotten. And in this land we shall meet all manner of people far more varied than we could ever meet in actual life, and our sympathies will be deepened, our understanding broadened. We shall know men and women better.

What, then, is the value of education? Briefly, it gives power over ourselves and over others; it brings happiness of achievement; it opens numerous avenues to discovery—for that, after all, is the essence of adventure; through travel, science, history, economics, literature. And this knowledge of the world stimulates imagination and makes us more tolerant and sympathetic, more capable of dealing with the problems of living, more patient in accepting the slow progress of civilization, which

cannot be speeded up without danger.

Others can write much better of what the unions in different cities have done for workers' education. But this is true of all, that they have combined the class room method with Lincoln's great sense of time to listen and to digest the subject. A class meeting once or twice a week only, and days to ponder what was said. Usually classes in English are asked for, and wisely.

I am convinced after many years as a teacher of English that two things that stand in the way of people's trying are failure to understand the words and inability to follow any but simple statements. Therefore word-study and grammar are very helpful, if rightly taught. They

cannot be "finished" in a term. One can always learn more about them.

Too often, when the higness of the task is realized, many give up in despair. As well might a carpenter's apprentice turn street-sweeper when he realizes how many tools he has to learn to use and how manifold are the uses to which each is put. English is a kind of carpentry, and no easier, no harder to master. To master! That's the secret of success in education. It is a succession of victories or defeats. "Man is man, and master of his fate." And unless he strives for mastery, not of men but of himself, he is but a poor second-rate creature. All of us are self-made, if we are made at all. And education is the work—and play—of a lifetime.

The Masquerade

By BEN HECHT

It was over and I was standing in the street under the Elevated. My friend, the high buildings, were engaged in their usual servitude. Above the pavements moved the always the many hidden faces.

The day was white with spring. Shop windows like artificial gardens, advertisements babbling cheerfully in the sun, a pretty girl, her lips parted in a secret smile, admiring herself in a chewing-gum machine mirror. It was the hour when people think of soda waters and when the crowd plays truant from its weary occupations.

A familiar woe. A street alive with the elusive platitude of people. But its outlines had become monstrous and unbearable.

One knows the crowd too well. Life scurrying through its tunnel of cloth. The unvarying parenthesis of hats. People offering their anonymous images. A pleasant abracadabra of shadows, signs, and faces. The crowd has nothing more to hide. Yet in its taciturn eyes one sometimes finds deeper concealments.

The incident in the Elevated car stuck in my mind. For a space it was motionless. A thing had happened. It lingered like a finale on which the curtain fails to descend.

Now it began to enlarge. Details added themselves with an artificial vividness. Standing in the confusion of the Elevated car turned. A horrified woman's face. The swinging eyes of a girl. Voices like crazy angled planes. Figures of men and women making a little nightmare of motion. And at the further end of the car, a silent, frantic activity.

There was a man in the seat. Every one else was standing. Two heavy men were holding him by the wrists and twisting his arms. The skin of his wrists had broken and blood was flowing. Before him stood a hatless man, his lips peeled from his teeth, his tongue protruding. He stood striking savagely at the sitting man with his fists. Someone shoved him away and took his place. A new fist cracked against the face of the bleeding man.

The rage of his assailants concealed the man sitting down. He wore a white shirt, swinging arms, blood. A cry, "Here's the police!" The bleeding one seemed unrelated to the scene—a blur outside the excitement.

The crowd swayed toward the door of the car. I was in the street again walking—endeavoring to walk away from the memory of the man's face. But this scene about me grew unbearable. The man's eyes had looked at me for an instant. Now from behind the pleasant abracadabra of the windows, sun, and faces they were still regarding me. The outlines of the street became unreal. The buildings and figures seemed part of a mask, and unwaveringly from behind this mask the eyes of the creature in the Elevated car continued to embrace me.

He had been caught in an obscenity.

A loathsome incident to remember.

But the crowd had become his biographer. He was well dressed. A high white collar. Two men stood breaking his wrists. He wore a watch chain across his vest. A middle-aged business man. Slap! Crack! Piets were beating his head. He sat staring. His voice was like a little dog whining, repeated, "I'm a married man. I'm a married man." The skin on his wrists was torn loose. His head jerked from side to side under the blows of fists. Then his eyes. I recalled, his eyes had tried to escape.

One comes too close to people some times. One steps through the layers of pride and pretenses and collides with the shocking intimacy of emotion. He had sat, grotesque and unreal. When his eyes struck me he became unbearable. His eyes were like a door flung open. To look at them even for an instant was to walk inside. And in the instant they regarded me I found myself inside the man.

His heart was white; his stomach was turning over. He clung to me in a madness of shame. His thoughts were expiring with nausea. He was in flight not from his captors but himself. Under the blows of fists and the anguish in his heart he was whispering blindly to himself, "This isn't me—this isn't me."

During the moment his eyes held me the creature became as intolerable to me as he was to himself. He and I stood for the instant identically stricken, identically staring at his tragedy. And as I watched him struggling in the loathsome trap of his shame I knew that he and I were alike trying to deny his existence.

On the scaffold once I saw a man with the noose about his neck, the white robe over his body and the white hood moving in the sheriff's hands toward his head—I saw him look around for a moment with a surprised and interested smile. He had gone mad. His terror had obliterated him. The man being hanged was no longer he. He was somewhere else, vanished. Hidden away. The man in the seat with the bleeding wrists closed his eyes. He was retreating, vanishing. He was carrying his secret deeper into himself where neither he nor anyone else could see it. His eyes closed and his body pitched forward. Someone cried, "Here's the police!"

The sequel lingered. Behind the casual tempo of the afternoon lurked a strange ugliness. The eyes of men and women were like closed and shrewdly ornamented doors. As they passed in the street they seemed to fling themselves open for an instant. I had felt no hatred for the one in the car. But now the rage that had filled the creature's assailants seemed to be overtaking me.

The familiar scene—I stood watching the passing faces. Their eyes opened and the image of the shameful masked one drifted unobscuredly within.

A Great Fight With Capital In Austria

By E. STRAAS

A great trade union combat was brought to an end a few days ago in Austria. It was undoubtedly a very great and important struggle, and its effects were more far-reaching than those of any strike for many years past.

A year ago the metal workers of Vienna made a collective agreement. In anticipation of better times, the workers waited for nine months before they put forward their claims for a raise in wages. In the meantime, the prices of all the necessities of life rose enormously. There could therefore be no doubt of the justice of their claims.

There were long negotiations with the employers, but in vain; the employers only became more and more harsh. A note which was handed in to a representative of the League of Nations by the Employers' Organization is full of evidence of the reactionary spirit prevailing. This note is a classical example of the civilizing influence of capitalism! It demands the abolition of the eight-hour day, the restriction of social legislation, the raising of rents, and the remission of taxation (for the wealthy). It breathes the spirit of hatred of the workers, and slanders them throughout. Such a note was scarcely likely to improve the situation, and a storm of indignation broke out among the workers. The Executive of the Metal Workers' Union had again modified their demands and they had asked the employers to make them some reasonable counter-proposal before September 10; but the anger aroused by the attitude of the employers was so great that the workers of several Viennese firms ceased work at once.

In accordance with the resolution

of the Union, a general strike of the Viennese metal-workers began on September 10. By mid-day 70,000 men and women were on strike. On the 14th and 15th of September, the two parties entered into direct negotiations—but by the 15th the strike had spread to the whole country, and 150,000 workers were out. The whole nation followed the fight with the closest attention. Towards evening matters were very critical, and the Government sent its delegate to intervene.

Vienna in Darkness

The workers resolved to take the extreme step—which had been planned—the electricity workers plunged the central districts of the city of Vienna into darkness; all places of amusement were quickly emptied, and the great newspapers could not be printed. The negotiations went on the whole night through, and by morning an acceptable formula had been found. But peace was not immediately re-established. On September 17 the workers discussed the position; the electric power supplying the inner towns was still in the control of the workers, and at any moment the trams might be at a standstill. In the evening, however, peace was reached, for the workers decided to recognize the agreements made by their representatives.

The wages of one-third of the Vienna metal workers amounted to 288,000 kronen. They demanded an increase of fifteen per cent; they obtained fourteen per cent immediately, and a permanent settlement of wages is to be made within two months. The mighty schemes of the employers for the lengthening of working hours and the cutting of overtime pay have ended in smoke!

Upton Sinclair Writes to La Follette

Pasadena, California.

Senator Robert M. La Follette,
Madison, Wis.

My dear Senator La Follette:

I have been asked by your campaign committee to make known my stand, and I take pleasure in so doing; for this is a time for every American to stand up and be counted.

I have watched your career for the last twenty-five years, and have read the record of the earlier years. You are unique among American politicians known to me in that your platform are statements of what you mean to do. As soon as you have been elected, you have set out with determination and with infinite devotion to detail to carry out every promise you have made to the voters.

et in this campaign is to keep the Southern States out of the Progressive column.

We have had scandal and shame in our country's history before this, but nothing to equal the wholesale thievery, lying and brutality of the Wilson-Harding-Coolidge era. Men who love their country and believe in its destiny have been made sick by the spectacle. But we have good Republican party authority for the statement that "you cannot fool all of the people all of the time." And everywhere today it becomes manifest that the tide has turned at last.

Let me tell you one incident. Mr. Herbert Hoover visited his home in Palo Alto, California, two or three weeks ago. He there stated to his



- From Oklahoma Leader

To such a man it is worth while to pay attention. I desire greater changes in our industrial system than you, but I am content to eat my bread one slice at a time, and I would rather have the promise of one slice from you than the promise of many leaves from politicians who forget their campaign platforms as soon as the votes are counted.

Many years ago I heard our veteran campaigner, Eugene Debs, tell an audience: "The Democratic and Republican parties are two wings of the same bird of prey." We have seen this in many elections, but never so plainly as now. The present occupant of the White House got his nomination in 1920 through his college mate and backer, Mr. Dwight H. Morrow, partner of J. P. Morgan and Company. He has been Mr. Morgan's office boy ever since, and as his running mate he has Mr. Morgan's Chicago and European financial agent.

Mr. Coolidge is one half of Mr. Morgan's choice for the presidency. The other half is Mr. Davis, who was, until the day after his nomination, one of Mr. Morgan's highest priced lawyers. They have given him ex-candidate Bryan's brother for a cloak to cover his sins, but the cloak is not big enough, and it is plain that the only purpose of the Davis-Bryan tick-

intimate friends that if the election were held tomorrow California would go for La Follette; that all the Republican leaders know it, and were going to bring their biggest guns out to the Coast in the effort to stem the tide. Then Mr. Hoover went back to Washington and interviewed the President, and assured the newspaper reporters that California was safe in the Republican column. You see, their campaign prophecies are worth exactly as much as their campaign promises!

But one thing is needed—to get the facts to the people; to let them realize what government by plunder means, to each of them individually, and to all of them collectively. This is no ordinary election campaign; it is a crusade for the overthrow of government by the corporations, the re-establishment of government by the general will. Men and women who realize this have not done their duty when they register and go to the polls and vote the La Follette-Wheeler ticket; they must remember that this is their campaign, and that they have to make it. The Democratic and the Republican campaigns are financed by fat checks signed by the heads of banks and big industrial interests; but the funds for the Progressive campaign must be contributed and

Negro Spokesman for La Follette

In a ringing statement made public this week, Bishop John Hurst of the Methodist Episcopal Church, one of the outstanding clergymen among colored American citizens, urges all Negroes to support the La Follette-Wheeler Independent Progressive candidacy.

Bishop Hurst is Chancellor of Edward Waters College in Jacksonville, Florida, a member of the Board of Directors of Payne Theological Seminary, a trustee of Wilburforce University, a director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, a member of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, and a Mason.

His statement in full follows:

I am unreservedly for the Progressive candidacy of Senator La Follette and Senator Wheeler for President and Vice-President of the United States.

It must be unmistakably plain to every colored American that there can be no hope for him politically, economically or spiritually under either the Republican or Democratic parties.

The Democratic party has long been the party of the Ku Klux Klan, the party of Jim Crow, disfranchisement and lynching. The Klan was founded in the South half a century ago and was revived in the South ten years ago.

Whatever Mr. Davis, the Democratic candidate, may state as to his personal position on the Klan, no colored man will imagine for a moment that he can in any sense wipe out or offset his party's record.

As for the Republican party, sixty years ago the party of Abraham Lincoln, it has now been taken over bodily by the Klan in the North. It is openly the Klan party in at least a dozen Northern States. Alone among the three candidates, Mr. Coolidge has refused to open his lips on the subject of the Klan. The best that we have been able to get from the White House, despite repeated requests not only by colored men of prominence but by other Americans who rightly object to the Klan on the ground of its fundamental un-Americanism, is a brief statement from the lily-white Mr. C. Bascom Slemp, Mr. Coolidge's secretary, to the effect that Mr. Coolidge is not a Klansman. How gratifying to learn that Mr. Coolidge does not put on a nightshirt and a pillowcase and join the night riders after supper.

La Follette, on the other hand, is the only candidate who has come out vigorously against the Klan in words that no one can mistake. His entire career shows that as regards all Americans as equal, without regard for race or color. But even had he been totally silent, it would be folly at this time for colored Americans not to take advantage of the glorious opportunity furnished by the birth of

this new party not to ally themselves with it and show the Republican party that there is a limit to the endurance and to the patience of the colored American citizens.

The colored people of America have been loyal and faithful to the Republican party for half a century. In return, they have received nothing but broken promises. The Republican party has deliberately taken advantage of the existing situation by which it knew that the Negro could not turn to the Democratic party to get justice.

With the largest majority in Congress since the days of reconstruction, the Republicans allowed a handful of Southerners to filibuster the anti-lynching bill to death, and yet the Republican platform has the impudence and hypocrisy again to come out and urge an anti-lynching bill.

The Democrats under Woodrow Wilson overthrew by force of arms the independent Republic of Haiti, the Negro republic in the Caribbean, which, under Toussaint L'Ouverture, achieved its independence in 1804, thus making it next to our own the second oldest republic in this hemisphere. In the course of this infamous conquest three thousand Haitians, innocent of any crime but that of being colored, and including women and children, were killed. Mr. Harding made a solemn pro-election promise to right this wrong, but the Republicans have only fastened the shackles more tightly upon that inoffensive little country.

The Progressives are pledged to the withdrawal of our occupation from Haiti. Mr. La Follette fought vigorously against this infamous crime. In every way and from every standpoint the Progressive movement opens the door of hope to the colored American as at no time in a generation.

I. L. G. W. U. CHORUS

The I. L. G. W. U. Chorus resumes its rehearsals on Friday evening in the Brownsville Labor Lyceum, 219 Sackman street. New members are now being admitted and those of our members who wish to join it should do so at once as this will offer them an opportunity to appear in the annual concert some time in December.

CURRICULUM OF OUR EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

The curriculum of our educational activities is ready for distribution. You will need one in planning your studies for this winter. If you have not received a copy, you can get one by applying at the office of the Educational Department, 3 West 16th street, in person, or by letter, giving your name, address and local.

collected by the people, and the meetings must be organized by the people. Likewise the literature must be distributed by the people, and the meetings must be organized by the people. Let each one do his part, and vindicate our forefathers' faith that the people can govern themselves, and can be trusted to manage their own affairs.

The election lies between yourself and President Coolidge. With two

months of hard work you can be brought out at the top of the poll, and we shall establish upon a permanent basis a party of those who do the useful and necessary work of the country, as opposed to the two parties of those who speculate in stocks, and manipulate prices, and purchase political parties and public officials high and low.

With sincere personal regards,
UPTON SINCLAIR.

NOSE, THROAT AND EAR TREATMENT

Beginning October first, the

UNION HEALTH CENTER
131 EAST 17TH STREET

will have a clinic for the treatment of Nose, Throat and Ear, Monday and Thursday evenings from 5 to 6:30 and Saturdays at 10:30 a. m.

To Members of Participating Locals the Fee will be One Dollar. Operations for Tonsils, Adenoids, etc., for members, as well as their families, arranged for at reduced rates.

JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

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EDITORIALS

ONE CLOAK OPERATORS' LOCAL FOR GREATER N. Y.

We pointed out in these columns in our last issue the great value of the new organizing activity undertaken by our Union. This, however, is by far not its only important task. A progressive and constantly advancing organization like ours must, from time to time, change its lines of formation in order to retain a maximum of fighting force and power. Essentially, the soul of the Union remains the same: "In Unity Lies Our Strength"—but in order that we may apply this unity with the best possible results, we are obliged to change our outward form to meet the demands of ever-changing time. That's why we keep on constantly amending our by-laws and this is the reason for the process of inner reconstruction which goes on in our midst unceasingly.

Only not so many months ago an important piece of such reconstructive work was achieved in our Union when the two joint boards in New York City—of the cloak makers' and dress makers' unions—were consolidated into one and when simultaneously all the pressers were merged into one local, No. 35. At the last meeting of the General Executive Board, it was decided to extend this reconstruction plan to the joint boards in the dress and cloak trades of Philadelphia. Nevertheless, it is our opinion that the decision of the General Executive Board to unite all the cloak operators' locals in Greater New York into one local is, by far, the most significant reconstruction move ever planned and carried out by the International Union.

There have existed in New York for a great many years three independent cloak operators' locals. Local 1 has been the home of the operators in New York City proper, while Local 11 served as the rallying point for these workers in the Brownsville district of Brooklyn. Local 17 embraced the reefer makers of New York and has achieved for the workers in this trade truly remarkable results. It has raised them from a condition of semi-slavery to a level of civilized work standards and the status of progressive manhood and womanhood.

No one, of course, can successfully refute the assertion that the Reefer Makers' Local has accomplished wonderful achievements for the workers in the New York reefer trade. But the inexorable drift of time has brought fundamental changes in this industry. Local 17 remains today the organization of the reefer makers in name only, while in substance most of the members of the reefer makers' local are employed at making cloaks. The reefer shops, as a matter of fact, are unorganized.

The result is that, while the members of both locals are engaged in making cloaks, they have been belonging for many years to independent locals, under two different designations and have been indirectly competing with each other. That this is an abnormal and quite an unwholesome state of affairs no one could deny.

The same holds true with regard to the local in Brownsville. Some years ago, the distance between Brownsville and New York was quite considerable, and that was the prime reason for giving that district a separate cloak operators' local. Today, however, with Brownsville only within twenty minutes' traveling distance from Manhattan and most of the members of Local 11 working in Manhattan, Harlem and wherever they can obtain jobs, the separate local in Brownsville is an anomaly. Besides, all cloak makers in New York work today under the jurisdiction of one central body—the New York Joint Board. And when an institution—for some valid cause—loses its reason for existence, it is best that it be given up as its usefulness is then obviously at an end.

Reconstruction work within a Labor union, however, is not always an easy matter, even though it spells progress and advancement. It requires courage, foresight and good deal of the spirit of sacrifice. Reconstruction work is always coupled with the danger that the entire structure might be injured while the rebuilding is going on. The business of the Union, its material and legitimate work, must never cease while "alterations are on." They must be kept up simultaneously with the rebuilding program—and that, of course, is not a light task.

We must also remember that not all of us are ready quickly to embrace new forms. Many of those who regard themselves as "progressives" fear the new, the untried and cling to the old, accustomed forms with obstinacy and persistence. It is the natural conservatism of the human species, but it is, nevertheless, a hindrance to reconstruction and an obstacle to progress, even though the resisters would be first to disclaim that they are in the path of progress. That's what makes this task even harder and that is the reason it demands a lot of courage and determination.

The existence of every organization inevitably involves certain interests of a material consideration, such as good positions, a vantage point of power, etc. It is quite natural, therefore, that such as hold advantageous posts in an organization would be reluctant to give them up. But frequently it is a far nobler motive which is involved. We have in mind the men who have stood at the cradle of an organization, who have invested in it their very life and soul and to whom this organization is their second self—these will naturally only with great difficulty make peace with the idea of giving up the body they have helped to build. To such the disappearance of the organization is equivalent to the loss of a part of their own individuality.

Of such as these, however, we unfortunately, have but a few in our midst. To most of those whose interests are directly involved is largely a personal question—frequently of a very petty nature. In fact, of course, it is this type of a person, who in addition can exert some influence over others, that proves to be a hindrance and an obstacle in our reconstructive work.

That is the true cause why our reconstructive activity does not proceed with such celerity as it should. That's why it has been time and again delayed and postponed under every form of subterfuge and alibi.

The question of consolidating the three operators' locals in New York into one, which before many of our conventions it never was solved there—not because the delegates could not see the necessity for such reconstruction, but largely on account of a feeling of "pity" for the superfluous locals, a lack of desire to see them disappear from the public arena. It was sentiment that would conquer reason time and again and it was sentiment that would supply the delegates with arguments for retaining this anomalous condition.

But the effects of this abnormal situation, rapidly accumulating, have finally brought the leaders of our Union to the realization that this reconstructive work can no longer be postponed, that it menaces our entire edifice and that it must be undertaken without further delay. And the General Executive Board therefore decided at its last meeting to carry out the plan and ordered the consolidation of the three operators' locals into one.

We shall not attempt to restate here all the arguments to prove it in some of our future issues. We can only say that this question has taken up more time and has been debated longer than any other question on our agenda that we can remember. It was not adopted in a hurry, but came as a result of a deep familiarity with all underlying facts. It is prompted by the fundamental principle of trade unionism—to give equal protection to all the members of the Union wherever they may work.

We are confident that this decision of the General Executive Board will be hailed with glad and joy by all our workers and we hope that those who have in the past opposed this move will now realize that they have been wrong and that the welfare of the Union demanded it. Like good Union men they will from this day do their best to help carry out this truly historic decision of the General Executive Board.

THE EXPERT INVESTIGATION OF THE CLOAK INDUSTRY

The decision rendered by Governor Smith's Special Commission in the cloak and suit industry of New York is, as generally known, but of a temporary nature, and as such it was accepted by our Union. True, the Commission had granted a number of the demands of the Union, but these demands were only a part of the Union's program. The Union accepted the decision because it contained a stipulation that the Commission would make an expert investigation of the whole industry and after it has learned the facts would be in a position to make recommendations with regard to the other parts of the Union's program.

Under these circumstances, the work of the experts, which began last week, assumes for us a special significance. This investigation may bring us disappointment or genuine satisfaction. It is quite likely that the experts will furnish enough material facts to prompt the members of the Governor's Commission to declare themselves against the Union's demands. Such a possibility would throw the Union back to its old positions and would make it seek new plans for bringing order into our industry and how to make secure the means of a livelihood for our workers. It is also possible that the findings of the experts will aid the Union's program and the manufacturers and the jobbers will then be compelled to adopt our demands in their entirety.

We do not wish to speculate or prophesy with regard to the final findings of the experts. We are convinced, however, that this investigation will be conscientiously conducted. The investigators are known to the public as earnest and well-equipped persons. We know one of them personally—Mr. Morris Kolchin—and we are confident that he will do his share of the work in a fair and thoroughgoing manner. He is a close student of the needs, trades in general and of the cloak industry in particular and will not permit anything of value bearing on the demands of the workers to escape his eye.

The two principal demands which the manufacturers and the jobbers refused to concede were: (1) the limitation of contractors to each jobber and manufacturer to the actual number required by them for the production of their wares, and (2) a guaranteed time of employment. Both these demands are vital for the introduction of order in the cloak industry of New York and their importance is even more evident today than ever before. The fourteen-machine minimum clause and the gradual elimination of the small shop have so far failed to fulfill the general expectations. The reorganization strike, it must be admitted, was only partly successful and the small shop in New

At the Meeting of the G. E. B.

By S. YANOVSKY

The second quarterly meeting of the General Executive Board, the longest on record in the history of our Union, is still in session in New York City where it was transferred from Philadelphia. The members of the Board are dealing with questions of prime importance to the International Union and they are not inclined to dispose of matters in a rush without first giving them all-around consideration. And the result of such thorough-going discussion represents the mature and unified opinion of the whole General Executive Board.

After the reports of the President and Secretary, on which we touched in a previous article, the vice-presidents were called upon to present an account of their activities in the districts and organizations they represent.

First came Vice-president Amdur and President of Philadelphia—covering the activities of the Philadelphia cloak makers' organization and of the waist and dress makers' union respectively. The striking feature about their report was the total lack of reference to "leftism" in both trades in Philadelphia, a sore which only recently afflicted them rather badly. It offers eloquent proof that our Philadelphia workers have finally rid themselves of this plague. It also indicated that the "lefts" have learned their lesson and have ceased maligning the Union which was compelled last year to expel them from its ranks. Some of them have now appealed for reinstatement declaring that they would never again belong to the T. U. E. L. while the International considers as a dual union and that they would henceforth be loyal union men and women.

Such applications have been received from ex-"lefts" in several other cities. Let us hope that these misguided souls are earnest about their recantation and that they have finally come to see the immense harm and injustice they have done to the Union and are ready to rejoin it in good faith. The General Executive Board has not considered these requests yet, but we are certain that it will consider each of these applications on their individual merit as it is highly important that the morale and the spirit of unity which now prevails in our Union shall no more be jeopardized by the infiltration of unstable heads and minds.

The principal point dwelt upon by Amdur and Reiberg in their report was the merging of both Philadelphia trade bodies into one joint board. This is not an entirely new question as it has come up time and again at former meetings. But the motives for such a merger were never as strong and appealing as they are at present. The cloak trade in Philadelphia has shrunk materially and the waist and dress trade, though much better, is also not in excellent shape. There

seems to be no valid reason why both trades should not be consolidated under one leadership and one office. Moreover, the distinction between these two trades, very sharp in former years, is becoming fast obliterated; many cloak firms are making dresses and vice versa, and certainly both can be fully controlled from one source. It was for this reason that these two trades have been placed under one joint board in New York, Chicago and Boston.

Local 50, however, was rather disinclined at first to go into such a merger. The last meeting of the Board therefore elected a sub-committee to investigate the matter, as the Board was inclined not to force such a merger upon the Philadelphia local if it could effect it by means of persuasion. Vice-president Reiberg brought out this point of the local, maintaining that, while he personally is not opposed to the merging of both organizations, he failed to see what material advantages there are to be derived from it. Most of the members of the Board took part in the discussion, including President Sigman, and voted in the end to carry out this merger into effect. The opinion that both organizations needed such a consolidation in order to conduct an effective organizing campaign in both industries prevailed.

Vice-president Perlestein reported on conditions in Chicago, giving full details of the Chicago dress strike, and succeeded in removing a number of prejudicial misunderstandings which crept into some minds regarding it. He mentioned the fact that the cheap lines of cloaks have been practically driven out of the Chicago market thanks to competition from the New York jobbers, which left a number of cloak makers in Chicago jobless. The agreement in New York, even with the new conditions, will not help the Chicago situation, he stated further, and expressed the thought that the week-work system is not suitable to the Chicago market. He suggested the establishment of work-standards with a minimum scale, the Union being responsible only for such a single scale, as a means for remedying the Chicago conditions.

He is further of the opinion that the campaign in the dress trade be carried on without a stop. The out-of-town problem in Chicago and vicinity should be taken care of. There are large shops in the small towns adjoining that city and a special organizer should be employed to deal organizer should be employed to cover that territory. Such work in territory regarded as friendly to unionism is bound to be successful.

In Cleveland the workers had a pretty good season and from present signs the new Chicago market for the cloak employers will be signed without undue hardship. The campaign recently conducted in Toledo has

greatly excited the local employers. They adopted drastic measures to squelch it, such as discharges, company unions, etc. The Union took care of the victimized workers, and sooner or later, Vice-president Perlestein claims, the workers will have in Toledo a union which the local cloak manufacturers will have to reckon with.

In Cincinnati and St. Louis the situation is not bright. The locals in both cities are weak and a lot of work will be required to put them back into strong fighting shape. Kansas City, Mo., is a new place where dresses are being manufactured and where the Union still has no footing.

The General Executive Board took up all these suggestions for discussion and decided that the campaign, as outlined by Local 49, particularly with regard to the small-town shops and the dress trade in Chicago and elsewhere in the West, be carried out as far as possible.

Vice-president Seidman and Messonson reported on the state of affairs in Boston and vicinity. Seidman dwelt on the Boston cloak strike which he led and told of the agreement concluded with the cloak firms. The dress industry of that city is in a bad shape and Local 49 would have to be reorganized if an organizing campaign is to be carried on there. Messonson spoke largely of the railroad trade and the strike of Local 7. It appears that the condition of these workers leaves much to be desired.

Vice-president Scheinholtz, manager of Local 22, reported on the condition of the New York dress makers. It is numerically the largest and probably the best managed local in New York. Its agreement with the manufacturers and jobbers in the industry is soon to come to an end, and accordingly, the General Executive Board elected a committee to consider, together with the Joint Board, the terms of the new agreement. It is almost certain that a campaign as extensive as the one carried out in the cloak industry will soon have to be conducted in the dress industry of New York.

Vice-president Dubinsky spoke briefly of the dues-raising campaign in his local, the cutters' union of New York, the intrigues of the few "lefts" in Local 10, and of the present state of peace and contentment in its ranks.

Vice-president Wander touched in his report on the reorganization strike in New York which, in his opinion, met with success inasmuch as its principal purpose, the elimination of the petty non-Union shop, has been achieved in a great measure; 350 of such "shops" have already gone out of the trade and about 300 others will soon follow. The agreement with the jobbers is working out quite satisfactorily. He also reported that Local 23 adopted a decision to raise the dues to fifty cents a week, a minimum scale of twenty-four dollars per week, and extra pay for overtime.

Vice-president Lefkowitz, manager of the newly-formed New York Dis-

INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR

By H. SCHOOLMAN

This Week Twelve Years Ago

Owners of fashionable ladies' tailoring shops on Fifth Avenue, New York, in order to avoid a strike, reached agreement with Local 28. About two thousand workers employed in these shops win their demands in full, a fifty-hour week, a minimum scale of twenty-four dollars per week, and extra pay for overtime.

As a result of the referendum among the cloak makers of New York, the proposal to exchange three legal holidays for the three religious holidays—Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur—is defeated by a vote of 15,000 to 900.

The strike of the Buffalo Ladies' Tailors, Local 99, ends with victory for Union. With the exception of one shop, all the employers in the trade concede the demands of the workers. A raise of four dollars a week and a decrease of four hours of labor are among the gains.

trict Council, gave a detailed report on the work of the Council. According to his statement, a complete investigation brought out the fact that there are about 50,000 workers in the miscellaneous trades still unorganized. Vice-president Feinberg, manager of the New York Joint Board, covered in his report the salient points connected with the reorganization strike in New York. The fourteen-machine clause is working out well, and if not for the poor season and for the lack of cooperation on the part of some workers, it would have been a complete success. The unemployment insurance plan still has to be improved upon; the jobbers seem to be quite shy of meeting their obligations in this respect. He also described what the Joint Board has done for the dress industry since its consolidation with the Cloak Joint Board.

Vice-president Halperin stated in full the activities of his out-of-town organization department and stressed the aid which his office gave to the cloak strike this summer. It stopped off from work 107 shops, settling with seventy cloak shops and thirty-three dress shops under regular union conditions. What concerns the newly formed locals, they are all in good shape; some of them have substantial treasuries and their meetings are regularly attended. His office also helped materially in the Baltimore strike and in Bridgeport. The results could have been even more impressive if his staff were larger.

Such were in brief the reports of our vice-presidents. Most of the time of the Board, however, was given over to various committees and the discussion of requests and grievances which these committees brought to the attention of the General Executive Board.

York has not been entirely eliminated.

With the coming of the cloak season, the remainder of the small shops in New York City and vicinity may yet become a menace to the welfare of the workers and the Union may yet find itself in a situation similar to the one which prevailed before the strike. It is therefore doubly clear today that the original demand of the Union for the limitation of the number of contractors is the only one that would stop the baneful competition between contractors and sub-manufacturers and the destructive effect of this competition upon the workers and the industry as a whole.

The same is true with regard to the demand that the workers be guaranteed a certain number of weeks of employment during the year. The dreadful insecurity of earning a livelihood must be once for all abolished in the cloak and suit trade. The manufacturers have characterized this demand as an "impossible" one, but their arguments never appeared to us as convincing, and it appears that the Governor's Commission was not particularly impressed by the employers' logic. That was

the reason which prompted the Commission to appoint experts who would investigate the industry and find out whether the demand of the workers for a guaranteed time of employment is really so "impossible" or not.

We may expect that this investigation will be conducted in a broad and fair spirit and the Union will certainly accept its findings with all the respect due every honest and conscientious endeavor to learn the truth. For, if the facts prove that the Union's demands are not justified, the Union will at least know what not to demand. The Union presented its program in the full belief that it can be fulfilled and that it will yield the desired results for the workers and the industry. If the facts will, however, prove that these demands are unrealistic, the Union will have the necessary courage to face these realities and will work out a new program that will be more in accord with the actual situation as revealed by the investigation of the experts.

May we hope that the jobbers and the manufacturers will act likewise?

Arbitration In Labor Cases

1. Theory of Arbitration

(Note: This is the first of a series of articles based on a study of Labor arbitrations and practical experience with different forces. Others will follow in successive issues.)

Some have thought of arbitration as a universal cure-all for industrial disputes. Others have denied its usefulness and will have none of it. But before any judgment can be passed on it, we must clear up our ideas as to what kind of arbitration we are talking of and under what circumstances it is used.

If we should set up a man or a board or a court over an industry, and tell him to fix wages, hours and working rules as he thought best, we should not have an arbitrator. We should have a dictator. An arbitrator can exist only when there is a dispute to be adjusted or decided. And an industrial dispute can exist only when there are two parties who have met with each other, who have stated their points of view in regard to the question at issue, and have unsuccessfully attempted to arrive at a complete agreement.

Relation to Collective Bargaining

Arbitration therefore rests on the existence of unions and collective bargaining. Before we ever get to the point of discussing arbitration, we must think of the existence of a union representing the workers, which is strongly enough organized to force consideration of its views on employers. We must then think of this union as meeting representatives of the employers, and agreeing about every disputed matter in which agreement is possible. Sometimes the agreement will be complete, for the time being. At other times there will be points on which no agreement is reached. The two sides then have the choice between fighting it out to see which is the stronger and can enforce its will on the other, or agreeing to choose some outsider to settle the dispute. This account of the way arbitration comes about may seem elementary, but it is fundamental. Genuine arbitration rests upon the agreement of the two parties concerned to submit certain questions to an arbitrator. The arbitrator derives all his powers from this agreement. He is limited by it, and cannot, either in justice or in sound practice, exceed his limitations. He cannot deal with questions which the parties have not agreed to submit to him. He cannot extend his decision over a longer time than they have agreed it shall cover. He is the joint agent of the parties to the dispute, called in by them to help them decide, as between themselves, questions which they have not been able to decide without his aid. That is all. He is neither a dictator, nor a super-being.

Relation to Strikes

Collective bargaining implies that workers and employers have a common interest in the welfare of the industry, and consequently attempt to decide their disputes by voluntary agreement. Arbitration is a device of collective bargaining, for the purpose of extending the agreement to the questions in which an outsider is necessary to bring the parties together.

What is the relation of this process to the strike? Obviously, it is not a complete substitute for the strike. If the employer will not meet with the union at all, and will not recognize it, there is no basis for arbitration. In such a case a strike is necessary in order to establish the conditions on which arbitration may rest. And even if the employer will deal with union representatives, one side or the other may consider the questions at issue so vital that it prefers to submit the industry to the injury which a strike or lockout would cause rather than

take the chance of losing its contention through the decision of an arbitrator. However imprudent such a preference may be, the parties have an undoubted right to act on it.

It is therefore unwise to regard arbitration as a substitute for the strike, except in such cases as the parties themselves make the substitution. No arbitration arrangement is sound if it entirely does away with the potential right to strike. The parties may well agree not to engage in strikes or lockouts for a certain period, but instead to arbitrate points in dispute. They may agree not to engage in hostilities over certain kinds of questions. But unless they reserve the right to decide, at some time or other, and in some way or other, whether they shall go on with arbitration or establish their own rules by open dispute, arbitration loses its connection with the reality of the situation, and the arbitrator tends to become a dictator who does not realize his dependence on the parties themselves. This does not mean that unions which practice arbitration ought occasionally to strike. It merely means that they ought to keep open that possibility. The right may be retained even if it is never exercised.

It is considerations such as the above which make advice and impractical agreements for perpetual arbitration, or arbitration imposed by law or made obligatory in some other way than by an agreement of the parties.

Relation to the Public

It is often said that the public is concerned in industry as well as the employers and employees, and hence has the right to decide disputes and prevent strikes. This often leads to proposals to set up industrial courts, or legal arbitration boards of some form or other. Even in voluntary arbitrations, the arbitrator sometimes is called, or calls himself, a "representative of the public."

There is no doubt truth in this position, but there is falsehood and danger in it as well, unless it is thought through carefully. If the public is going to set up a legal dictate in an industry, who has complete power to decide wages and working conditions as he sees fit, it ought also to dictate all other economic conditions. It is unjust to lower wages by government decree unless the rents and prices which the workers have to pay can also be fixed by the government. It is unjust to fix wages as long as there is no adequate control over profits and finances. If the public has a supreme voice in industry and is going to correct that right by forbidding strikes and appointing people to regulate the details of operations, it ought to go the whole way, and regulate the profits, the prices, the salaries, and the management as well as the workers. But that would be communism, or at least Socialism. At present no such right is exercised by the public, in most industries.

The present theory of government is that although the public is concerned with the operation of industry, it will fare best by leaving the details of that operation chiefly to those who are engaged in the industry. It may specify broad regulations, but it does not attempt to decide every question. As long as this doctrine is held, it should apply to industrial relations as to other aspects of management. While private enterprise and profits are allowed to exist, compulsory adjudications of labor disputes by courts or other bodies appointed by the public is unsound and illogical.

An arbitrator deriving his powers from a voluntary agreement of the parties directly concerned should, of course, consider the welfare of the public as well as the welfare of the

industry. In the long run, what is good for the industry will be good for everyone. And employers or employers will do well to hesitate a long while before engaging in industrial warfare rather than submitting to voluntary arbitration, because of the injury which such warfare may inflict on themselves and on the public. This is especially true in the more basic and essential industries, where interruption of activity is a serious matter.

Arbitrators as Courts

In one sense, arbitrators perform the same service in industrial government as courts perform in political government. Courts exist to interpret the law and apply it in specific cases where disputes about it exist, or violation of it is charged. They do not exist or write the law, or make the law. That is done by the drafting of constitutions and by legislation. In industrial government, arbitrators interpret and apply the law of collective agreements. The conditions of arbitration and its general purposes are defined by these agreements. The arbitrator applies the rules in specific cases where a dispute arises between the parties.

Procedure before arbitration boards, however, should not be as limited and formal as in courts. Strict rules of evidence are out of place; all parties should be given the utmost freedom to establish the truth and logic of their position so that in such a complex economic matter as a wage or hour adjustment wise decisions may be made.

"Not Subject to Arbitration"

Occasionally unions are censured for refusing to submit to arbitration all questions at issue, even concerning concessions of hours or funda-

mental and important working conditions. Yet it is perfectly sound to refuse to arbitrate basic concessions which have become the practice of the industry or demands which should be decided by legislation of the parties themselves rather than by outsiders. Here the comparison with courts of law applies again. The people, through many years of struggle, have won fundamental concessions such as the right of free speech and assembly, the right to vote, etc. They would not delegate to any court the power to decide whether such concessions should continue. Conditions of this sort can be changed only through Constitutional Amendment or legislation. Likewise a union should not be expected to throw open the whole structure of industrial law for revision by the tender mercies of an arbitrator every time a dispute arises. It is justified in reserving for its own decision certain important questions. If the employer will not agree with it on such questions, it is justified in appealing to the strike rather than to arbitration. It has the right to specify which questions may be arbitrated and which may not be.

Under limitations such as the above, which are clearly recognized by the arbitrator as well as by everyone else concerned, there is no reason why arbitration cannot play a constantly growing part in the adjudication of industrial disputes. The wise practice of arbitration and collective bargaining may eventually build up such an intrinsically sound and workable structure of industrial law that strikes and lockouts will become very infrequent. Arbitration practiced under the right conditions has a big chance to aid in the development of industrial constitutions at democracy to replace the anarchy or despotism which exists without unions or collective bargaining.—*Facts for Workers, October, 1934.*

Brookwood Begins Fourth Year

Brookwood, the only resident trade union college in the United States, situated at Katonah, N.Y., forty miles from New York City, opens its doors for its fourth year today. There is a capacity enrollment of about fifty students, about one-third women and two-thirds men. A considerable number of applicants have had to be rejected this year for lack of space.

Mining Course

The students, most of whom are entering for a two-year course, will represent over a dozen different industries and international unions. This year there will be an unusually large increase in the number of miners, both bituminous and anthracite, from the important coal mining states of Pennsylvania and Illinois.

Mexican Students

In addition to the American trade unionists, workers from several other countries will be in attendance, including England, Denmark, Belgium and Japan. Steps are being taken by the General Confederation of Mexico to provide for the sending of Mexican trade unionists to Brookwood for training. It is expected that official action will be taken at the General Convention of the Mexican Federation

following the annual Convention of the American Federation of Labor in November of this year.

Teaching Staff

All the full-time resident instructors will continue as last year. These include A. J. Maste, the chairman of the faculty and instructor in history; David J. Saposs, instructor in trade unionism and labor problems; Josephine Colby and Mildred T. Calhoun, instructors in English, and Arthur W. Calhoun, instructor in social economics. A brief special course in psychology will be in charge of Dr. H. A. Overstreet of the College of the City of New York. Special lecturers will include Dr. H. W. L. Dana, a grandson of the poet Longfellow, who will lecture on literature; Dr. Hugo Goldstein, lecturer on health, and Gust. De Mynck, the secretary of the Belgian Labor College at Brussels, who will be at Brookwood during nearly the entire school year and will lecture on European Labor movements.

All the courses in English, history, economics, trade union administration and organization, etc., are designed to equip members and officers of the trade unions for more effective service to their organizations.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF WOMEN

In order to accommodate the many women members of Local 22 who desire medical examination and treatment by women physicians, the

UNION HEALTH CENTER

131 EAST 17TH STREET

has arranged, beginning October 1st, for Clinics by competent women physicians, daily, except Fridays and Sundays, from 11:30 a. m. to 1 p. m. and 5 p. m. to 6:30 p. m.

Get Card from your Local or Pay One Dollar at the Clinic.



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By SYLVIA KOPALD

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(Continued from Last Week.)

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10. It may appear that Labor could meet this situation by incorporating its unions. Indeed, employers frequently urge laws forcing unions to incorporate. The unions, however, are opposed to such a course for the following reasons:

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(To be continued next week)

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The International Convention On Workers' Education

Held In Ruskin College, Oxford, Aug. 15-17, 1924

By FANNIA M. COHN

ARTICLE I.

Two months ago when I visited Europe to attend the International Convention on Workers' Education which was held in Ruskin College, Oxford, England, my impression was that Europe is hopeful. It is looking forward and expects brighter days. Two years ago when I returned from Europe at about the same time my impression was that Europe was hopeless. There was apathy everywhere. What we in the New World considered as radicalism was rather an expression of despair. The masses of the people who were lured into the world war that swept over the European continent for a period of four years, and in its course transformed the old world into a slaughter field and destroyed millions of human lives, were steeped in wretchedness.

The most horrible aspect of war is that the sufferers of it are youth, the future hope of mankind, those who are to realize our future aims toward which we are all looking and for which we are working. The most terrible thing in war is that such great numbers of the male population are killed off or crippled for life, while the female population remains the living indictment against the cruelty of war. The sight of the women whether in Germany, France, Belgium or England told the story of the horrible four years from 1914 to 1918. Mothers lamented the untimely death of their sons, the death of their husbands which meant the destruction of their homes and a long, long life of suffering and worry in keeping together the family and bringing up the children who might later meet the same fate their father met. And not less pitiable was the dark future into which the young women looked. To many of them it meant a lonely, single life with no hope for love or affection from a dear friend. Coupled with this was starvation, international hatred, misery—the fearful after-effects of war. The toll of the six years' economic war was just as horrible as that of the military. When the war broke out in a world "armed for peace," nothing else could happen but the terrible explosion that engulfed Europe, and soon its flames were carried over into almost every part of the new world. It seemed at the beginning that we in America were fortunate enough to be saved from the conflagration, but afterward we too had to pay our toll by sending human fuel to help keep this hellish flame burning. After four years, however, mankind was exhausted by the struggle and the fire gradually burned out. An outcry of joy arose from distressed humanity in the hope that at last peace was coming. But how great was the disappointment of the worn and weary nations when the end of war brought no peace but a period of "peaceful" war. To their great distress the nations learned after a period of six years' economic war that the toll of "peaceful" war is not less than that of armed war. They saw millions of men, women and children perish as victims of starvation and tens of millions living in misery.

The worst of all this is the bitterness that such a condition brings.

This costly experience taught the nations the lesson that a transformation of our present social order is necessary to eradicate and bury the memories of the past. War stricken nations begin to know that no other nation is their enemy but that they themselves are their own enemy. They begin to realize that the destruction of a competitor nation does not mean prosperity and happiness of the other nations. They began gradually to recognize the interdependence of the human race without regard to the number of units into which it is divided. They gradually began to realize the unity of purpose which binds mankind and to learn that it is not hatred and warfare, whether economic or military, that will rehabilitate the world. Consciously or sub-consciously the masses of the people reject the re-establishing of the former order based on competition and on jealousies between the nations.

Russia, the great nation that combines both the ideals of the new world of the West with the remains of the old world of Asia, that was kept enslaved by the most autocratic regime, was struck by this wild hurricane. The 150,000,000 human beings of that vast territory felt that their chains were carried away by the gigantic waves. Suddenly as free men and women they could now mold their own destiny. They made a desperate effort to rebuild their social and economic institutions on a new basis in accordance with their own ideals of the future commonwealth. But they very soon learned, however, that the experiment was too costly and they had to recognize the interdependence of the nations and that if they were to retain the fruit of the revolution then they must speak to the workers of the other countries in a language that would appeal to them. They realized more and more that they could not stand alone in this universe, that the welfare and happiness of the tens of millions of people of their own country is dependent upon for the economic cooperation of the progressive forces of the nations of the world. Germany and Russia have been on friendly terms since they made peace. It was in their interest to assist each other, for both of them felt that they had been oppressed by the same combination of European governments. Russia possesses all the natural resources that makes a modern industrial state possible. Germany, on the other hand, possesses all the technical skill and experience to carry on modern industries, and it seemed to many that there was a possibility that such a combination would make it possible to restore Russia and Germany. But after six years of desperate struggle by these two nations they have learned that modern economies are so complicated that no two nations can rebuild each other industrially and that the rehabilitation of these countries requires the cooperation of other nations.



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The Week In Local 10

By SAM B. SHENKER

In spite of the double holiday which occurred on Monday, October 13, the attendance by the members at the regular meeting on that day was a fair one.

At first it was thought that the meeting should be postponed on account of the holidays. However, the unusual number of cases which were handled by the Executive Board during the past month needed the immediate attention of the members and to have postponed the meeting would have made it impossible to dispose of these at the following meeting, particularly in view of the fact that the Board still has a number of cases to act upon.

A Constitutional Amendment

There were many important questions taken up, aside from the action of the Executive Board in the regular cases. First, there was the very important report referred by manager Dubinsky in a matter which concerns the New York Joint Board as a whole and is of particular importance to the members of Local 10. Then there was an important amendment recommended by the Executive Board to the membership.

It will be recalled that by the resignation of Brother Fish some months ago, who resigned for the purpose of assuming the office of Treasurer of the Joint Board, the office of Secretary-Treasurer of this local became vacant. A committee was at that time appointed to make a careful investigation of the future disposition of this office. The question arose as to whether that office should not be combined with that of the manager or whether the office should stand separately, as in the past. Pending the recommendation of the committee, the Executive Board had decided temporarily to combine the secretary-treasurer office with that of the manager's. This was reported to the members, who voiced their approval of the temporary arrangement. Manager Dubinsky was appointed as secretary-treasurer until the investigation would have been completed.

At the meeting of the Executive Board on October 9th, the committee to whom this matter was referred made its final report. Brother Maurice Jacobs, the chairman of the committee, pointed out to the Executive Board that since Brother Fish's resignation was accepted, the offices of manager and secretary-treasurer had been merged and that Manager Dubinsky had been charged with this double duty. The work of both departments, it was pointed out, was conducted efficiently and without the added expense incurred in the past by the maintenance of a separate office of secretary-treasurer.

For this reason the committee recommended that the constitution be amended to the effect that the office of the secretary-treasurer be combined with the manager's office, and that this office shall be known as Manager-Secretary. The Executive Board accepted the recommendation of the committee and recommended it to the membership at last Monday night's meeting.

The reading of that report constituted the first reading, and it is to take its regular course as all enactments or amendments to the constitution.

Operators to Follow Example of Local 10

In his report to the members, manager Dubinsky made public a very important decision reached by the General Executive Board, which is continuing its quarterly meeting in this city began about two weeks ago in Philadelphia. The decision is to

the effect that the charters of existing operators' locals be revoked, and that these operators' locals be merged into one, which is to be governed under a new charter.

Many of our members know that for the past few years the International has been constantly confronted with a jurisdictional question among the New York cloak operators. It was often said by some of the leaders of the organization comprising this craft that there was no need for more than one operators' local. In the discussions for the merging of the three operators' locals, Nos. 1, 11 and 17, Local 10, the manager stated, was held up as an example. It was pointed out that the remarkable discipline of the members of the Cutters' Union, the influence wielded by them in all important matters, the effect the International and the Joint Board, is mainly due to the fact that the Cutters' Union is comprised of a craft the workers of which are employed in every branch of the ladies' wearing apparel industry.

Dubinsky quite proudly attested to this fact. He said that Local 10 earned its prestige and the respect accorded it because of its unified organization. It is strongly believed that this merger will be a decided improvement for the Joint Board particularly in so far as the efficient and economic management of the operators' organization is concerned.

Were it not for the holidays, and the somewhat smaller attendance, Brother Dubinsky would have gone into greater detail in his report on this matter. It is possible that at the next meeting, which is expected to be better attended on account of some important matters which will be taken up, the manager will again speak to the members on this point and in greater detail.

Executive Board Action Upheld

One of the oldest traditions of Local 10 is that at no time has permission been granted the members by previous executive boards or officers to work on Sundays. While the Joint Board in previous years permitted other workers to work on Sunday in order to make up the time lost on account of Jewish holidays, the members of Local 10 were never included in such orders.

This time, however, the manager pointed out, in discussing this question, he was astonished to learn that members of the union of fifteen years' standing were misled into the belief that 4 recent order included cutters. For this reason he said that it would be desirable that the members discuss this question in the near future. He said that it is by no means a pleasant task to send out committees every Saturday and Sunday for dress cutters, and every Saturday afternoon and Sunday for cloak cutters, to apprehend men who violate rules. Dubinsky pointed out that in carrying on this activity the office is mainly prompted by a desire to secure work for the men who are not employed. But, he said, if it is the wish of the members to work on Sundays, he for one would be glad to have the members so decide at their official meeting. He pointed out that the men who are sent out on these cases do not find it by any means pleasant work. They are subject to many trials during the course of their work.

However, as the secretary reported each case to the members, they approved of the action of the Board. Of course, the fines imposed were mild in view of the circumstances under which the men were found violating the rules. Nevertheless, it is significant that the only opposition manifested against the action of the Ex-

ecutive Board was on the part of three or four men. The majority of the members were in favor of the action.

One thing was made very plain by the manager, and that is that in line with Local 10's tradition no members should decide on any course of action which may seem, or is, unusual without consulting his organization.

Thanks Penalty Unjust

The uniform fines imposed upon the men who were charged with the Sunday violation prompted Henry Jablon to rise and ask why a fine of twenty-five dollars was imposed upon him. He said he was fined that amount for the very same violation. From his defense it appeared that the Executive Board had been rather harsh in his case. However, the presentation of his own case was rather one-sided.

When the manager finished unfolding Jablon's record there was more than one man who rose and sought to make a motion for a still harsher penalty. According to the report of the Executive Board, this was not the first time that Jablon had been fined for such a violation. In fact, he was even denied the privilege of working for the house in which he is employed at the present time. In addition, he was once fined for another violation. The members, of course, approved of the action taken with regard to this case.

Another member rose to plead against the imposition of a small fine. He seemed to have impressed the membership with his description of the circumstances attending his case and under which he was apprehended. He said that as he got out of the subway station he saw the committee which had been detailed to turn back men who were bound for their shops. He approached the committee, according to his story, and volunteered the information as to why and how he came about being there.

His story seemed so convincing that Manager Dubinsky suggested to the members that the case be referred back to the Executive Board. The manager, however, pointed out that as a member of long standing in the organization he had erred in failing to secure instructions from Local 10 before deciding to report to work.

Cloak Trade Still Busy; Dress Trade Slow

In speaking of the conditions in the trade, the manager said that the cloak houses are still supplied with enough work and that no lay-off has as yet taken place. He could not say the same of the dress trade. Last Friday a considerable number of men were laid off in this industry.

As to whether there will be a sufficient resumption of work to warrant the re-employment of the dress men could not be said. Insofar as the cloak trade is concerned, the employers say that they expect to continue for a few weeks. They predict that the coming season will also be a good one.

During the course of his report on trade activities, the manager called the attention of the members of other activities going on within the union. He particularly emphasized the work of investigating the cloak industry with a view to bringing in recommendations by the Governor's Commission on the balance of the union's program in this industry. The matter of the renewal of the agreement in the dress trade also occupied a considerable part of the manager's report. These questions were reported last week in Justice.

Miscellaneous Organization Drive Soon to Begin

Reports were contained in these columns previously of the drive which is to be undertaken shortly in the miscellaneous trades. Among the cutters who will be affected are the Children's Dress, Wrapper and Kimono, and Underwear Cutters.

The first effort towards familiarizing the workers in these trades with this fact and with the plans was made at a mass meeting which took place in Arlington Hall on Thursday night, October 2. Other meetings of a similar nature are to follow. Propaganda for the organization drive, the purpose of which is to reach the non-union workers, is being disseminated in many ways.

The reason why such elaborate preparations are being made in the launching of this campaign is that all shades of workers are employed in these trades, numbering fifty thousand. This question was touched upon at great length in an editorial in last week's Justice. That the International is bent upon making this campaign an unprecedented one is made plain in the editorial, where it is stated that "this campaign is being launched under the auspices of the new District Council and will not be brought to a close until the fifty thousand unorganized workers in these trades have become union men and women."

International Vice-president, Levkovitz, who is the manager of the District Council, is seeking the aid of the members of the union to carry on this work. The members of Local 10 who are employed in these trades will also be called upon to do their share at the meeting which is to take place on Monday, October 20.

CUTTERS' UNION, LOCAL 10

As Per Decision of the Cloak and Dress Joint Board, the Fifty (50) Cent Rate of Dues Will Go Into Effect,

MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1924

The members are urged to pay up their arrears before that date.

On and after October 27, all back dues will be charged at the new rate.

By order of
EXECUTIVE BOARD,
Local 10.

Notice of Meetings

Miscellaneous Meeting . . . Monday, October 20th

Regular Meeting . . . Monday, October 27th

At-Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place
Meetings Begin Promptly at 7:30 P. M.